

Warren County Commissioners Public Meeting
June 9, 2021 12:06 p.m.
Jackson Courtroom

Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin called the meeting of the Warren County Commissioners to order with Commissioner Tricia Durbin.

Staff Present: Pamela Matve, Chief Clerk, Lisa Hagberg, Finance Director, Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt, Lorri Dunlap, Grants Administrator, Lisa Rivett, Director of Elections, Kim Exley, Employee Relations Administrator, and Kaylan Miller, Employee Benefits & Risk Administrator

Citizens Present: Josh Cotton (WTO)

Announcements: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that that the meeting is being recorded.

Meetings held since the last meeting: Commissioner Benjamin stated that there was one meeting held after the May 26th meeting; an informational meeting with the company that is doing the comprehensive plan.

Correspondence: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated he signed a grant agreement for Adult Probation that supports the Adult Treatment Court. This is no cost to the county.

Public Comment:

Consent Agenda:

Minutes from the May 26, 2021 Public Meeting and Public Hearing: No corrections or additions to be made.

Finance Report: Lisa Hagberg, Finance Director gave the financial report stating that after all expenses paid, to which she reviewed the balance in the general fund is \$1,747,869.00, and in the Erie Bank is \$744,899.00.

Lisa stated that we borrowed \$500,000.00 from the Erie Bank Account, and have withdrawn \$500,000.00 from the TAN.

The accounts payable that will be going out is very high this period due to the Hospitality Grant Program and the Secure Rural Schools funds that will be paid out.

Human Resource Report: Kim Exley, Employee Relations Administrator gave the HR report for the prior month.

Department Reports: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that the departmental reports are in your Packet for your review

Proclamation(s):

Motion was made by Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

New Business:

Approval of the Hospitality Grant Program (CHIRP): Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that Northwest Commission has handled the application process for Warren County, and they have given the allocation amounts that total \$435,000.00.

Motion was made by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin, seconded by Commissioner Tricia Durbin to approve the proposed allocations of the Hospitality Grant Program recommended by Northwest Commission as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution #3182 Fair Housing: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that this is a resolution that is passed each year stating that Warren County will provide fair housing to everyone.

Motion was made by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin, seconded by Commissioner Tricia Durbin to approve Resolution #3182 Fair Housing. Motion carried unanimously.

Youngsville Tax Collector Agreement: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that this agreement has been in the works for quite some time. Youngsville Borough has been receiving .68 per duplicate since 1995; this agreement will increase that to \$2.97 per tax duplicate for 2021.

Pamela Matve, Chief Clerk stated that when this started the Commissioners agreed to make this retro active for 2020 as this has been in the works since late fall 2019.

Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt stated that this agreement does not state that, and if they want to do that, then an amendment must be signed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin to approve the agreement as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Agreement with McNees, Wallace & Nurick: Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt explained that there is a class action suit against the Prothonotaries state wide. Through CCAP this firm has been secured to provide joint defense for over 40 of the Prothonotaries in the state.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin to approve the legal agreement with McNees, Wallace & Nurick. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the 2021/2022 Medical Assistance Transportation Program: Motion was made by Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin to approve the 2021/2022 MATP through TAWC. Motion carried unanimously.

Repository Tax Bid(s): Motion was made by Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin to approve the Repository Tax Bid in the amount of \$2,100.00 from James Bailey for parcel TD-276-171500-000. Motion carried unanimously.

Spring Creek Township Act 13 Request: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin explained that this request is for \$60,000.00 for the structurally deficient bridge on Jackson Hill Road. This project was budgeted for 2022, but there was one project for 2021 that is delayed so we are moving this project up.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin to approve the ACT 13 request for \$60,000.00 from Spring Creek Township for the repair of the bridge on Jackson Hill Road. Motion carried unanimously.

Agreement with BHARP: Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt explained that this is a renewal of an agreement that the county has in place with Behavioral Health Alliance of Rural Pennsylvania (BHARP) to provide a managed care program of for the inmates in need of behavioral health care.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin to approve the renewal agreement with BHARP as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Agreement with Carfardi, Ferguson, Wyrick, Weis & Gabriel: Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin stated that this firm is our legal counsel, and we have a tax appeal that is a conflict of interest for the firm that handles those types of cases, therefore we are amending our contract with CFWWG to include the handling of the Northwest Tax Appeal.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin to approve the amendment to the CFWW&G agreement to include legal services for the Northwest Tax Appeal. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Tricia Durbin stated that they are still continuing to work on the Broadband in Warren County. She had a call with Verizon, and the only project on their radar is replacing copper for landlines in 2022.

Attorney Nathaniel Schmidt gave a couple of options on how to proceed with ownership of fiber; either to go through the Warren County Industrial Development Authority or to create a non-profit organization to be owner of the fiber.

Adjournment: Motion was made Commissioner Tricia Durbin, seconded by Commissioner Benjamin Kafferlin to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 12:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela J. Matve

Pamela J. Matve
Chief Clerk



Approved:

Jeff Eggleston

Jeff Eggleston
Warren County Commissioner