

BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Public Meeting
Wednesday, August 30, 2023
10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Chairman Leslie Osche
Commissioner Kimberly Geyer
Commissioner Kevin Boozel
Lori Altman, Dir. Human Res./Chief Clerk
Ann Brown, Budget & HS Finance Director
Julie Graham, Solicitor
Maria Malloy, Deputy Clerk
Rene Manna, Admin. Assistant
Lori Shah, Admin. Assistant
Pam Hammonds, Admin. Assistant
Matthew Vickless, Commissioner's Office
Shawn Pugh, Commissioners' Office
Jade Bowers, Elections
John Campbell, Commissioner's Office
Mark Gordon, Planning
Candace Graff, Court Administration
Kevin Gray, Planning – Bridges
J. R. MacKay, Planning
Wendy Leslie, Planning - CDBG
Chantell McCurdy, Elections
Leslie Powers, Controller's Office
Adam Price, Elections
Doug Ritson, Probation
Brandon Savochnka, Human Services

VISITORS:

Atty. Patrick Casey, Board of Elections
Denise Etter, Cranberry Twp.
Kimberly Hall, Forward Twp.
Atty. Jamie Inferrera, Dinsmore
Atty. Carol McCarthy, Board of Elections
Edie Rath, Penn Twp.

MEDIA:

Steve Ferris, Butler Eagle
Tyler Friel, Butler Radio

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The regular public meeting of the Butler County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Leslie Osche at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 30, 2023, in the Public Meeting Room, 1st Floor Government Center.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A moment of silent prayer was observed, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Kimberly Hall, Forward Township, spoke briefly regarding Items VII. A. (Board of Elections) and VIII.C.1 (Board of Commissioners).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Osche called for a motion to approve the August 2, 2023 Public Meeting minutes.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATION

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

- A. Chantell McCurdy announced that, following hearings on the five separate Petitions for Division of Election Districts for Adams Township, Connoquenessing Township, Cranberry Township, Jackson Township and Middlesex Township, respectively, the Butler County Court of Common Pleas approved the creation of additional election districts as requested by the Board of Elections.

As such, Chantell McCurdy requested approval of the following polling locations for the newly created Election Districts as listed below. If these locations are approved, the Election Bureau intends to use these newly created polling locations starting with the November 7, 2023 General Election.

- * Adams Township 2 – Lifepointe Alliance Church
- * Adams Township 4 – Adams Township Municipal Building
- * Adams Township 5 – Treesdale Community Center
- * Connoquenessing Township 2 – Pennsylvania National Guard Amory
- * Cranberry Township West 7 – Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
- * Cranberry Township West 8 – Victory Family Church
- * Jackson Township 2 – Rock Lake Community Center
- * Middlesex Township 3 – Crossway Community Church

Proposed polling place change (not a precinct change):

- * Cranberry Township West 6 – Lifeway Baptist Church

Attorney Patrick Casey made the motion; seconded by Attorney Carol McCarthy (Attorney English was not in attendance). The motion carried.

- B. Chantell McCurdy requested approval to purchase additional precinct level election equipment to equip said newly created Election Districts, in the amount of \$105,475.

Attorney Patrick Casey made the motion; seconded by Attorney Carol McCarthy. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Controller

1. Controller Ben Holland requested approval of a Letter of Engagement with Lance, Soll, & Lunghard LLP for consulting services, with authorization for the Chairman to sign. Work performed under this agreement will not exceed \$10,000 in value without prior written notice of the Board of Commissioners. Effective 7/1/23 – 6/30/24.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Controller Ben Holland gave a presentation of the 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

B. Court Administration

1. Candace Graff requested approval of the contract with the Chicora Cleaning Company LLC for the Chicora Magisterial District Judge's Office.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Candace Graff requested approval of the Juvenile Probation Services Grant Agreement and the Butler County Equitable Compensation Letter (previously called grant-in-aid). The Letter of Compensation certifies the Probation Officer's salaries and salary increases are comparable to other county court staff. We will be receiving \$257,705 for FY 2023/24.

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Candace Graff requested approval of the Supervision Funds Agreement which allows for the State to return Act 35 funds collected between 2022 and 2027.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Candace Graff requested ratification of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) Subgrant, to continue funding the Day Reporting Center Program, in the amount of \$260,000 for the period 7/1/23 – 6/30/24, with authorization or the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Elections

1. Chantell McCurdy requested authorization to provide funding from the County budget to equip the new polling locations, which were approved by the Board of Elections at Item VII. A. of this agenda. Specifically, this is approval of a Sales Order Agreement with ES&S to purchase additional precinct voting equipment for the new precincts in the amount of \$105,475, with authorization for the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Human Resources

