

## COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SESSION

October 14, 2024

**Present at the meeting were  
Commissioners:**

R. Franklin Campbell – Chairman  
Brenda L. Watson – Vice Chairman  
Shannon Hines – Chief Clerk  
William R. Bunt - Solicitor

**Present from the Press:** Paul Wyatt

**Present from the Public:** Malinda Anderson, Gabrielle Brandt, Mary Ann Brownawell, Andrew Burke, Rich Fultz, Kristie Gantt, Jeff Garman, Kathy Garman, Sarah Geesaman, Jason Harvey, Wayne Leshner, Robbyn Metz, Jed Nessinger, Rich Pluta, Dave Pundock, Faith Pundock, Larry Reisinger, Megan Sellers, Craig Sheaffer, Marty Smith, Annie Strite, Randy Waggoner, Ashley Weaver, Steve Zeigler

Commissioner Campbell opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. on October 14, 2024 with the Pledge to the Flag and a moment of silence. The meeting was recorded by the County, Paul Wyatt, and Jed Nessinger.

**Updates/Announcements:** Commissioner Watson stated that she attended an America250 event over the weekend. She said that America250 teamed with the Free Masons and are planting liberty trees in all 67 counties across the state. She noted that the Free Mason gave a history of how true patriotism began and she thanked Commissioner Campbell for spearheading the event for the County.

Commissioner Campbell noted that Commissioner Lyons would not be in attendance at the meeting, but reviewed the agenda and was in agreement with the agenda items.

**Public Comments:** Malinda Anderson, Acting Bloomfield Mayor and Council President, reported that Mayor Ed Albright is back and forth between rehab and the hospital. She said she met with Mr. Wyatt last week regarding the vandalism in the Borough and noted that there will be an article coming out in the local newspaper and a monetary reward for information. Ms. Anderson noted that Doug Boyer's hearse was broken into as well.

Larry Reisinger passed along well wishes to Ed Albright. He said that the County makes photocopies for nonprofit organizations within the County. He noted that he would be in for copies for the Perry County Fair and provided paper, but said it's the County's machine and ink making the copies. Mr. Reisinger said this is a nice thing the County does for organizations.

Rich Pluta thanked the Commissioners for the meeting protocols and the decisions being made. He said he has been coming to the Commissioners' meetings for years and said the meetings over the years have always been productive and about County business and events. Mr. Pluta said this year the meetings have disintegrated into nonsense and said spending so much time last week on hurricane victims is beyond. He also noted the racist comments made during last week's meeting and said he hopes to get back to productive meetings that are short and do not waste people's time.

Wayne Leshner stated that the Commissioners were doing well but now they're sneaking in ending virtual meetings. He said he travels and is not in the County a lot, but he still is a tax payer and wants to be kept abreast of County business. Mr. Leshner said people are paying attention and a Monday morning meeting is not good timing for anyone but the Commissioners. He also stated that there are more virtual participants than people in the room. He said the Commissioners should have a discussion on why they want to end virtual meetings, because the public does not hear the discussions. Mr. Leshner said if the Commissioners are receiving advice to end virtual meetings, it is horrible advice. He commented that his advice to the Commissioners is that they talk about ending virtual meetings openly and publicly.

Megan Sellers stated that she has to defend herself again and being America first is not racist. She said she observed foreigners in local businesses and said if someone has proof of their American citizenship she asked for that proof. She said at a Newport gas station there are no Americans working there, as they were let go and it is only family members now and noted gambling machines, liquor, and vape products. Ms. Sellers reiterated these are observations and warned against slandering her name and stated she is not a racist. She commented on the Commissioners removing the virtual meeting option. She said she takes her own time to make comments and said this is called freedom of speech. Ms. Sellers stated she is infuriated that the Commissioners do proclamations regarding the Constitution because they are the system and not deserving at all. She commented that the Constitution gives her the power to hold the Commissioners under scrutiny when there is accountability that needs to be had. She said getting rid of the virtual meetings means that the Commissioners do not want to hear from her and others. Ms. Sellers said the Commissioners will not escape her as she loves her Country and will attend in person. She commented that she does not understand how everyday Americans do not see this and said this is why the Country is in the disaster it is. She suggested the Commissioners read the Declaration of Independence because a day of reckoning is coming for corrupt politicians. Ms. Sellers urged the Commissioners to publicly discuss the reason why they want to end virtual meetings.

