

SEPTEMBER 8, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

Formally approved at September 22, 2020 meeting

FULL BOARD PRESENT; Also present: Susan Kauwell, Prothonotary; Melodie Culp, CYS Director; Greg Molter, Planning/Human Services Director; Kristin McLaughlin, SEDA-COG; Shauna Zerman, William Zerman, Mark Powers, Tom Benfer, Lloyd Bunch, Public; Jeremy Brown, ECEN, via teleconference; Joe Sylvester, The Danville News; Leon Bogdan, Press Enterprise.

Mr. Holdren asked those so inclined to rise for a prayer led by Assistant Solicitor Michael Dennehy. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison. The meeting was then opened.

Mr. Finn moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

General Account Disbursements	\$200,893.62
General Account Receipts	\$63,146.47
General Account Checking .60%	\$1,898,967.05
Capital Reserve Fund .50%	\$9,842.25
Operating Reserve 50%	\$188,340.66
Total Checking	\$2,097,149.96
Act 13 Highway-Bridge .50%	\$233,923.51
Act 44 .60%	\$106,090.62
Act 89 .50%	\$135,357.28
Children and Youth Checking .60%	\$374,555.77
Facilities Fund .10%	\$584,795.38
Flood Mitigation .60%	\$2,812.76
Hazardous Material Account Checking .60%	\$13,679.23
Human & Community Services Checking .60%	\$94,921.63
Improvement Fund Checking .60%	\$21,660.76
Liquid Fuels Checking 60%	\$191,146.40
Offender Supervision Account Checking .60%	\$52,170.69
Storm Water Ordinance Escrow	\$35,836.05
Uniform 911 Surcharge 60%	\$849,680.02

Mr. Holdren called for public comment. There was none.

Under old business, Mr. Holdren said commissioners were joined on a phone call with regional Census officials by Congressman Dan Meuser regarding Montour's Census response. Census officials are using both old addresses and new addresses despite the fact that both County GIS and Postal Service representatives separately furnished an updated database. Census officials assured the Board that the addresses will be reconciled by the end of the process. Mr. Holdren asked anyone who is aware of areas that are not being canvassed by Census takers to contact him.

It was announced that the deadline for CARES Block Grant Non-Profit applications is Friday.

Under new business, Ms. Culp presented the 2021-2022 Children & Youth Services needs-based budget for consideration. Ms. Culp said the \$1,410,000.00 budget request to the state factors in a large increase in placements experienced by the agency as well as funding requests to reduce recidivism and an increase in funds for preventive services. Mr. Holdren moved to approve the application. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to approve CARES Block Grant Small Business awards to 31 Montour County businesses. The grant awards total \$384,868.00. Mr. Holdren seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Holdren moved to approve CARES Block Grant Municipal awards in the amount of \$167,907.68 to three recipients – Mahoning Township, Danville Borough and the Danville Area School District. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Holdren introduced Ms. McLaughlin, who presented 2020 CDBG allocation recommendations, inclusive of Danville Borough, as follows: Danville Area Community Center bridge entrance reconstruction, \$90,000.00; Jane E. DeLong Memorial Hall electrical modernization; \$89,078.00; Danville Fire Department fire truck, \$82,411.00; SEDA-COG administration, \$56,100.00; and County administration, \$1,300.00. Mr. Holdren moved to approve the projects as presented. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to request a time extension to the Department of Community and Economic Development to expend 2016 Danville Borough CDBG funds for its Mill Street beautification project. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Holdren moved to enter into a GEMS Grant agreement with the Department of State providing for 60 percent, or \$97,286.40, in funds toward the cost of new election equipment. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Molter presented a recommendation by the Planning Commission to consider a request to amend the County Zoning Ordinance to include solar energy farming. Mr. Molter said a solar company made a presentation to the Planning Commission for solar farming in various areas of the County. Mr. Molter said when the current version of the ordinance was updated in 2016, solar farming wasn't on anyone's radar other than for private residences. The ordinance allows for solar farming in woodland districts, which would destroy timber, he said, noting level spots would be the best terrain to make solar energy.

Solar farming would impact flora and fauna and aesthetics of the County, he said, so the process would include input from municipal officials and the public in order to formulate protections and rules, among other things. Mr. Powers expressed concern over tying up agricultural land for decades when that tillable land could be used to feed future generations. As a Planning Commission member, Mr. Benfer pledged to ensure concerns are addressed, everything from environmental impacts to property values.

Mr. Dennehy said two questions need to be resolved: what rules and regulations will apply to solar farming and where solar farming will be allowed in the County. Mr. Holdren authorized the Planning Commission to move forward in developing recommendations on solar farming. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to enter into a lease agreement with Central Susquehanna Community Federal Credit Union for 14 parking spaces at \$50.00 per space per month, retroactive to July 31. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to enter into a purchase of service agreement on behalf of Children & Youth Services with Pennsylvania MENTOR from July 1 through June 30, 2021. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to approve the VOJO-RASA Grant 2021-2022 application of \$77,450.00 to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to pay the following bills: General Account, \$21,603.04; Children & Youth, \$3,699.07; Liquid Fuels, \$82.78; Human and Community Service, \$1349.10; Facilities, \$357,918.25; Uniform 911, \$0; Other Funds, \$560,505.37; CARES Block Grant, \$552,776.68. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Holly A. Brandon, Chief Clerk