1. Chief Clerk Lori Altman requested approval to revise Section 204 – Sick Leave Benefits, in the Policy & Procedure Employee Manual, to reflect the most recent changes in the Collective Bargaining Agreements for non-union employees. By eliminating the language for the Extended Sick and adding the Buy-Back rate upon retirement from \$30 to \$50 (must have 35 days in accumulation for buy-back), effective 1/1/24.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Human Services (See Attachment Book for details)

1. Brandon Savochka requested approval of the contract amendment for the period 7/1/22 – 6/30/23, for the Mental Health Association Amendment #2 – to add \$22,835 to Rep Payee and add \$6,054 to Building Renovations.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Brandon Savochka requested ratification of Resolution No. 2023-15, granting approval to submit an application to the PA Department of Community and Economic Development for the 2023 Emergency Solutions Grant. Butler County applied for funding in the amount of \$547,970 to support emergency shelter, homeless prevention and rapid re-housing services to be provided by Catholic Charities, The Care Center, Inc., Center for Community Resources and Glade Run Lutheran Services.

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Brandon Savochka requested approval of the following contracts for the period 7/1/23 – 6/30/24:
 - a. AccessAbilities
 - b. Achieva Support
 - c. Advance Wellness & Edu. Ctr.
 - d. Adventure Time Pediatric
 - e. ANR
 - f. The Arc of Butler County
 - g. ARC, Human Services
 - h. Butler Health System
 - i. CARES
 - j. Catherine Alfery
 - k. Catholic Charities
 - l. Center for Community Resources
 - m. Christine Cooper
 - n. Community Care Connections, Inc.
 - o. Community Options
 - p. DePaul Hearing
 - q. Diversified Human Services
 - r. Early Intervention Specialists (JG)
 - s. Family Psychological
 - t. Glade Run
 - u. Grapevine Center
 - v. Integrated Care Corporation
 - w. Karns City CTC
 - x. Lifesteps
 - y. Lighthouse Foundation
 - z. Mental Health Association
 - aa. Milestone Centers, Inc.
 - bb. NAMI
 - cc. Next Step Therapy
 - dd. Nonprofit Development Corp.
 - ee. Onewell LLC
 - ff. Pediatric Therapy Professionals
 - gg. Positive Steps Therapy (IVY Rehab for Kids)
 - hh. RehabLinks
 - ii. Sensory Link
 - jj. TEIS
 - kk. The CARE Center, Inc.
 - ll. Therapy House
 - mm. United Way of SW PA
 - nn. Valley Community Services

- oo. Vocational Psychological Services
- pp. VOICe
- qq. Wesley Family Services
- rr. Western PA School for the Deaf
- ss. Woods

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Human Services – Children & Youth (See Attachment Book for details)

1. Brandon Savochka requested approval of the following Butler County Children and Youth/Juvenile Probation contracts for the period 7/1/23 – 6/30/24:
 - a. Center for Community Resources
 - b. Children’s Aid Society of Mercer County
 - c. Glade Run Lutheran Services
 - d. Pathways Adolescent Center

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

G. Human Services – Drug & Alcohol (See Attachment Book for details)

1. Brandon Savochka requested approval of the following contract amendments for the period 7/1/22 – 6/30/23:
 - a. Gateway Rehabilitation Center
 - b. The Care Center d/b/a SPHS Care Center

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Brandon Savochka requested approval of the following contracts for the period 7/1/23 – 6/30/24:
 - a. UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Twin Lakes
 - b. Steve Heasley Consulting Services
 - c. Healthy Body Peaceful Soul LLC
 - d. Gaudenzia, Inc.
 - e. Ellen O’Brien Gaiser Addiction Center
 - f. Gateway Rehabilitation Center

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

H. Human Services – Area Agency on Aging

1. Brandon Savochka requested approval to enter into a Professional Service Agreement with the Alliance for NonProfit Resources for the Shared Ride Transportation Program for the period 8/1/23 – 6/30/24 (rate schedule attached). There are no County funds involved; payment will be made from the Aging Block Grant.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

I. Planning

1. Mark Gordon requested approval of the SALDO Amendments.

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Mark Gordon requested approval of a Professional Services Agreement by and between Bright Lights Innovations, LLC of Hermitage, PA and the Butler County Growth Collaborative for facilitation services for two sessions/meetings of the Butler County Growth Collaborative. It is expected that these meetings will occur in August and September of 2023. The cost for the two monthly meetings is \$2,500/meeting for a total cost of \$5,000, plus out-of-pocket expenses, which are capped at \$250. Funding for this expense shall be provided by the County of Butler. The agreement with the consultant will be signed by the Butler County Commissioners and Mark Gordon, Chairman of the Butler County Growth Collaborative.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

J. Planning - Bridges

1. Kevin Gray requested approval of a right-of-way settlement for the Kelly Bridge Replacement located on Taggart Road in Slippery Rock/Worth Townships. This is part of the Federal money the County received for passing the \$5 fee:
 - a. Pittsburgh Presbytery a/k/a Pittsburgh Presbytery Camp Assn. Property for \$1,607.50.