Robbyn Metz defended herself and said that she made a suggestion to reach out to the school districts regarding putting together a County effort for the hurricane victims at the last meeting, as the Commissioners have the ability to do that. She stated that if you do not want to help the hurricane victims you should be ashamed of yourself. Ms. Metz questioned why the Commissioners want to end the virtual meetings and said if the reason is the Sunshine Law that is a joke as they do not follow it. She suggested still having the meetings available for virtual viewing and allowing people to email questions to be read at the meeting. She said virtual is a way for more people to be reached and opens people's eyes to what is going on. Ms. Metz questioned how the Commissioners are going to reach the elderly in nursing homes or school teachers if they do away with the virtual option. She said the Commissioners get paid big bucks plus benefits and should be available anytime for the people. Ms. Metz said two of the Commissioners have businesses outside and are not putting in the hours necessary to do the job. She stated evening meetings should be done instead of thinking of ways to shut people down.

Kathy Garman stated that ending virtual meetings is stepping on First Amendment rights and this should be considered. She further said that if two of the Commissioners want voted back in, they should not pass this and if they do, they will not be voted back in. Ms. Garman commented that evening meetings would be logical as most people work during the day. She demanded to know why the Commissioners are ending virtual meetings.

Gabrielle Brandt said she wanted to hear more about why the Commissioners want to end virtual meetings. She commented there are options such as evening meetings and emailing of questions, but would hold further comment until after the item was discussed.

Ashley Weaver said she wanted to talk about the protocol regarding calling out public servants in comment appropriateness and ending virtual meetings. She said at the July 22, 2024 she called out PA Constitution Article 1 Section 7 limiting freedom of speech. She commented that she appreciated some of the items that were taken off the protocols because all the court cases she provided to the Commissioners. Ms. Weaver said the Commissioners were overlooking PA Constitution Article 1 Section 7 and read the section. She said to pull up ACLU District of Columbia article submitted on August 15, 2024 regarding government censoring explained the article. Ms. Weaver commented on an NRA of America case regarding government suppression of views. She stated that the U.S. Constitution First Amendment clearly states that the people address our grievances. She said if the virtual meetings are going to end then the Commissioners need to make the meeting time more accommodating for the people. She suggested an evening meeting time. Ms. Weaver said she gives up her lunches to participate as she loves her County, Perry County, and God. She commented that it is her service to put the Commissioners in the right path and quoted Timothy 1:18.

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2024 meeting. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

**Meeting Business:** Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Perry County Board of Commissioners public meeting protocols. Commissioner Campbell seconded the meeting. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the termination of virtual meetings at the conclusion of today's meeting. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. Commissioner Campbell noted that there is no requirement to hold virtual meetings and the meetings have become very unproductive. He further stated that evening meetings have historically been poorly attended and said the meeting minutes are published on the County website for the public to read. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Cumberland-Perry Drug & Alcohol Commission contacts (attached). Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Business Associate and Qualified Service Organization Agreement with PrimeCare Medical, Inc regarding protected health information. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion and stated it was for inmate protected health information at the Prison. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Cumberland/Perry MH/IDD contract with New Vision, Inc. regarding a Long Term Structured Residential (attached). Annie Strite, from Cumberland/Perry MH/IDD, stated that the facility will be a licensed, 16-bed facility and would provide the highest level of care in the mental health field. She said that individuals treated in these facilities are those with long histories of serious mental illness and have not been well in the community, and some coming out of prisons. She noted that the funding for the project came from a state settlement and there is no County match requirement as the settlement funds cover the entire cost. Ms. Strite said it is a regional project with Fulton and Franklin counties as well and each County would have beds. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the ZITO Service Order in the amount of \$114.45 for internet service at the Loysville MDJ Office. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion and said it was a recommendation of the IT staff and needed for Polycom access. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the 2024 HAVA Grant Agreement in the amount of \$3,000. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Cumberland-Perry MH/IDD MH/IDD Contract Amendment for FY 23-24 in the amount of \$31,111 for transitional and community integration services at the Prison. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion and noted it was clean up of the contract for the counselor at the Prison. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the Maintenance Service Agreement with NRG Building Services in the amount of \$8,220 for the HVAC units on the Veterans Memorial Building and the Prison. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the proposal from ACTS for engineering services for the Rhinesmith Porch project at a cost of \$14,550. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

