

**BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Public Meeting**  
**Wednesday, August 18, 2021**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**

Chairman Leslie Osche  
Commissioner Kimberly Geyer  
Commissioner Kevin Boozel  
Lori Altman, Dir. Human Resources/Chief Clerk  
Ann Brown, Budget & HS Finance Director  
H. William White, III, Solicitor  
Maria Malloy, Admin. Assistant  
Pam Hammonds, Admin. Assistant  
Steve Bicehouse, Emergency Services  
John Campbell, Facilities & Operations  
Joe DeMore, Prison  
Sarah Edwards, Register of Wills  
Mark Gordon, Planning

Wendy Leslie, CDBG  
Janet Mentel, Tax Claim  
Leslie Powers, Controller's Office  
Doug Ritson, Probation  
Allyson Rose, Human Services  
Brandon Savochka, Human Services  
Mike Slupe, Sheriff  
Kristin Wilson, Controller's Office

**MEDIA:**

Tyler Friel, Butler Radio  
Paula Grubbs/Donna Sybert, Butler Eagle

**VISITORS:**

Chris Arnold, Jackson Twp.  
Linda Asche, Middlesex  
Anne Baker  
Karen Barbati, Lancaster Twp.  
Cathy Cavanaugh, Butler Twp.  
Michael Chopp, Butler  
Jack Cohen, BCTCB  
Matt Cornetti, Clinton  
Steve Crawford, East Butler Borough  
Nicholas Cyr, Portersville  
Kristen Duckstein, Saxonburg  
Erik Edwards, Penn  
Natalie Franko  
Mike Freeze, Summit Twp.  
Suzanne Freeze, Summit Twp.  
Terri Fuellgraf, Saxonburg  
Jen Gray, Zelenople  
Tracy Hack, Butler Twp.  
Kimberly Hall, Forward  
Donna Hensel, Connoquenessing  
Fred Hensel, Connoquenessing  
Angela Hussman, Valencia

Kendra Hillard, City  
Catherine Lalonde, Lancaster Twp.  
Lisa Lema, Worth Twp.  
Kate Lennen, Adams  
Lori Maihle, East Butler  
Marshall Miller, Butler Twp.  
Judy McCollough, Connoquenessing  
Jeremy Mercer, Adams County  
Mark Nutter, Jackson Twp.  
Bonnie Olar, Clay Twp.  
Beverly Olenic, Butler Twp.  
Bill Olenic, Butler Twp.  
Dave Roberts, Butler Twp.  
Michael Sanchez, Cranberry Twp.  
Kristen Schatzel, Jackson Twp.  
Donna Scherer  
Ed Scherer, Cranberry Twp.  
Mary Lou Scherer, Cranberry Twp.  
Peggy Tonini, Butler Twp.  
Theresa Walko, Connoquenessing Borough  
Diane Walsh, Butler Twp.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The regular public meeting of the Butler County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Leslie Osche at 10:02 a.m. on Wednesday, August 18, 2021, in the Planning Department's Large Conference Room.

## **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**

No public comment was made.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Osche called for a motion to approve the July 21, 2021 Public Meeting minutes.

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

## **PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Recent Recognitions:

- Ameela Boyd, 2021 Housing Authority of Butler County Scholarship
- Damian Gurner, 2021 Housing Authority of Butler County Scholarship
- Hefren Tillotson, 2021 Boys Scouts of America Company of the Year
- Joseph "Joe" Mycka, 2021 Boy Scouts of America Distinguished Citizen Award
- Jacob Mock, Boy Scouts of America, Moraine Trails Council – Troop #53, Eagle Scout Court of Honor – August 28, 2021
- Nathaniel Becker, Boy Scouts of America, Moraine Trails Council – Troop #53, Eagle Scout Court of Honor – August 28, 2021

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Solicitor Wil White announced that an Executive Session was held with the Board of Commissioners, Mark Gordon, Lori Altman, and himself on Monday, August 16, 2021, from approximately 11:20 a.m. to 12:12 p.m. for the purposes of personnel.

## **BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Assessment**

1. Mark Gordon requested approval to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Christopher Savage to assist and perform duties associated with the oversight and management of the Butler County Assessment Department, effective 9/1/21 for no more than one year, at the rate of \$45/hour, not to exceed 100 hours/month.

