

# BEDFORD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

July 14, 2020

The Bedford County Board of Commissioners held the meeting in Room 101 of the Bedford County Government Building, 200 South Juliana Street, Bedford, PA on Tuesday, July 14, 2020. Commissioner Lang called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and led the prayer of invocation and pledge to the flag.

## ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Present: Commissioner Josh Lang, Commissioner Barry L. Dallara, and Commissioner Deb Baughman. Others present Debra Brown, Chief Clerk/Director of Elections; Melissa Cottle, Treasurer. Others present Gretchen Martin, Department of Veteran Affairs; Lisa Cairo, Administrator of Bedford County Children and Youth Service; Mary Ann Mock, Children and Youth Services; Dave Cubbison, Director of Emergency Services; the public, the press and radio.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Lowell Rogers spoke to the commissioners regarding a noise nuisance issue in Snake Spring Township and Colerain Township. Commissioner Lang and Commissioner Dallara commented, there is a meeting with PennDot today and they will pass this information along to them.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The June 16, 2020 and June 25, 2020 Special Meeting were approved as presented.

## EXPENDITURES:

A motion was made by Commissioner Dallara and seconded by Commissioner Baughman to approve the following expenditures. The motion was approved as presented.

Payroll	\$284,758.43	CK#:183683-183689
Payroll	\$286,802.20	CK#:183676-183682
Priority 6/30/2020	\$326,447.60	
Priority CYS	\$193,681.93	
Priority 7/14/2020	\$155,884.99	
Priority CYS	\$18,994.67	
Commissary	\$10,654.54	
Liquid Fuels	\$4,690.53	
Adoption Assistance	\$34,469.40	
Kinship	\$1,414.00	
SPLC:	\$14,898.00	

Commissioner Dallara reported on the following large expenditures from the General Account: Bedford County at \$25,000 and UPMC Healthcare at \$25,632.

## OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business to discuss.

## NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Commissioner Baughman and seconded by Commissioner Dallara to approve the Change of Assessment Notice Control Report changes for the month of June 2020. This is based upon the recommendation of Joyce Hillegass, Director of Tax Assessment. The motion was approved as presented.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dallara and seconded by Commissioner Baughman to approve the Medical Assistance Transportation Program Participation Grant Agreement & Assurance of Compliance Agreement. This is based upon the recommendation of Makayla Bollman, Director of Resource Development, Center for Community Action. The motion was approved as presented.

A motion was made by Commissioner Baughman and seconded by Commissioner Dallara to approve the Purchase of Service Agreement between Bedford County Children & Youth Services for the following, for a period of July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021. This is based upon the recommendation of Lisa Cairo, Administrator Bedford County Children and Youth Services. The motion was approved as presented.

1. Terry O'Hara, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist
2. Jill Swiontek, Esquire
3. Forr, Stokan, Huff, Kormanksi & Naugle, Attorneys at Law – Guardian ad Litem to the children & General Legal Counsel & Consultant
4. Jeff L. Samide, Ed. D.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dallara and seconded by Commissioner Baughman to approve the Purchase of Service Agreement between Bedford County Children & Youth Services and Bedford County Juvenile Probation Office and the following for a period of July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021. This is based upon the recommendation of Lisa Cairo, Administrator Bedford County Children and Youth Services. The motion was approved as presented.

1. Independent Family Services
2. Professional Family Care Services, Inc.

A motion was made by Commissioner Baughman and seconded by Commissioner Dallara to approve the following for Liquid Fuels to cover bridge inspections, effective July 14, 2020. This is based on the recommendation of the Bedford County Commissioners. The motion was approved as presented.

1. Southampton Township - \$2,085.53

A motion was made by Commissioner Dallara and seconded by Commissioner Baughman to approve the Bedford County Longevity Policy, effective August 3, 2020. This is based upon the recommendation of the Bedford County Commissioners. The motion was approved as presented.