**Employee Status:** Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the appointment of Kimberly Bringer to

the position of Caseworker 2 in the Children & Youth Department effective October 15, 2024 at an hourly rate of \$23.27. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Watson made a motion to accept the resignation of Josh Matter, 911 Dispatcher in the Perry County 911 Center, effective October 7, 2024. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

**Solicitors Report:** None

**Post Comments:** Faith Pundock asked where the 16-bed facility will be located. Ms. Strite said that has not been determined yet. Ms. Pundock further questioned what type of security will be at the facility. Annie Strite commented that it will be a locked facility and said it is similar to a mini-hospital. She said it is a treatment facility and there would be security on site but not a staff security person. Ms. Strite explained the projected staff positions at the facility.

Steve Zeigler said he is a working person and uses the virtual option to participate. He said he came to the meeting today to complain about the microphone as it is hard to hear when participating virtually. Mr. Zeigler said he is not for cutting off virtual meetings and he commented that he does not buy that in 1929 no one showed up for the evening meetings. He commented in recent time people have taken an interest in local government and thought evening meetings would be the way to go. Mr. Zeigler said cutting off the virtual meetings means that there will be more people attending in person with cameras as no one reads the meeting minutes.

Larry Reisinger commented that he does not totally agree with ending the virtual meetings, and maybe eliminating the virtual comments is the way to go. He said during the year he was a commissioner, four or five evening meetings were held and no one attended. Commissioner Watson asked what year that was in and Mr. Reisinger said 2023.

Wayne Leshar said everyone knows what Commissioner Watson is. He further stated that local municipalities hold their meetings in the evenings. He reiterated that there were more people participating virtually than in the room. He commented that he wasn't sure if Commissioner Campbell was a "yes man" as he thought Commissioner Lyons was considered one. Commissioner Campbell said the meeting would be recessed. Commissioner Watson said until you people can be civil to others Mr. Leshar should be muted. Wayne Leshar was muted.

Megan Sellers said Commissioner Watson is petty and childish. She commented on a post on social media regarding dispatchers in the 911 Center and the low pay with long hours. Ms. Sellers stated Sarah Geesaman received a 66% raise and the Commissioners do pointless proclamations. She said the Commissioners are trampling on her First Amendment rights and removing the virtual option will not silence her. She said the Constitution trumps all laws. Ms. Sellers commented that she hopes the military is involved and all corrupt elected officials are taken out immediately.

Robbyn Metz stated that Commissioner Campbell had very little comment on ending virtual meetings and the fact that they are not required to do so is not valid. She said the Commissioners should go over and above. She commented that she cannot believe the Commissioners would cut people out from knowing what is going on. Ms. Metz said reading meeting minutes is as bad as no public deliberation. She commented that other counties deliberate and pointed to Cumberland County meetings. She said ending virtual meetings is a cop out but it will not shut it down.

Kathy Garman said there was no discussion on ending virtual meetings, just a monologue from Commissioner Campbell. She commented that the Commissioners are revealing who they really are and what you think of

your constituents. She stated that they have ways of getting the word out as they did it with the school board meetings and will do it again.

Gabrielle Brandt stated that true leaders humble themselves to serve the people they lead and go above and beyond to provide every tool to support their people. She said the Commissioners are not leaders. She commented that the meetings will be live streamed on Facebook at Free Speech WP and said if anyone would like to volunteer to film the meetings for live streaming, please comment on Free Speech WP or private message her Gabrielle Maffei Brandt. She further said she would not say what was going through her head but would instead pray for the Commissioners.

