

COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SESSION
December 11, 2023

Present at the meeting were

Commissioners:

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

Present from the Press: Paul Wyatt

Present from the Public in Person or via WebEx: Gabrielle Brandt, Frank Campbell, Sheila Forrester, Jim Frank, Rich Fultz, Kristie Gantt, Jeff Garman, Sarah Geesaman, Jan Gibboney, Jason Harvey, Darla McNaughton, Robbyn Metz, Vicky Seeger, John Sledzinski, Judy Sledzinski, Wes Smith, Alyson Thebes, Michelle Thebes, Rob Troxell, Randy Waggoner, Ashley Weaver, and Kay Witmer

Commissioner Allen opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. on December 11, 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' meeting room. The meeting was recorded by the County and Paul Wyatt.

Announcements/Updates: Commissioner Reisinger reiterated that his former coworker at AMP was on radar duty when the attack on Pearl Harbor happened. He said he watched two documentaries in which his former coworker was mentioned. Commissioner Reisinger stated that his former coworker serving on radar duty had tried to alert his superiors that something did not seem right prior to the attack but he was ignored.

Commissioner Allen said rifle hunting season is wrapping up and he was not aware of any accidents during the season.

Public Comments: Judy Sledzinski asked for a status update on the ARPA applications. She also questioned how Commissioner meetings will be handled over the upcoming Christmas and New Year holidays.

Ashley Weaver thanked the Commissioners for their service. She said a question was asked during the reassessment townhall to Commissioner Watson regarding her phone. She further commented that Commissioner Watson used her cell phone during the public meeting and said that Right to Know law states that a phone used during a public meeting becomes public record. Ms. Weaver said she submitted a Right to Know request for Commissioner Watson's cell phone records for a specific timeframe during the September 20th reassessment townhall and through mediation was granted the records. She then read the text messages she had received via the Right to Know request. Ms. Weaver specifically asked about a text that stated a question was pulled and asked if that was a violation of the first amendment. She also questioned who the crazy guy was that was referenced in a text and said the deputies at the townhall was concerning to her.

Robbyn Metz said that the Commissioners did a great job on the budget and noted that taxes were not raised and the budget was balanced. She commented that she did submit a few budget questions via email and asked if agenda items could be noted if they were built into the budget or an addition to the budget. She said it would make expenditures clearer to the public.

Sarah Geesaman, Election Director, said she and her Deputy had attended the eastern region election staff meeting on December 1st. She thanked the Commissioners for allowing them to attend the meeting and said they learned a lot.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Reisinger made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 4, 2023 meeting. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Meeting Business: Commissioner Reisinger made a motion to approve the Professional & Administrative Services Agreement with SEDA-COG for services related to the FY 2022 CDBG grant at a cost of \$50,400. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Rich Fultz, EMA/911 Director, corrected the amount of the GIS Consulting quote listed on the agenda and stated that amount should be \$18,540. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the GIS Consulting Service quote with Mission Critical Partners at a cost of \$18,540. Commissioner Reisinger seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Aly Thebes, Area Agency on Aging Director, stated that information from all senior centers is submitted via hardcopy paper and the CoPilot system would eliminate the paperwork. She commented that the system will allow seniors to swipe in at a kiosk at the senior center and the system will track and submit information electronically. Ms. Thebes said the Duncannon Senior Center was looking at installing the system even if the County chose not to move forward. Vicky Seeger, from the Duncannon Senior Center, said the system will help eliminate errors in the paperwork and improve their statistics. She further stated that she has spoken with other centers that have implemented the system and they have reported positive results. Ms. Seeger said the system is easy to use and there will be significant time savings due to less hard copy paperwork. Commissioner Reisinger made a motion to approve the quote from Information Age Technologies for the CoPilot system for the Area Agency on Aging at a cost of \$32,700. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the FY 23-24 In-Home contract with Children & Youth Services (below). Commissioner Reisinger seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

- Tandem – Amendment - \$8,533.33/month

Kristie Gantt, Children & Youth Services Director, stated that this will add two part time staff to an already operational program. She further said this will allow an additional four to five families to be serviced and ensures that children in high-risk homes will be safe. Ms. Gantt said this amendment was anticipated and included in her budget.

Employee Status: Commissioner Reisinger made a motion to approve the appointment of Madeline Mullen to the position of Full Time Correctional Officer at the Perry County Prison effective December 12, 2023 at an hourly rate of \$21.51. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Solicitor's Report: None

Public Comments: Judy Sledzinski again asked for an update on the ARPA applications.

Vicky Seeger thanked the Commissioners for approving the CoPilot agreement.

Robbyn Metz thanked Randy Waggoner, Chief Tax Assessor, for alerting her of the STRIVE Program. She said that senior citizens that volunteer at participating school districts can receive a reduction in their tax bill. She further commented that Representative Stambaugh provided information on the program in his recent newsletter and Representative Gleim provided information to her on two school districts that implemented the program. Ms. Metz said it would be a good program to get started locally.

Randy Waggoner, Chief Assessor, stated that he was at CCAP recently and updated two of the three assessment appeal training modules. He commented that the two incoming Commissioners will need to take the training if they will serve on the Board of Assessment Appeals.

Comments from the Press: None

Commissioner Watson made a motion to adjourn at 10:28 a.m. Commissioner Reisinger seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Shannon Hines, Chief Clerk

Larry F. Reisinger, Secretary