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

### **B. Court Administration**

1. Doug Ritson requested approval of a contract enhancement for the Department of Community Corrections with CDI BTM. On 6/1/21, the Adult Probation Office began utilizing the Drug Testing Notification (DTN), which BTM offers through the existing Offender Management System. There is a \$25/initial enrollment fee, as well as an \$8/monthly fee per person. This service randomizes daily drug tests and notifies the offender on the morning they are scheduled for drug testing. The participants in the three specialty courts and the Day Reporting Center Program are currently enrolled in DTN.

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

### **C. Emergency Services**

1. Steve Bicehouse requested approval of a network consulting agreement with Innovative Public Safety for 20 hours at the rate of \$3,000 to map their mission critical network and provide support with the firewall system, with authorization for the Chairman to sign.

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

### **D. Facilities & Operations**

1. John Campbell requested approval of an order with THRYV (White Business Page Listing – Phone Book – The Real Yellow Pages) for 15 months (11/1/21 – 1/30/23) in the amount of \$54/month, with authorization for the Chairman to sign.

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

2. John Campbell requested ratification to modify an existing job order with Gordian/Clark Contractors, Inc. for Courthouse gable repair in the amount of \$22,535.37.

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

3. John Campbell requested approval to terminate a service agreement with Schindler Elevator.

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

4. John Campbell requested approval of a service proposal with ICE (Industrial Commercial Elevator) for full maintenance and service for the Courthouse traction elevator (#1) and the 3 hydro elevators (#4, #5 and #6), for the term of 5-years at the rate of \$850/month with a 4%/year capped maximum increase, with authorization for the Chairman to sign.

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

5. John Campbell reported that on Thursday, August 5, 2021, bids were opened for the Government Center elevator modernization program for three traction passenger elevators.

The bids were as follows:

- a. Industrial/Commercial (ICE) - \$825,000
- b. TK Elevator - \$850,000
- c. Hadfield Elevator - \$910,730
- d. Right Elevator - \$996,285
- e. Schindler Elevator - \$1,149,900

Mr. Campbell requested ratification to award to ICE in the amount of \$825,000.

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 to appoint Dr. Kathy J. Selvaggi to the MH/EI/ID Advisory Board for a three-year term (7/15/21 – 7/14/24), application is attached.

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

2. Brandon Savochka requested approval of the agreement between BHC Advanced Services, Inc. and Butler County Human Services for the period 7/1/21 – 6/30/22. This contract funds the Butler County MH Department Forensic Services Manager position to a maximum of \$90,500/annually.

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

3. Brandon Savochka requested approval of a lease with the Butler County Historical Society for one additional parking space in the amount of \$50/month, for the term 7/19/21 – 12/31/21, at which time this space will be added to our existing lease.

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

4. Brandon Savochka requested approval to submit a request to the PA Department of Community and Economic Development to modify our current Emergency Solutions Grant – 2020. This modification involved moving \$15,000 out of the Homelessness Prevention (HP) Component and into the Rapid Rehousing Component. Due to the ongoing eviction moratorium, we have not received any eligible requests for homelessness prevention funding. We also request that the Chairman be authorized to sign the modification request letter on behalf of the Board.

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

5. Brandon Savochka requested approval to submit a request to the PA Department of Community and Economic Development to amend our current Emergency Solutions Grant – CV. This amendment includes moving \$467,521 out of the Homelessness Prevention (HP) Component and into the Emergency Shelter Component. We are experiencing a much higher level of demand for shelter than originally anticipated, thus leading to the need for additional funds in that line. Also, due to the ongoing eviction moratorium, we have not received any eligible requests for homelessness prevention funding. In addition, we are requesting that the end date of our grant term be extended to 6/1/22. This extension is now permitted through a waiver provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and it will allow us to continue to provide these important services for a longer period of time. We also request the Chairman be authorized to sign the modification request letter on behalf of the Board.

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

6. Brandon Savochka requested approval of the agreement with the Nonprofit Development Corporation Path Transition Age Project HUD, for the period 8/1/21 – 7/31/22, in the amount of \$69,728 for the contract period.

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

7. Brandon Savochka requested approval of the service agreement with Catholic Charities, HUD PATH Transition Age Project for the period 8/1/21 – 7/31/22, in the amount of \$26,095, program funded.