Ashley Weaver said she was in Washington D.C. over the weekend participating in the Esther Movement. She said the event drew about half a million people and they claimed God over Country and called out government officials that go against the Constitution and God. She further said the actions just taken terrify her because when freedom of speech is limited people start to get arrested. Ms. Weaver stated she will be praying for the Commissioners. She commented that Mr. Leshner and Mary Ann have the right to be heard. She said the Commissioners are supposed to uphold PA Constitution Article 6 Section 3 and this was heartbreaking. Ms. Weaver stated woes to you.

Wayne Leshner said he is part of "you people" and told Commissioner Watson to look at him. He again stated that township and borough meetings are in the evenings and there seems to be more virtual participants than in person. He commented that more people are paying attention. Mr. Leshner stated he starts paying attention when he gets his \$12,000 tax bill and there is a man on County benefits that should be on Medicare. He said he is proud to be "you people." He commented that it does not matter how the Commissioners feel about evening meetings.

Commissioner Campbell said he has been the only attendee sometimes at borough meetings and anyone is welcome to contact the Commissioners Office with questions and concerns.

**Comments from Press:** None

Commissioner Watson made a motion to adjourn at 10:45 a.m. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion. All agreed. Motion carried unanimously.

---

Shannon Hines, Chief Clerk

---

William G. Lyons, Secretary

## Cumberland-Perry Drug & Alcohol Commission contracts

Provider	Service	23/24	24/25	Rate increase	Percent Increase
Addiction Recovery (ARS)	Methadone Maintenance	\$14.75	\$14.75	\$0.00	0%
	Outpatient Individual	\$90.00	\$90.00	\$0.00	0%
	Outpatient Group	\$32.00	\$32.00	\$0.00	0%
	Buprenorphine		\$18.00	new service	
	Intensive Outpatient Treatment		\$336.00	new service	
Perry Human Services	Perry County Prison CRS	\$33,842	\$33,842	\$0.00	0%
Gaudenzia, Inc.	3.5 High Adult Activity 823B (Common Ground)	\$194.00	\$194.00	\$0.00	0%
Gaudenzia, Inc.	3.7 WM Activity 823A (Common Ground)	\$275.00	\$275.00	\$0.00	0%
Gaudenzia, Inc.	3.5 High Adult Activity 823B (Concept 90)	\$174.00	\$191.00	\$17.00	10%
Gaudenzia, Inc.	3.5 High Adult Activity 823B W/C (Fountain Springs)	\$273.00	\$293.00	\$20.00	7%
Gaudenzia, Inc.	3.1 Low Activity 852B Female (New Destiny)	\$230.00	\$230.00	\$0.00	0%
Gaudenzia, Inc.	3.5 High Adult Activity 823B W/C (Vantage)	\$324.00	\$350.00	\$26.00	8%
Avenues Recovery Medical Center	3.5 High Adult Activity 823B	\$429.00	\$429.00	\$0.00	0%
Valley Forge LLC	3.7 Intensive Activity 823C	\$495.00	\$495.00	\$0.00	0%
	3.7 WM Activity 823A	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	0%
	4 (Medically Managed) Adult Activity 834B	\$589.37	\$589.37	\$0.00	0%
	4 WM (Medically Managed) Activity 834A	\$589.37	\$589.37	\$0.00	0%
Language Line Services	Interpretation services for non-English speakers	\$1.15	\$1.15	\$0.00	0%

## FY 24/25 MH/IDD contract

Provider / Summary of Services	Contract #	Status	Previous Contract Total	Current Contract Total	Increase / Decrease
NEW VISIONS INC	MH24-0099	INCR	\$-	\$5,654,835	\$5,654,835
New 2-year contract beginning 09/01/24 to 06/30/26					
MH Services - Development of regional Long Term Structured Residence (LTSR) to provide forensic residential services for qualified consumers from Cumberland, Perry, Franklin, and Fulton Counties					