

BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Public Meeting
Wednesday, September 1, 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
Lori Shah, Admin. Assistant
Pam Hammonds, Admin. Assistant
Richard Goldinger, District Attorney
Mark Gordon, Planning
Sheryl Kelly, Planning
Diane Marburger, Treasurer
Janet Mentel, Assessment/Tax Claim
Brandon Savochnka, Human Services

MEDIA:

Tyler Friel, Butler Radio
Paula Grubbs, Butler Eagle
Anthony Pritts, Butler Radio

VISITORS:

Carol Christine, Clinton Township
Mike Chopp, Center Township
Matt Cornetti, Clinton Township
Steve Crawford, E. Butler Borough
Erik Edwards, Penn
Dan Focht, Clearfield
Mike Freeze, Butler
Suzanne Freeze, Summit
Terri Fuellgraf, Clinton
Kimberly Hall, Forward
Fred Hensel, Connoquenessing
Mara Hensel, Connoquenessing
Charlie Johnson, Clearfield
Catherine Lalonde, Lancaster Township
Brian Lefever, Butler Township
Carie McCurdy, Jefferson
Michael Sanchez, Cranberry
Jennifer Steele, Muddy Creek
Diane Walsh, Butler Township

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The regular public meeting of the Butler County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Leslie Osche at 10:04 a.m. on Wednesday, September 1, 2021, in the Public Meeting 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 August 18, 2021 Public Meeting minutes.

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

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

A. Aaron Sheasley requested approval to temporarily relocate the following precincts:

1. MERCER TOWNSHIP PRECINCT 220
From: Harrisville Fire Hall, 313 E. Mercer Street, Harrisville
To: the new Mercer Township Building, 4629 William Flynn Highway, Harrisville

2. BUTLER TOWNSHIP 1-1 PRECINCT 51-1
From: South Butler Fire Hall, 98 Old Plank Road
To: Community Life Church, 1104 Pittsburgh Pike Road, Butler

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. Assessment

1. Janet Mentel requested approval of a maintenance agreement with Compucom, Inc. for the microfilm reader utilized in the public area, at the cost of \$887, with an expiration date of 9/30/22, with authorization for the Chairman to sign.

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

2. Janet Mentel requested approval of a printing contract with Government Software Services, Inc. for the printing of Homestead/Farmstead forms sent in December of each year. This is a three-year contract (2021 through 2023) with no change in the cost to the County from prior years (.35 cents/mailer prepared), with authorization for the Chairman to sign.

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

B. Tax Claim

1. Janet Mentel requested approval of a printing contract with Government Software Services, Inc. for printing of the Certified Return and Claims forms sent in 2022 through 2024. There is no change in the cost to the County from prior years (.64 cents/mailer prepared), with authorization for the Chairman to sign.

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

2. Janet Mentel requested approval to sell the following 14 properties from the Repository list, with authorization for the Chairman to sign.
 - a. Parcel #052-36-F3A-0000, Butler Township, Ward 2, currently in the name of John H. Smoker IV to Carl Spivey and Jessica Wilson for a bid of \$755.00.
 - b. Parcel #120-S3-A27-0000, Connoquenessing Township, currently in the name of Ingeborg Bostwick to Brave Hearts Investing for a bid of \$600.00.
 - c. Parcel #120-S3-A220-0000, Connoquenessing Township, currently in the name of Gregg R. Whittenberger & Took Enter LLC to Alignment Investments LLC for a bid of \$600.00.
 - d. Parcel #120-S3-A230-0000, Connoquenessing Township, currently in the name of Helen E. Rodgers to Alignment Investments LLC for a bid of \$600.00.

- e. Parcel #120-S3-A232-0000, Connoquenessing Township, currently in the name of Gregg R. Whittenberger & Took Enter LLC to Alignment Investments LLC for a bid of \$600.00.
- f. Parcel #120-S3-A285-0000, Connoquenessing Township, currently in the name of William D. & Mildred J. Wright to Alignment Investments LLC for a bid of \$600.00.
- g. Parcel #120-S5-A845-0000, Connoquenessing Township, currently in the name of Dennis E. & Darlene Bence to Alignment Investments LLC for a bid of \$600.00
- h. Parcel #120-S5-A899-0000, Connoquenessing Township, currently in the name of Andrea M. Cypress to Alignment Investments LLC for a bid of \$600.00.
- i. Parcel #120-S5-A1067-0000, Connoquenessing Township, currently in the name of Eleanor M. Batvinskis to Vincent J. & Amy M. Gemma for a bid of \$600.00.
- j. Parcel #120-S5-A1108-0000, Connoquenessing Township, currently in the name of John A. Antonelli to Brave Hearts Investing for a bid of \$600.00.
- k. Parcel #120-S6-A1191-0000, Connoquenessing Township, currently in the name of Donald L. & Lucille F. Gengler to Alignment Investments LLC for a bid of \$600.00.
- l. Parcel #170-3F80-44BA-0000, Franklin Township, currently in the name of Jack V. & Paul V. Laughner c/o Roger D. Laughner to Brave Hearts Investing for a bid of \$600.00.
- m. Parcel #340-S1-A18-0000, Bruin Borough, currently in the name of Robert R. & Lu B. Dodd to Robert E. Kennedy Sr. for a bid of \$600.00.
- n. Parcel #400-S1-B100-0000, Evans City Borough, currently in the name of Robert Geisler to Five Sons Properties LLC for a bid of \$600.00.

