

COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SESSION
January 23, 2023

Present at the meeting were

Commissioners:

Brian S. Allen – Chairman
Brenda L. Watson – Secretary
Shannon Hines – Chief Clerk

Present from the Press: None

Present from the Public in Person or via WebEx: Tim Albright, Nancy Cangoli, Pete Deimler, Stan Good, Patricia Gutheil, Tony Liddick, Art Lindsay, Dave Pundock, Faith Pundock, Karl Raudensky, Larry Reisinger, Gary Witmer Sr.

Commissioner Allen opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. on January 16, 2023 with the Pledge to the Flag and a moment of silence. The meeting was conducted in person at the Buffalo Township Building located at 22 Cherry Road, Liverpool. The meeting was recorded by the County.

Announcements/Updates: Commissioner Allen said he appreciated the good turnout at the meeting.

Public Comments: Art Lindsay questioned how the County get involved with distributing federal grant funds and how they determine who get the funding. He said the township had started working with the grant writing team in 2021 and if they had been able to submit the grant at that point they would not have had to payback 30% of the funding. Mr. Lindsay said everyone drug their feet and now they had received a letter stating that the grant writers would not be assisting them with the project. He said the project would address a major roadway between routes 11/15 and 22/322 and said he does not think its fair how grant assistance is determined. Mr. Lindsay further said he felt that New Bloomfield does not pay attention to the other side of the Juniata River. He commented that the Commissioners should take a look at Meadow Grove Road to see how needed the project is. He stated that he would be happy to get grant funding in phases to address the roadway project. Mr. Lindsay also said that the township engineer and another individual had walked the site and said it was a good fit for a multimodal grant.

Tony Liddick asked for an update on broadband funds and if any additional towers were going to be built.

Tim Albright questioned if the Commissioners were considering offering the ability to conduct business with the County virtually. He mentioned that County offices do not offer e-payment and said upgrading the way the County conducts business with residents would be good.

Stan Good said he was glad to hear that the County was redoing the broadband RFP, since ZITO was a bidder on the first RFP and in his opinion their service is bad. He asked who makes the guidelines that the broadband RFP must follow.

Gary Witmer Sr. said that he has 25 acres and had sold off 5 or 6 building lots off the original farm. He further commented that he is living on a fixed income and his tax bill increased right after COVID. Mr. Witmer said the interior of his home had not changed and he didn't understand how taxes could be increased like they were. He stated that someone should go out and look at the properties before deciding to increase the taxes. He said that he is paying more for taxes now than he did 10 years ago. Mr. Witmer said the County split his property and he now gets two tax bills, but the property is all under one deed.

Tony Liddick, said he writes the permits in the township and he said he has seen houses being bought for over \$400,000 but the taxes only show an assessed value of \$200,000. He also commented that there are other

properties that are not being taxed correctly such as properties with homes on them but the taxes don't show a home. Mr. Liddick said he uses Google Earth and he questioned why the County assessment office doesn't use it.

Art Lindsay said that topo-maps are used to assess properties and he questioned how that can be accurate.

Tim Albright said the Food Bank used to bring food to the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church as a satellite location. He said they no longer bring food to the church and asked why that happened.

Art Lindsay said the Food Bank said it was due to lack of funding from the County that they no longer distribute. He asked who funds the Business Inspection Underwriters as the township is having issues with them.

Tim Albright asked who's responsible for CapTax and said the late fees and summons seem to all go through the Loysville MDJ Office. He explained a situation he had with the organization and the poor service he received.

Dr. Patricia Gutheil said she was familiar with some of the topics being discussed.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Watson made a motion approve the minutes from the January 16, 2023 meeting. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Meeting Business: Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Cumberland-Perry Drug & Alcohol Commission contracts listed below. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Provider	Service	21/22	22/23	Rate increase	Percent Increase
Malvern Institute	3.7 WM Activity 823A (Pregnant Women) (Malvern)	new	\$374.00	new	
	3.5 High Adult Activity 823B (Malvern)	new	\$326.00	new	
	3.7 WM Activity 823A (Willow Grove)	new	\$357.00	new	
	3.5 High Activity 823B (Willow Grove)	new	\$332.00	new	
	3.5 High Enhanced Activity 823B (Willow Grove)	new	\$355.00	new	
	3.7 Activity 823C (Willow Grove)	new	\$376.00	new	
Substance Abuse Services, Inc	Overdose Intervention Court	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0.00	0%

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Assessment Services Agreement with Aging Well PA, LLC. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve Emergency Resolution 2023-01 regarding the Courthouse roof replacement. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the proposal from Fisher's Roofing for the Courthouse roof replacement in the amount of \$15,983. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Allen made a motion to approve the 2023 SEDA-COG Board of Directors appointments listed below. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

- Brenda Watson – Commissioner Representative
- Larry Reisinger – Additional Representative

Employee Status: Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the appointment of Angela Hockenberry to the position of Deputy Prothonotary/Clerk of Courts in the Prothonotary's Department effective February 6, 2023 at an hourly rate of \$17.11. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the appointment of Fisher McCauslin to the position of Full Time Correctional Officer at the Perry County Prison effective February 7, 2023 at an hourly rate of \$20.83 and noted he was a current part time employee. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to accept the resignation of Stella Hummel, Part Time Custodian in the Chief Clerk's Department effective February 17, 2023. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Solicitor's Report: None

Public Comments: None

Comments from the Press: None

Commissioner Watson made a motion to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Shannon Hines, Chief Clerk

Brenda L. Watson, Secretary