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

8. Brandon Savochka requested approval of the contract amendment with Glade Run amended to add the new program Forensic Support Services Team for FY 2020/21, in the amount of \$38,000, program funded.

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

9. Brandon Savochka requested approval of the following contracts for FY 7/1/21 – 6/30/22:
  - a. Advocacy Alliance
  - b. Alliance for Nonprofit Resources
  - c. The Arc of Butler County
  - d. ARC, Human Services
  - e. Butler Health System
  - f. CARES of Western PA
  - g. Catholic Charities
  - h. Center for Community Resources
  - i. Community Care Connections, Inc.
  - j. Community Options
  - k. Diversified Human Services
  - l. Family Psychological
  - m. Glade Run
  - n. Grapevine
  - o. Karns City CTC
  - p. Kids Count
  - q. Lifesteps
  - r. Lighthouse Foundation
  - s. Mental Health Association
  - t. Milestone Centers, Inc.
  - u. NAMI
  - v. Nonprofit Development Corp.
  - w. Sage Consulting
  - x. The CARE Center, Inc.
  - y. United Way of SW PA
  - z. Valley Community Services
  - aa. Vocational Psychological Services
  - bb. VOICE

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 contracts with Butler County Children and Youth/Juvenile Probation for FY 7/1/21 – 6/30/22:
  - a. Dr. Eric Bernstein
  - b. Check Your Mate Investigations
  - c. George Junior Republic in PA

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

2. Brandon Savochka requested approval to reappoint the following board members:
  - a. Dennis Ditch, term expiring on 1/31/24
  - b. Beth Gillan, term expiring on 1/31/24
  - c. Donna Jenereski, term expiring on 10/31/23
  - d. Angela Schnur, term expiring on 10/31/23

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

3. Brandon Savochka requested ratification of a Professional Services Agreement with David L. Montgomery, Esq., for the term 8/1/21 – 1/31/22, in the amount of \$9,441/month.

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 contract amendment with Healthy Body Peaceful Soul, LLC for the period 7/1/20 – 6/30/21, to reduce the total amount by \$11,250, of SOR funding allocated for the period 10/1/20 – 6/30/21.

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

2. Brandon Savochka requested approval of the following contracts for the FY 7/1/21 – 6/30/22:
  - a. Abstinent Living at the Turning Point
  - b. Bowling Green Inn Brandywine
  - c. Cove Forge Behavioral Health
  - d. Foundation Medical Services
  - e. Gaudenzia Erie, Inc.
  - f. Oil Region Recovery, Inc.
  - g. Renewal Treatment, Inc.
  - h. Sojourner House
  - i. White Deer Run
  - j. Steve Heasley Consulting Services

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

**H. Human Services – Area Agency on Aging**

1. Brandon Savochka requested approval for a 5% rate increase to the current meal service with The Nutrition Group dba Pittsburgh Companies North, Inc., for the term 8/1/21 – 6/30/22. The PA Department of Aging has approved the rate increase due to food prices increasing over the past year. There are no County funds involved; payment will be made out of the Aging Block Grant. Rates are as follows:
  - a. Congregate Lunch - \$4.75/Meal
  - b. Enhanced Congregate Meal - \$10.40/Meal
  - c. Frozen Home Delivered Meal - \$4.75/Meal
  - d. Shelf Stable HDM - \$4.08/Meal
  - e. Special Projects not to exceed - \$100,000

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

2. Brandon Savochka requested approval of the Uniform Clinical Training Affiliation Agreement with Slippery Rock University. The agreement is effective on the date of the last signature. Term of the agreement is five years; no payments shall be made between parties.

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

#### **I. Planning**

1. Mark Gordon requested approval for the Brownfields MOU for the period 10/1/21 – 9/30/24, to be signed by himself as Chief of Economic Development and Planning, as a representative of Butler County and Coalition Partners, including Butler Economic Development Corporation and the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of the County of Butler, as well as to be able to sign any other documents pertaining to the Brownfields project.

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

2. Mark Gordon requested approval to accept the recommendation by the Coalition Partners to award DJS Ventures, Inc. the project Manager Position and Professional Service Agreements to the seven Work Teams: Environmental Remediation and Recovery, Tetra Tech, Civil and Environmental Consultants, Lagan Engineering, ARM Group, KU Resources and DK Environmental and Construction Services.