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

- b. Brian William Pepper and Carrie Ann Pepper Property for \$38,209.70.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

K. Planning – CDBG

1. Wendy Leslie requested approval to submit to the Department of Community and Economic Development the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Grant through the Electronic Single Application for Assistance (ESA) for \$1,250,000 for the Allegheny-Clarion Valley Business Park Water and Wastewater Infrastructure project, with authorization for the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Wendy Leslie requested approval of the engineering agreement between the County of Butler and Widmer Engineering (CDBG Engineers) to design and be the project manager for the Alameda Park multi-purpose field project using 2022 CDBG funding. The total proposal is \$14,300 and falls within our contract costs with Widmer. No County funds are involved.

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

L. Procurement

1. Shawn Pugh requested approval of Resolution No. 2023-17, authorizing participation in The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS).

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

M. Tax Claim

1. On behalf of Janet Mentel, Solicitor Julie Graham requested approval of the following settled Assessment Appeals:

a. Moody Natl FFI Butler PA LLC (Fairfield Suites by Rachels) Assessment Appeal, Case No. 2020-40239, with a fair market value of \$2,700,000 for 2021, \$2,700,000 for 2022, \$2,700,000 for 2023 and 2024, contingent upon approval of the Butler Area School District and Butler Township.

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

b. AVG-Coventry LLC Assessment Appeal, Case No. 2022-40322, with a fair market value of \$5,000,000 for 2023 and \$5,100,000 for 2024.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

N. Commissioners

1. John Campbell requested ratification of the Land Development Application & Checklist from Butler Township for 215 N. Duffy Road.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

2. John Campbell requested ratification of a Moshier Studio Proposal for a new indoor pickle ball court design, N. Duffy Road, in the amount of \$25,328.

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Chief Clerk Lori Altman requested ratification of Certification of Local Government Approval for Nonprofit Organizations Receiving ESG Funds from State Recipients for activities proposed by VOICe, which are to be located in Butler County, with authorization for the Chairman to sign.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Chief Clerk Lori Altman requested approval of a rate increase for Gabriel Fera, effective 1/1/24, as follows:

- * Partners \$225
- * Senior Associates \$210
- * Associates \$190
- * Paralegals - \$145

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Attorney Jamie Inferrera, Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP, requested approval of Resolution No. 2023-14, approving, in accordance with Section 147(F) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, a plan of financing by the Butler County General Authority for the undertaking of a project for the benefit of the Harmony Fire District.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Shawn Pugh requested approval of Resolution No. 2023-16, authorizing and expanding the methods for sale of County property, deemed to be valued at less than \$2,000 (this Resolution will supersede Resolution No. 2023-10). This Resolution is effective until 12/31/24, and may be further authorized for subsequent 12 month periods by further action of the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

7. John Campbell requested approval of a Contract with Gordian/Clark Contractors, Inc. for Fairground Hill Road building HVAC renovations in the amount of \$47,617.02.

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

8. John Campbell requested approval of a Contract with Gordian/Clark Contractors, Inc. for Fairground Hill Road building plumbing renovations in the amount of \$85,231.21.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

9. John Campbell requested approval of a Contract with Gordian/Schultheis Electric for Fairground Hill Road building electric renovations in the amount of \$355,317.59.

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

10. John Campbell requested approval of a Contract with Gordian/Clark Contractors, Inc. for Fairground Hill Road building general contracting renovations in the amount of \$722,708.59.

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

11. Chief Clerk Lori Altman requested approval to reappoint the following individuals to the Tri-County Workforce Development Board for the three-year term 10/1/23 – 9/30/26:

- * Gretchen Clark
- * Warren Dixon

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

12. Chief Clerk Lori Altman requested approval to reappoint the following individuals to both the Housing Authority Board and the Redevelopment Authority Board of Butler County for the

five-year term 4/23 – 4/28:

- * Carolyn Paulsen
- * Larry Krause

Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BUDGETARY TRANSFERS, RATIFICATION OF PERSONNEL TRANSACTIONS, TRAVEL REQUESTS, REQUISITIONS AND CHECK REGISTER

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. The motion carried unanimously.

CONFERENCE TIME WITH MEDIA

PUBLIC COMMENT ON GENERAL ITEMS

No public comment was made.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Osche called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Boozel made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Geyer. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Hammonds
Administrative Assistant
Approved: 9/13/23

BUTLER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING SCHEDULE:

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING: Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: Public Meeting Room, 1st Floor Government Center

Public Meeting Calendar is available online at <https://www.butlercountypa.gov/>

NOTE: Agenda is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.