

COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SESSION

May 22, 2023

Present at the 10 AM meeting were

Commissioners:

Brenda L. Watson – Vice Chairman
Larry F. Reisinger – Secretary
William R. Bunt – Solicitor
Shannon Hines – Chief Clerk

Present from the Press: None

Present from the Public in Person or via WebEx at 10:00 a.m.: Dana Cotton, Walt Grudi, Dr. Pat Gutheil, Rich Pluta, Dave Pundock, Faith Pundock, Marty Smith, and Wes Smith

Commissioner Watson opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. on May 22, 2023 with the Pledge to the Flag and a moment of silence. The meeting was conducted in person and via WebEx telephone/video conference in the Commissioners' Conference Room. The meeting was recorded by the County.

Announcements/Updates: Commissioner Reisinger commented that there were over 400 children at the Perry County Fairgrounds that day for an agricultural event.

Commissioner Watson thanked the Election Department staff for their hard work during last week's election.

Public Comments: Wes Smith noted that it was EMS Week and thanked all EMS staff for their dedication and tireless work.

Meeting Business: Walt Grudi, from Grudi Associates, provided information on the County telephone system RFP. He said that the RFP was released on April 17th and the deadline to submit a proposal was May 19th. Mr. Grudi said four proposals were received. The four responses were from cloud-based telephone providers and consisted of:

- Telesystem
- Ring Central
- Dial Pad
- Vonage

He said each provider submitted a pricing matrix as part of the RFP submission and they will be meeting with the Commissioners at the end of the week to review the proposals. Mr. Grudi also said demos would be scheduled in June so that the providers can demonstrate their systems. He further said that his company had met with the County Department Heads to prior to the RFP document being released to assess their needs for the new system.

Public Comments: None

Commissioner Watson stated that the meeting would go into recess and then reconvene at 7:00 p.m. at the Wheatfield Township building. She also commented that the Election Board would meet at 11:00 a.m.

Recess: Commissioner Reisinger made a motion to recess. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Present at the 7 PM meeting were

Commissioners:

Brian S. Allen - Chairman
Brenda L. Watson – Vice Chairman via telephone
Larry F. Reisinger – Secretary
Shannon Hines – Chief Clerk

Present from the Press: None

Present from the Public in Person or via WebEx at 7:00 p.m.: Brandi Clendenin, James Fuller, Dr. Pat Gutheil, Robert Hines, Dave Magee, Kraig Nace, Rich Pluta, Dexter Potter, Holly Potter, Dave Pundock, Faith Pundock, Barry Schrope, Jim Scott, Marty Smith, Mary Smith, David Timothy, Randy Waggoner, and Lorraine Wallett

Commissioner Allen opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. on May 22, 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 Wheatfield Township Building. The meeting was recorded by the County.

Public Comments: Dave Magee explained that there is now an open slot on Marysville Borough Council and there was not time to circulate a petition for the recent primary election. He said the information he received regarding how an individual would get on the ballot for the fall election does not seem correct as the position was not open during the primary election, nor on the ballot. Mr. Magee questioned how he can get an answer to his questions regarding this issue.

Lorraine Wallett said she was in attendance to see what was going on during a Commissioners meeting.

Randy Waggoner provided an update on the reassessment. He said New Bloomfield Borough is complete and Liverpool Borough would be completed in the next week. He further commented that the data collectors would be moving to Greenwood Township and Millerstown Borough next. Mr. Waggoner had examples of the literature that is left on resident doors by the data collectors and said he would be available after the meeting to answer any questions.

David Timothy thanked Commissioner Allen for getting rid of Perry County's sanctuary title.

Approval of the Minutes: Commissioner Reisinger made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 15, 2023 meeting. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Approval of the Warrant List(s): Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the warrant lists totaling \$407,368.46. Commissioner Reisinger seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Meeting Business: Commissioner Reisinger said that at the morning meeting the Commissioners had received four responses to the RFP for a County telephone system. He recapped the names of the vendors that had submitted proposals and said they were all cloud-based systems.

Marty Smith, Maintenance Director, opened and read bids for #2 fuel oil and propane services for 2023/2024. The following bids were received:

- Swenson Fuels, Inc. – #2 Fuel Oil: \$3.489 per gallon
Propane: \$1.3890 per gallon
- W.C. Eshenaur & Son Inc. – #2 Fuel Oil: \$2.599 per gallon

Propane: \$1.229 per gallon

- Christy Kam (Superior Plus Propane) – Propane: \$1.44 per gallon
- Heller’s Gas Inc. – Propane: \$1.60 per gallon
- People’s Community Propane, LLC – Propane: \$1.49 per gallon

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the CWEL agreement for Jessica Miller, Children & Youth Caseworker. Commissioner Reisinger seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Employee Status: Commissioner Reisinger made a motion to accept the retirement of Donna Buckley, Field Assessor, in the Tax Assessment Department effective June 16, 2023. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried. Commissioner Watson thanked Donna for her years of service and the work she has done for the County. Randy Waggoner, Chief Assessor, commented that Donna has served 22 years in the department, is an exemplary employee, and will not easily be replaced.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the appointment of Kenneth Little to the position of Part Time Case Aid, in the Children & Youth Services Department, effective May 23, 2023 at an hourly rate of \$17.11. Commissioner Reisinger seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Solicitor’s Report: None

Public Comments: Commissioner Reisinger commented that it was EMS Week and recognized the individuals that serve as EMS staff.

Kraig Nace stated that if the Commissioners would like to say thank you to EMS staff, they could make their radios work. He commented that here have been emergency service radio issues since 2018 when the system was installed. He said Liverpool, New Buffalo, Duncannon, and Marysville continue to have radio issues and that the new tower will most likely not help the areas of Duncannon or Marysville. Mr. Nace provided examples of situations in which the radios did not work. He said testing has been conducted and Rich Fultz said there were no issues, but he does not believe the test results. He said he would like the radio issue to stay on the Commissioners radar, as the lack of radio communication is not acceptable.

Jim Scott, Veterans Affairs Director, said if any attendees know a veteran, are a veteran, or a family member of a veteran, to please reach out to him if there are questions about benefits. He said the coming weekend is the Memorial Day holiday and said this is a time when our nation should come together. Mr. Scott said Memorial Day celebrations would be held on the following dates/times:

May 27 @ 10:30 a.m., Ickesburg at the Nicholas Ickes Memorial Gardens – Recognition event

May 27 @ 12:00 p.m., Village of Eschol - Parade and Community recognition (food and music)

May 28 @ 3:00 p.m., Newport Borough in the Square - Recognition event (food at Newport American Legion Post 177 following the event)

May 29 @ 9:00 a.m., Millerstown Borough at the Community Park - Recognition event

May 29 @ 9:00 a.m., New Bloomfield Borough - Parade (speakers at the cemetery)

Mr. Scott provided a history of the Memorial Day holiday. He reminded attendees of the importance of our freedom and the need to make sure future generations understand the freedoms we have as United States citizens.

Dr. Pat Gutheil said she spoke to a veteran at a polling location recently and the veteran said how much help Mr. Scott had given to him. She commented that she highly recommends Jim.

Dave Magee said Jim Scott had helped his family members and said the County should keep him as long as they can.

Comments from the Press: None

Adjourn: Commissioner Reisinger made a motion to adjourn at 7:34 p.m. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Shannon Hines, Chief Clerk

Larry F. Reisinger, Secretary