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

3. Mark Gordon requested approval of a request to allow the County of Butler and PennDOT to pursue “A/C with Tapered Match” for the Gateway 228 Capacity and Safety Improvements Three Degree and Freedom Road Project. This is in conjunction with the BUILD 2020 grant.

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

#### **J. Planning - CDBG**

1. Wendy Leslie requested approval and adoption of Resolution No. 2021-23 Fair Housing Funds resolution to appoint the Chairman of the Board of Commissions as the County’s Fair Housing Officer.

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

2. Wendy Leslie requested approval to enter into cooperation agreements with Jefferson, Penn, Slippery Rock and Summit Townships to administer their 2021 CDBG funding. These agreements are required to be submitted with the annual grant each year.

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

#### **K. Prison**

1. Joe DeMore requested approval to enter into a Comprehensive Health Services Agreement with PrimeCare Medical, Inc. for a term of 5 years (10/1/21 – 9/30/26) at the cost of \$1,895,422.83 for the first year, with two additional one-year option periods.

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

2. Joe DeMore requested approval to enter into a Master Services Agreement and Schedule of Services Agreement with Smart Communications for a term of 5-years, commencing on 1/24/22, at no cost to the County.

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

#### **L. Register of Wills**

1. Sarah Edwards requested approval of a renewal contract for Records Management System License, Subscription and Service Agreement with GovOS, INC., (a Kofile Company) for the term of 2-years (1/1/21 – 12/31/22). The License and Maintenance Fee for the system is \$48,472 for the Schedule A Term (attached), to be billed annually at \$24,236.

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

#### **M. Sheriff**

1. Mike Slupe requested approval of an agreement between the Butler County Sheriff's Office and the Summit Academy to provide traffic control and security at football games. The County shall compensate the deputies for services provided by them.

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

2. Mike Slupe requested approval of an agreement between the Butler County Sheriff's Office and the Butler Township Fireman's Association (BTFA) to provide security at the Farm Show Grounds for the Annual Raffle. The County shall compensate the deputies for services provided by them.

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

#### **N. Commissioners**

1. Solicitor Wil White requested approval of Resolution No. 2021-22, adopting all provisions of the amended Real Estate Tax Sale Law in accordance with Act 33. The Tax Claim Bureau will collect a \$20/filing fee from each individual.

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

2. Chief Clerk Lori Altman requested ratification of the Victim Outreach Intervention Center Pass Through Contract Agreement between the Victim Outreach Intervention Center (VOICe) and Butler County, in which the County will receive \$62,500/year for three years.

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

3. Solicitor Wil White requested approval of Resolution No. 2021-24, establishing an AMERICA250PA County Commission made up of a diverse group of citizens (to be appointed at a later date) to work with AMERICA250PA on any and all activities within Butler County, and resolve that the County will allocate up to \$1,500 for start-up fees, costs and related expenses.



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

4. Solicitor Wil White requested approval of a Memorandum of Agreement appointing Lawrence County as the lead agency for the HUD Lead Removal Program for the period 6/1/21 – 5/31/24, with authorization for the Chairman to sign.

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

5. Solicitor Wil White requested approval to accept the terms of a court order dated 7/26/21 and exoneration of all taxes subsequent to the petition for the Discovery Christian Church.

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

**CONFERENCE TIME WITH MEDIA**

The minutes were suspended for conference time with the media.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON GENERAL ITEMS**

The following individuals spoke briefly regarding election fraud: Theresa Walko, Suzanne Freeze, Michael Chopp, Steve Crawford, Bonnie Olar, Catherine Lalonde, Matt Cornetti, Linda Asche, Kimberly Hall, Mark Nutter, Mary Lou Scherer, Ed Scherer, Fred Hensel, Kate Lennen, Judy McCollough, Kendra Hilliard, Nicholas Cyr, Kirsten Schatzel, Chris Arnold, Erik Edwards, Donna Hensel, Anne Baker, Natalie Franko, Lori Maihle, Marshall Miller, Dave Roberts and Tracy Hack.

**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 12:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Hammonds  
Recording Administrative Assistant  
Approved: 9/1/21

**BUTLER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING SCHEDULE:**

**NEXT PUBLIC MEETING:** Thursday, September 1, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** Government Center Annex Planning Department's  
Large Conference Room, Floor UL

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