A motion was made by Commissioner Baughman and seconded by Commissioner Dallara to approve Steven B. Silverman, Esquire from the firm of Babst, Calland, Clements and Zomnir, P.C. ("BCCZ"), Pittsburgh, PA as legal counsel for civil action, Trump for President vs. Bookvar and Bedford County Board of Elections **and** Pennsylvania Democratic Party vs. Kathy Boockvar. This is based upon the recommendation of the Bedford County Board of Elections. Commissioner Lang gave a brief overview regarding the cases and the 67 counties involved and he stated this was under the direction of the county solicitor, Dean Crabtree. A question was asked about the cost; the information was provided. Another question was asked if the county didn't do anything wrong why legal representation be sought; Commissioner Baughman again reiterated under the guidance of the county solicitor the county was recommended to retain legal counsel. The motion was approved as presented.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dallara and seconded by Commissioner Baughman to approve the letter of engagement for the firm of Babst, Calland, Clements and Zomnir, P.C. (BCCZ). This is based upon the recommendation of the Bedford County Board of Elections. Commissioner Dallara commented the county needs to follow the recommendations of the solicitor to quickly resolve this issue so if there are changes, due to the lawsuit, they can be passed on to the counties quickly and before the fall election. The motion was approved as presented.

A motion was made by Commissioner Baughman and seconded by Commissioner Dallara to approve the resolution, Prevent the Spread of COVID-19. This is based upon the recommendation of the Bedford County Commissioners. Commissioner Baughman read the resolution. The motion was approved as presented.

## **RESOLUTION PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**

**WHEREAS**, the Bedford County Commissioners recognize and applaud the residents of Bedford County for working together during the COVID-19 pandemic to minimize the number of positive cases and attain a "green" status on the Commonwealth's phased approach to reopening; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Commissioners support our businesses that are working to re-open and stay open and Bedford County’s economy returning to pre-pandemic levels; and

**WHEREAS**, the safety and well-being of our residents and workforce is of paramount importance; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the CDC, a significant portion of individuals with coronavirus lack symptoms and those who eventually develop symptoms can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms. This means that the virus can spread between people interacting in close proximity – for example, speaking, coughing or sneezing – even if those people are not exhibiting symptoms; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Commissioners recognize that small actions can be taken to prevent its spread and encourage the continued wearing of masks in public spaces, social distancing, and regular handwashing in compliance with CDC guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, the US Surgeon General has stated that “wearing face coverings will help get our economy up and running because face coverings lead to less asymptomatic spread and that leads to more places open sooner”; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Bedford County Board of Commissioners encourage mask wearing, social distancing and regular handwashing by Bedford Countians, and **FURTHER**, that we all do our part to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dallara and seconded by Commissioner Baughman to approve the proclamation for Vietnam Veterans Week. Jim Hartsock, President, read the proclamation. Commissioner Lang commented and thanked everyone. Commissioner Baughman stated they all deserved a round of applause. Commissioner Dallara made a brief statement acknowledging their service and dedication. The motion was approved as presented.

## ***Vietnam Veterans Week***

***July 20-July 26, 2020***

**WHEREAS**, the Vietnam War began on November 1, 1955 and ended on April 30, 1975; and

**WHEREAS**, 8,744,000 men and women served worldwide and a total of 58,276 Vietnam service members gave their lives for our country, who are honored on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C and on *The Wall That Heals*; and

**WHEREAS**, Bedford County was one of thirty-six sites selected by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund to host *The Wall That Heals* this July; and

**WHEREAS**, The Wall That Heals includes 21 Bedford County Vietnam service members who gave their life for our country; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 p.m. *The Wall That Heals* will be escorted through multiple communities in Bedford County and the 21 Vietnam service members will be brought home to the event site at the Bedford School District Track Facility; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 22<sup>nd</sup> community members will spend the day setting up *The Wall That Heals*; and

**WHEREAS**, from July 23-26, closing Sunday at 2:00 p.m., *The Wall That Heals* is available for viewing for free 24 hours a day, with a ceremony honoring Vietnam service members on Saturday at 10:00 a.m.; and

**WHEREAS**, all Vietnam Veterans will have the opportunity to continue their healing process or start their healing process with comrades by their side; and

**WHEREAS**, educational opportunities are extended to all generations of Americans wanting to learn about the Vietnam era and develop an understanding and appreciation of individual sacrifices made for freedom.

**NOW THEREFORE**, WE THE COMMISSIONERS OF BEDFORD COUNTY, do hereby proclaim the week of July 20-26, 2020 as *Vietnam Veterans Week* in Bedford County, Pennsylvania and encourage all citizens to join us in thank them for their service and remembering those who gave their life for our country during *The Wall That Heals* event July 21-26<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made by Commissioner Baughman and seconded by Commissioner Dallara to approve the following personnel based upon the recommendation of their respective department heads: The motion was approved as presented.