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

C. Emergency Services

- 1. On behalf of Steve Bicehouse, Solicitor Wil White requested ratification of a Memorandum of Understanding between Butler Area School District and Butler County for the school district to apply for FEMA funds related to COVID-19.

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

D. Facilities & Operations

- 1. On behalf of John Campbell, Solicitor Wil White requested ratification of an Elevator Maintenance Agreement with Industrial Commercial Elevator (ICE) for month-to-month maintenance service for traction elevators #1, 2, and 3, in the amount of \$500/per unit/per month.

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

E. Human Resources

- 1. Chief Clerk Lori Altman requested approval of a renewal life insurance policy for County employees with MetLife, for a 2-year term (1/1/22 – 12/31/23). The cost is \$2.64/month/per employee for \$15,000 and \$8.80/month/per employee for \$50,000.

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

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

- 1. Brandon Savochka requested approval of the following contracts for FY 7/1/21 – 6/30/22:
 - a. Arc Manor
 - b. Clear Day Treatment of Westmoreland, LLC
 - c. Greenbriar Treatment Center

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

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

1. Brandon Savochka requested approval of the following contracts with Butler County Children & Youth/Juvenile Probation for the FY 7/1/21 – 6/30/22:
 - a. Achieva Support
 - b. Crossroads Group Homes
 - c. Pathways Adolescent Center
 - d. Vocational & Psychological Services

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

H. Human Services (See Attachment Book for details)

1. Brandon Savochka requested approval of the contract with Passavant Memorial Homes, Residential Start-Up & Operating Cost 1st Year (Program Funded Services), for the period 7/1/20 – 6/30/21, for a program maximum of \$101,200.

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

I. Human Services – Area Agency on Aging

1. Brandon Savochka requested approval to enter into a lease agreement with Saint Gregory Parish Charitable Trust of Evans City, PA for the Senior Center Management Program. Term of the agreement is 7/1/21 – 6/30/22. There is no increase in cost; there are no County funds involved; payment will be made from the Aging Block Grant. Rates are as follows:
 - a. Utilities - \$600/month
 - b. Waste removal - \$80/month
 - c. Fee for usage outside normal center hours - \$75/hour

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

J. Planning – Ag Land Preservation/Recycling (See Attachment Book for details)

1. Sheryl Kelly requested approval of a Letter of Engagement from the appraisal firm of Sammartino, Stout & Lo Presti of Erie, PA to complete a self-contained appraisal in the amount of \$7,000 for a farm in Butler County in which the County is applying for federal funding. This type of appraisal is specifically required for this funding source. This was approved by the Butler County Ag Land Preservation Board at their last meeting. Also requesting approval for Mark Gordon to sign the LOE.

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

2. Sheryl Kelly requested approval of a temporary contract change with ECS&R (see Attachment Book for price list), the company handling the county's household hazardous waste collection, due to waste disposal facilities being temporarily closed across the region because they have been required to update their waste treatment processes.

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. An amended motion was made by Commissioner Geyer and seconded by Commissioner Boozel that after October 30, 2021, the prices would revert back to the original contracted prices. The motion carried unanimously.

K. Sheriff

1. On behalf of Sheriff Slupe, Chief Clerk Lori Altman requested approval of an agreement between the Butler County Sheriff's Office and the Borough of Saxonburg to provide deputy services at their annual fund raising raffle. The County shall compensate the deputies for services provided by them.

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

L. Treasurer

1. Diane Marburger requested approval of the following three agreements with First National Bank's Service Fee Program giving the Treasurer's Office the capability to collect payments online (with a small convenience fee but no cost to the County) for the following, with authorization for the Chairman to sign:
 - a. Hotel Bed Tax
 - b. Tax Certification Letters
 - c. Phone-In Real Estate Tax Payments

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

M. Commissioners

1. Ann Brown requested ratification of an engagement letter with Maher Duessel for assistance in administration and general consulting for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, for the period 8/1/21 – 12/31/26, based on their hourly rates, to be used on an as-needed basis.

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

2. District Attorney Richard Goldinger requested approval of a 4-year (1/1/22 – 12/31/25) agreement between the County of Butler and the Butler County Detectives, which includes a 2.5% increase each year.

Commissioner Geyer made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Boozel. 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: Steve Crawford (see Attachment Book for written comments), Mike Chopp (see Attachment Book for written comments), Catherine Lalonde (see Attachment Book for written comments), Jennifer Steele, Matt Cornetti, Fred Hensel, Erik Edwards, Michael Sanchez, Charlie Johnson and Terri Fuellgraf.

Kimberly Hall and Brian Lefever spoke briefly regarding election fraud and the wearing of masks.

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 11:39Stev p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Hammonds
Recording Administrative Assistant
Approved: 9/15/21

BUTLER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING SCHEDULE:

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING: Thursday, September 15, 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/>