

COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SESSION

April 17, 2023

Present at the meeting were

Commissioners:

Brian S. Allen – Chairman
Brenda L. Watson – Vice Chairman
Larry F. Reisinger – Secretary
William R. Bunt – Solicitor via WebEx
Shannon Hines – Chief Clerk

Present from the Press: None

Present from the Public in Person or via WebEx: Frank Campbell, Brandi Clendenin, Sean FedderJason Finnerty, Dr. Pat Gutheil, Bob Lightner, Daisy Lightner, Dave Pundock, Faith Pundock, Cathy Sabo, Jim Sabo, John Schulze, Jim Scott, Marty Smith, Nancy Sunday, Aly Thebes, and Rob Troxell

Commissioner Allen opened the meeting at 7:06 p.m. on April 17, 2023 with the Pledge to the Flag and a moment of silence. The meeting was conducted in person and via WebEx telephone/video conference at the Rye Township Building located at 1775 New Valley Road, Marysville. The meeting was recorded by the County.

Announcements/Updates: Commissioner Watson stated that the broadband RFQ would be going out live on Wednesday and would be out for approximately 2 months. She said details would be available on the County website and in the County newspapers. Commissioner Watson also said that she is in discussions with a company regarding assistance on procuring funding from the \$267 million dollars that Pennsylvania received for broadband projects. She said the funding is not the same funding stream through the Broadband Authority but a different source that will be distributed via a competitive bidding process. She also commented that partnering will help Perry County be more competitive in the process to procure funding for the County's broadband project.

Public Comments: Jason Finnerty said that to date 14 municipalities had passed resolutions adopting the PICTURE PERRY comprehensive plan.

Jim Scott, Veteran Affairs Director, said he was in attendance to make the public aware that his office is there to help veterans and their families. He said the PACT Act had recently been revised to expand veteran benefits regarding agent orange and burn pits. Mr. Scott also provided information on Military Share food distribution and said participation in the program continues to increase. He said any veteran in need should contact his office.

Bob Lightner stated that he has lived his entire life in Perry County. He said he understands that business is needed in the County, but feels that the businesses should be geared towards agriculture. He commented that he does not want to see Perry County developed and built up. Mr. Lightner said his area really needs a grocery store.

John Schulze thanked the Commissioners for making their meeting accessible to residents who work during the day.

Rob Troxell thanked Commissioner Watson for her announcement on the broadband RFQ and said he will be looking forward to reviewing the information.

Dr. Pat Gutheil said that VA Director, Jim Scott, does a great job helping the veterans of Perry County. She also commented that Watts Township just adopted the PICTURE PERRY resolution and commended Jason Finnerty for his efforts to move the project forward.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Watson made a motion approve the minutes from the April 10, 2023 meeting. Commissioner Reisinger seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Meeting Business: Commissioner Reisinger made a motion to approve the generator services proposal with Premium Power Services, LLC in the amount of \$920 semiannually. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the agreement with Alyson Thebes for services at the Perry County Area Agency on Aging. Commissioner Reisinger seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the the County/Joinder Attestation Statement for the First Episode Psychosis (FEP) Program. Commissioner Reisinger seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Reisinger made a motion to approve the MH/IDD contracts for Early Intervention and Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities for fiscal year 2022/2023 in the total amount of \$91,805 (attached). Commisisoner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the the 2022/2023 In-Home contract with Diakon for Children & Youth Services (below). Commissioner Reisinger seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Diakon - SPIN- rate increase of \$2.90- \$99.60
PFI- no rate increase- \$71.40
Perry Hope- no rate increase- \$91.80
Perry Hope Step Down- no rate increase- \$25.50
Weekend Alternative Program- no rate increase- \$184.00
Center Point- rate increase of \$5.08- \$174.30
Center Point Plus- rate increase of \$9.00- \$208.84
Bridge Program- rate increase \$1.41- \$48.4

Employee Status: Commissioner Reisinger made a motion a to approve the appointment of Christine Casner to the position of Full Time Clerk in the Prothonotary's Office effective April 18, 2023 at an hourly rate of \$14.03. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the appointment of the appointment of Jennifer Brubaker to the position of Part Time Clerk in the Prothonotary's Office effective April 24, 2023 at an hourly rate of \$14.03. Commissioner Reisinger seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Reisinger made a motion to approve the appointment of Inez Thornton to the position of Full Time Deputy, Prothonotary/Clerk of Courts in the Prothonotary's Office effective April 25, 2023 at an hourly rate of \$17.11. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Solicitor's Report: None

Public Comments: Daisy Lightner said she has noticed in her dealings with the Assessment Office that assessments seem to be delayed for major builds. She commented that she has spoken with staff in the office and they said that new homes are the first priority, but further said it should not take over 2 years to get a new

assessed value on large additions. Ms. Lightner said the Assessment staff has been very responsive but maybe they need more help to keep up with the assessments. She also commented that with the reassessment coming it may become even more backlogged.

Jason Finnerty said that Rye Township did not opt to participate in PICTURE PERRY but said the door is still open. He encouraged them to participate in the initiative not only as a cost savings but for grant funding as well.

Comments from the Press: None

Commissioner Watson made a motion to adjourn at 7:26 p.m. Commissioner Reisinger seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Shannon Hines, Chief Clerk

Larry F. Reisinger, Secretary

2022/2023 MH/IDD Contracts

Provider / Summary of Services	Contract #	Status	Previous Contract Total	Current Contract Total	Increase / Decrease
CENTRAL PA THERAPY CONNECTIONS LLC	EI22-0101	Increase	\$27,151	\$49,285	\$22,134
Amendment - Increase for FY 22-23 based on authorized services					
EI Services - Language interpretation; occupational and speech therapies					
BLOOM HUMAN SERVICES	ID22-0181	Increase	\$17,148	\$24,118	\$6,970
Amendment - Increase for FY 22-23 based on authorized services					
IDD Services - Companion; in-home and community habilitation					
KEON ENTERPRISES LLC	ID22-0154	Increase	\$9,868	\$10,294	\$426
Amendment - Increase for FY 22-23 based on authorized services					
IDD Services - Transportation					
THE CORNERSTONE AGENCY OF PA INC	ID22-0154	Increase	\$2,703	\$8,108	\$5,405
Amendment - Increase for FY 22-23 based on authorized services					
IDD Services - Behavioral support					