

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' WORK SESSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners met today in their weekly Work Session.

Present at today's meeting were:

Ray D'Agostino, Chairman
Joshua G. Parsons, Vice-Chairman
John B. Trescot
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Lawrence M. George
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR/CHIEF CLERK

Jacquelyn Pfursich, Esquire
COUNTY SOLICITOR

Also, present were:

Matt Acker, Chief Deputy Treasurer and
Director of the Tax Claim Bureau
TREASURER'S OFFICE

Tammy Agesen, Program Manager
PARKS DEPARTMENT

Steven Clements, Chief Information Officer
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Robert Devonshire, Director
GENERAL SERVICES

Todd Kirkpatrick, Director
PUBLIC TRAINING CENTER

Patrick Mulligan, Director
BUDGET SERVICES

Brian Pasquale, Director
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Carmen Simone, Deputy Director
GENERAL SERVICES

Tim Stuhldreher, Writer and Editor
ONE UNITED LANCASTER

Mike Weaver, Director
COUNTY-WIDE COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner D'Agostino called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner D'Agostino announced that the Board of Commissioners met in Executive Session on Monday, February 13, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. to discuss a real estate matter. They also discussed a litigation matter, which is the Eakin case, Western District of Pennsylvania, docket numbers 1:22-CV-00340-SPB. The Board then met in Executive Session on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. They also held an Executive Session today, February 21, 2023, at 10:22 a.m. to discuss a labor matter, a personnel matter, and litigation, which is the Bellamy case, Eastern District of Pennsylvania, docket numbers 5:22-CV-00422-JLS.

Commissioner D'Agostino announced the approval of the February 7, 2023, Work Session Minutes.

1. Mr. Acker, Chief Deputy Treasurer and Director, presented Resolution No. 10 of 2023: Extending Deadline for Submission of 2022 Conestoga Valley School District Delinquent Taxes to the Lancaster County Tax Claim Bureau.
2. Mr. Weaver, Director, presented agreements with CDW Government, LLC and JPS Interoperability Solutions, Inc.
3. Mr. Pasquale, Director, presented a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMPG) Approval, and an Agreement with Safeware, Inc.
4. Mr. Kirkpatrick, Director, presented an Agreement with Clark Equipment Company.
5. Mr. Simone, Deputy Director, Mr. Devonshire, Director, and Ms. Agesen, Program Manager, presented Agreements with Monitronics International, Inc., Edwin L. Heim Company, and Singer Equipment Company. They also presented a Proposed Pool Pass Fee Schedule.

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6. Mr. Clements, Chief Information Officer, presented an Agreement with CDI, LLC.
7. Mr. Mulligan, Director, presented Resolution No. 11 of 2023: County Department ARPA Budget Request.
8. Mr. Mulligan, Director, presented Resolution No. 12 of 2023: Carrying Forward ARPA Community Balances.

Commissioner Parsons suggested each project be divided up and voted on individually, rather than all together, because he is not supportive of all the projects.

9. Mr. Mulligan, Director, - ARPA Lost Revenue and Salary Recovery.

Mr. Mulligan said that the ARPA Lost Revenue Calculation relates to the revenue for the period ending December 31, 2021. The delay getting this through was waiting for a final determination from Treasury on how to treat a specific piece of grant. The County is eligible for \$20,838,905. The calculation was run through the Controller's office, and they agree with the figures as determined in the formula.

Mr. Mulligan provided estimates for what the County is eligible to draw down for salary reimbursements, fringe reimbursements, and benefits reimbursements under ARPA for retainage of employees, or addition of employees, based upon a certain timeframe. The County is eligible to take \$22.7 million and add it to the General Fund, and another \$7.3 million for the Funded Agencies. At this point, Mr. Mulligan is not making a recommendation; however, speaking with the Controller's office about the processes, most of the money would be assigned against 2022 cost. There is just under \$17.1 million in Salary Cost and another \$5.4 million for the Funded Agencies, so there is plenty of room to take \$10 million out of ARPA to reimburse us for that cost.

Commissioner D'Agostino stated they are within the ARPA guidelines with respect to the uses of ARPA funds. The Commissioners have been prudent in terms of making sure that they are asking the community for their long term, transformational projects in many different areas of the County, and also in different types of uses. The Commissioners have also been prudent in terms of using ARPA funds to upgrade our own infrastructure, such as IT, which will not only work to our advantage today, but also tomorrow. Commissioner D'Agostino is in favor of taking some of these funds to use it for the County Government's purposes, which benefit all of the Lancaster County Government and therefor all County taxpayers, and still leave enough money in ARPA funds to go back out for another round of community requests, and handle some of our internal requests for upgrading our own infrastructure. After doing the calculations using Mr. Mulligan's report and the Treasury's guidance, Commissioner D'Agostino proposed the use of \$15.7 million in ARPA funds, \$3,838,905 for lost revenue and \$11,915,554 for salary costs of nonfunded agency employees hired between April 1, 2021 and January 30, 2023.

Commissioner Parsons commented on the intent of the law, stating that there are a number of different things that are allowable under the law, for instance, technology and IT infrastructure. Because that is allowable, it does not mean that they have to spend all of it on those items. The Commissioners have not taken these ARPA funds and put them directly into the budget, like other counties and municipalities. This is a question of moving it into the general fund for other purposes. Commissioner Parsons is in favor of the proposed number.

Commissioner Trescot stated they already have a general fund budget that is comfortably beyond any sort of prudent amount of reserve funds that a county organization has. He said that it seems they are continuing to keep putting more money into a fund that is not benefiting the County. Commissioner Trescot is in support of Commissioner D'Agostino's motion for the amount as stated.

10. The Commissioners addressed questions raised by media.
11. February 22, 2023, Commissioners' Meeting Agenda - there will be a PulsePoint Update by Kathleen Morrison, First Assistant County Solicitor, and Darrell Fisher with Lancaster County EMS. Mr. Fisher will then be part of a Proclamation for American Heart Month. Also, the items in Resolution No. 12 of 2023 will be divided up, and Mr. Mulligan will be back with a Resolution for the item just discussed.
12. On motion of Commissioner Parsons, seconded by Commissioner Trescot, the meeting was adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Lydia Kovalchuk, Executive Assistant
Commissioners' Office