

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' WORK SESSION MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2022**

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**

**Tammy Moyer**  
   **DEPUTY CHIEF CLERK**

Also present were:                       **Leigh Bardell, Portfolio Manager**  
   **EDC FINANCE CORPORATION**

**George Custer, Director of Administration**  
   **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

**Benjamin Herskowitz, Deputy Director**  
   **COUNTYWIDE COMMUNICATIONS**

**Tom Lisi**  
   **LNP Reporter**

**Cheri Modene, Director**  
   **JUVENILE PROBATION**

**Kathleen Morrison, First Assistant County Solicitor**  
   **SOLICITOR'S OFFICE**

**Patrick Mulligan, Director**  
   **BUDGET SERVICES**

**Crystal Natan, Executive Director**  
   **CHILDREN & YOUTH AGENCY**

**Tim Stuhldreher, Writer**  
   **ONE UNITED LANCASTER**

**Jeff Swinehart, President/CEO**  
   **LANCASTER FARMLAND TRUST**

**Jenn Teson, Vice President of Conservation**  
   **LANCASTER CONSERVANCY**

**Deanna Weaver, Program Director**  
   **COUNTYWIDE COMMUNICATIONS**

**Mike Weaver, Director**  
   **COUNTYWIDE COMMUNICATIONS**

**Phil Wenger, President/CEO**  
   **LANCASTER CONSERVANCY**

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

Commissioner D'Agostino announced an executive session was held on August 15, 2022, at 10:20 a.m. to discuss personnel and labor matters.

Commissioner D'Agostino announced approval of the August 2, 2022, Work Session Minutes.

1. Commissioner D'Agostino announced that Ordinance 154: Rules and Regulations Governing Camping on County Property will be tabled due to technical issues and discussed at a future date.
2. Ms. Bardell, Portfolio Manager, presented Resolution No. 72: Next Generation Farm Loan with Daniel and Malinda Stoltzfus.
3. Mr. Herskowitz, Deputy Director, presented a grant agreement with Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency for Hazardous Material Response Funding.
4. Mr. Herskowitz, Deputy Director, presented a Memorandum of Understanding for Radiological Emergency Medical Services.
5. Mr. Weaver, Director, presented agreements with Aviat Networks, Capital Area Communications (CAC), Exacom, Inc. and Tower Services Unlimited (TSU).

6. Ms. Weaver, Program Director, presented a grant application with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.
7. Mr. Custer, Director of Administration, presented Amended and Renewal Agreements.
8. Ms. Natan, Executive Director Children and Youth Agency, and Ms. Modene, Director Juvenile Probation, presented agreements.
9. Mr. Custer, Director of Administration, presented an Agreement with the U.S. Department of Housing and Development (HUD).
10. Ms. Moyer, Deputy Chief Clerk, presented proposed Community ARPA requests.

Ms. Moyer presented two ARPA requests for Lancaster Farmland Trust – one for the Miller Farm, a 59-acre dairy farm in Sadsbury Township, in the amount of \$223,636 to preserve the farm and implement best management practices. The second request is for the permanent preservation and development of best management plans of 20 farms that are on the waiting list to be preserved for a total of 1,473 acres. The total request is \$1.3 million. The Lancaster Conservancy is asking for \$1.3 million for 245 acres they purchased in Speedwell Forge and Conewago Creek. Under the Conservancy, critical water resources will be protected as well as an expansion of public space. Both properties are adjacent to County parks or County trails.

Commissioner D'Agostino questioned preserving farmland as an agricultural use as opposed to an easement for conservation purposes.

Mr. Swinehart explained that their easement is different than the state/county easement that is utilized for farmland preservation. The state/county easement has a goal of preserving agricultural land for production agriculture. The Farmland Trust's easement is more expansive because it looks at all the natural resources associated on the farm and has five primary resource conservation objectives: agricultural resources, water resources, biological resources, scenic resources, and ecosystem services. The Trust will be providing a copy of their easement to the County solicitor for review.

Commissioner Parsons said he is supportive of the project but wants to make sure that the legal piece is satisfied so that, five years from now, the federal government does not attempt to take this back. He said it needs to be articulated specifically in the motion what part of the federal guidance allows this and why. He said it may take another week to get that wording correct with the Solicitor's Office and thinks that is fine.

Commissioner Trescot asked why the 20 farms were listed as a priority and how they fit into the ARPA guidelines. Mr. Swinehart said the farm owners expressed an interest in protecting their land and implementing best management practices and they had already been moving through the process. All the farms are evaluated on specific criteria and what separates these farms from other projects is the heightened planning of the development of the comprehensive nutrient management plan. He said having that developed puts these projects in a position that they are almost shovel ready.

Commissioner D'Agostino said these plans are eligible under ARPA guidelines but in terms of what the County's goals are, he questioned whether this takes it to the level that the County wants to be at which is to implement things.

Mr. Stuhldreher had questions for Mr. Swinehart.

Mr. Wenger said the land they acquire must be adjacent to public lands or nature preserves, of a high environmental quality and near streams so they can build out. He said both the Conservancy and Farmland Trust are looking into the future and trying to protect what makes Lancaster County special.

Commissioner Parsons said he appreciates the collaboration and shared vision of both organizations and said the County is trying to preserve more forestland as well as farmland.

The board plans to act on the resolutions next week.

11. Mr. Mulligan, Director, presented Resolution No. 74 of 2022: Supplemental Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) Funding.
12. On motion of Commissioner Parsons, seconded by Commissioner Trescot, the following appointment was made to the Children & Youth Advisory Board for a three-year term through July 31, 2025: Stacey Spanenburg, a Lancaster County resident.  
Motion passed unanimously.
13. The August 17, 2022, Commissioners' Meeting Agenda was presented. Ms. Moyer said Ordinance No. 154 will be removed from the agenda as well as the ARPA requests.
14. On motion of Commissioner Parsons, seconded by Commissioner Trescot, the meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynn Commero, Administrative Secretary  
Commissioners' Office