

COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SESSION

November 7, 2022

Present at the meeting were

Commissioners:

Brian S. Allen – Chairman
Gary R. Eby – Vice Chairman
Brenda L. Watson – 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: Tara Davis, Patricia Gutheil, Bill Lyons, Crista Lyons, Bob Ressler, Jim Scott, Donna Shatto, Marty Smith, Mary Smith, Wes Smith, Steve Wilt, Traci Wilt

Commissioner Allen opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. on November 7, 2022 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 Blain Fire Company. The meeting was recorded by the County.

Announcements/Updates: Commissioner Eby provided information on a commuter survey that is being conducted in cooperation with Penn State, TriCounty Regional Planning Commission, and Rabbittransit to help identify commuter habits. He said information will be on the County website and roadside signs will be posted. Commissioner Eby stated that the goal is to get a 30% participation rate and said the survey will be available through mid-December. He encouraged participation from those that commute to work and said that 72% of Perry County residents commute outside the County to work.

Commissioner Watson thanked the community committee in Blain that had participated in the Economic Development Authority's Downtown Revitalization clean up day in the borough. She said the event was successful and the community support was appreciated. She also encouraged everyone to get out and vote on Election Day. Commissioner Watson said if there are issues on Election Day to please contact the Voter Registration Office.

Commissioner Eby commented that he had reached out to all municipalities asking for RTP projects. He said the RTP grant is provided to each County in the amount of \$1 million dollars and may be used for sidewalk, bike path, and traffic safety projects. He emphasized that projects need to be engineered and ordinances need to be in place in order to be seriously considered for RTP funding.

Donna Shatto questioned if the grants required 50/50 funding, as Blain Borough does not have the funds to match grant funds.

The Commissioners explained that projects need to be "shovel ready" in order to be considered for grant funding and explained that grants can be matched using other certain grant funds.

Commissioner Allen commented that the County is looking at enhancing the drug task force to make the County a safer place.

Public Comments: Wes Smith, Deputy Director EMA/911, commented that the Perry County 911 Center would be kicking off the Prepared 911 project, aimed at enhancing 911 capabilities. He explained that the project would allow live streaming from a 911 caller's cell phone directly to the 911 dispatcher. He said there are policies and procedures that need to be followed up on prior to moving forward. Mr. Smith stated that Perry County would be the 14th county in the state to use the technology. He also thanked the Maintenance

Department for the work they did renovating the 911 Center. Discussion regarding the Prepared 911 project continued.

Jim Scott, Veterans Affairs Director, thanked Dr. Pat Gutheil for reminding him of the evening Commissioners' meetings. He introduced himself and stated that his office is available to offer assistance to County veterans or their families. Mr. Scott stated that he can be reached directly at 717-582-5133. He commented that it is nice to see the community participatin in Blain. He said more communities need to take a serious look at bike routes. Mr. Scott said e-bikes and trikes are becoming more prevalent and bike trails would help communities be more green.

Donna Shatto said there are many issues with senior citizen transportation by Rabbittransit. She asked if anything can be done to make the service better. Jim Scott stated that veterans can be transported by DAV to medical appointments.

Tara Davis said she is a local realtor from Marysville and was born and raised in the Shermansdale area. She commented that her goal in attending the meeting is to learn what's going on in her community and give back. She commented on the lack of housing in the County and said infrastructure development is extremely important for communities.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Watson made a motion approve the minutes from the October 31, 2022 meeting. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Warrant List(s): Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the warrant lists in the total amount of \$1,447,084.81 and commented that \$46,475.94 was ERAP funds. Commissioner Eby explained that ERAP program. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Meeting Business: Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the proposal from Mike Cleck Paving in the amount of \$4,400. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the amended service agreement with the Blain Senior Citizens' Center. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Cumberland-Perry Drug & Alcohol Commission contract (below). Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

- Family Health Council of Central PA – no change to the rate – contract max \$492,468

Commissioner Eby made a motion to approve the agreement with Forensic Pathology Associated for autopsy services. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried. Coroner Bob Ressler provided information on the agreement and the costs outlined in the agreement.

Employee Status: Commissioner Watson made a motion to accept the resignation of Kimberly Briggs, Full Time Food Specialist/Cook at the Perry County Prison, effective November 13, 2022. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion with regrets. All agreed. Motion carried.

Solicitor's Report: None

Public Comments: Tara Davis asked for a broadband update.

Comments from the Press: None

Commissioner Eby commented that a second meeting regarding homeless housing would be occurring on November 8th at 11:00 a.m. at Highland Presbyterian Church. He said there would be speakers at the meeting and the group is looking to set up temporary shelters in churches. Commissioner Eby spoke about the increase of homelessness in the County over the last couple of years and expressed support in the work going on to address the issue. He also said that approximately 60 children in the County are homeless.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to adjourn at 7:46 p.m. Commissioner Eby seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Shannon Hines, Chief Clerk

Brenda L. Watson, Secretary