1. Deborah Ann Pilukaitis – Clerk Typist I – Prothonotary’s office – July 6, 2020
2. Ashley Slonaker – Correctional Officer – June 24, 2020
3. Wesley Davis, Jr. – Correction Officer – June 29, 2020
4. Katarina Lynch – Telecommunicator Trainee – July 20, 2020
5. Jacob Diehl – Telecommunicator Trainee – July 20, 2020
6. Kelly R. Williams – Correctional Officer – July 21, 2020

A motion was made by Commissioner Dallara and seconded by Commissioner Baughman to approve the Human Services Block Grant resolution. This is based upon the recommendation of Tiffany Jones, Center for Community Action, Director of Human Services. The motion was approved as presented.

**Resolution of the County of Bedford on Behalf of Center for Community Action  
Authorizing the filing of a proposal for funds with the  
Department of Human Services, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.**

**WHEREAS**, The Human Services Block Grant (HSBG) established in Act 80 of 2012, for the purpose of allocating funds to county governments to provide locally identified county-based human services that will meet the needs of county residents; and

**WHEREAS**, The Department of Human Services has developed the process and content of a consolidated Plan, and is committed to continuing efforts to streamline the planning and reporting requirements for county human service programs; and

**WHEREAS**, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through the Department of Human Services has received HSDF program funds and is making these funds available to units of local governments for eligible transportation, home maker services, and homeless assistance services; and

**WHEREAS**, The Bedford County Commissioners have identified the Center for Community Action the Human Services Program for Bedford County; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Bedford desires to submit application to The Department of Human Services on behalf of Center for Community Action for HSBG funds; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** by the County of Bedford on behalf of the Center for Community Action that:

1. The proposed projects: Homeless Case Management/Service Planning/Interagency Coordination, Substance Use Disorder Services, Protective Payee Case Management, Specialized Services: Adult Transportation, Homemaker Services for Adults, Jail Based GED Instruction/Literacy, & Financial Literacy.
2. The County of Bedford and Center for Community Action is authorized and directed to execute an HBSG Program application in the amount of \$178,934 to the PA Department of Human Services.
3. The County of Bedford on behalf of Center for Community Action is authorized to provide such assurances, certificates, and supplemental data or revised data that The Department of Human Services may request in connection with the application.

**ADOPTED** by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Bedford, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of July 2020.

A motion was made by Commissioner Baughman and seconded by Commissioner Dallara to approve the Resolution 7.14.2020 – Board of Assessment. This is based upon the recommendation of Joyce Hillegass, Director of Tax Assessment. Commissioner Baughman read the resolution.

**Resolution 7.14.2020**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to legislation enacted on October 24, 2018 and effective January 1, 2020 known as Act 155 of 2018 amending Pennsylvania Consolidated Assessment Law regarding Board of Assessment Appeals and their Board Members; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 8851 (b) (2) of Title 53 is amended and subsection (a) is amended by adding paragraphs to read: § 8851 Board of assessment appeals and board of assessment revision.

(a) Establishment and membership --

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**(1.1) The county commissioners may, on or after the first organizational meeting occurring after the effective date of this paragraph and every four years thereafter, elect to appoint board members under paragraph (1) for terms of two years each or four years each.**

**(1.2) The county commissioners shall be prohibited from appointing a member to the board who is an employee of or contractor with the county assessment office or is a party to any contract with the county assessment office other than one that may be created for service as a board member; and**

**WHEREAS**, Section 8852 (d) Costs --Costs of the training shall be paid by the respective counties responsible for the appointment of the board and auxiliary boards; and

**WHEREAS**, the board of Assessment Appeals was newly formed on June 29, 2020; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Bedford County Board of Commissioners on this date, July 14, 2020 have appointed three residents of the county trained in accordance with section 8852 (relating to regulations and training of boards.) And shall set a fixed daily rate to each member that is not currently employed on a regular basis with the County.

**COMMENTS/APPOINTMENTS/BID OPENINGS/COUNTY UPDATES:**

The opening of the sealed bids for the following vehicles from Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton Area Agency on Aging. There were 18 bids opened by Tony Molinari, Transportation Director and read by Commissioner Lang. The Area Agency on Aging will make the final determination on the highest bid for each selected vehicle.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Dallara made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Baughman seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

The next meeting will be held August 11, 2020 in Room 101 unless called sooner by the Board of Commissioners.

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Debra Brown, Chief Clerk

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Deb Baughman, Secretary