

A meeting of the Fayette County Board of Commissioners was held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 17, 2022, at the Fayette County Courthouse first floor commissioners conference room, 61 East Main Street, First Floor, Uniontown PA.

In attendance-

Commissioner Chairman Dave Lohr
Commissioner Vincent A. Vicites
Commissioner Scott Dunn
Chief Clerk Amy Revak
Chief County Solicitor Jack Purcell

Commissioner Lohr wished everyone a good morning and welcomed all. He asked everyone to stand for a moment silent prayer and asked everyone to give a moment of silence to remember Lori Groover-Smith, the head of FACT and the office of Human and Community Services, who died in the past month. Pastor Allen Ellsworth of the New Life Free Methodist Church in Smock led the room in prayer, which was followed by the recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Nancy Volk said she was there in support of the Sheepskin Trail.

Proclamations

Commissioner Lohr read the proclamation for Autism Awareness Month- April 2022. A representative with Autism spoke about how there are many examples of Autism and asked that everyone be kind. A woman who said she has a son with Autism said she works with Dustin and knows what he and all of them are capable of doing.

Commissioner Vicites read the proclamation for Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month- March 2022.

Commissioner Dunn read the proclamation for National Library Week- April 3-9, 2022. Librarians from Uniontown, German-Masontown and Frazier were in attendance. The librarians thanked the commissioners for their support and spoke about what libraries offer.

Commissioner Dunn read the proclamation for Pennsylvania 4-H Week- March 13-19, 2022. Four 4-H participants and leaders and parents attended. The leaders and participants spoke about which 4-H program they participate in.

Commissioner Lohr read the proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month- April 2022. Representatives from child agencies attended to accept the proclamation.

Commissioner Vicites read the proclamation for Safe Digging Month- April 2022.

Controller

Controller Scott Abraham presented the following financial condition of the county.

Office of the Controller

Fayette County, Pennsylvania

SCOTT T. ABRAHAM
Controller



Phone (724) 430-1217
Fax (724) 430-1366

DATE

March 17, 2022

GENERAL FUND

Cash Balance	General Ledger		\$ 5,780,190.82
TRAN Tax Anticipation Note			\$ 9,000,000.00
2022 Revenue:	Budget		\$ 44,543,945.00
	YTD		\$ 6,955,704.91
	% Received		15.62%
2022 Expenditures:	Budget		\$ 44,543,095.00
	YTD		\$ 7,198,835.67
	% Used		16.16%
2021 Expenditures Paid in 2022			\$ 2,134,190.71

DUE TO GENERAL FUND

Payroll Payments Due to General Fund - CYS	\$	-	\$ 706,018.33
Loan Payable Due to General Fund - CYS			\$ 1,675,500.00
CYS Current Cash Balance = \$1,038,401.02			
TOTAL			\$ -

ACT 13 MARCELLUS SHALE FUND/FUND 13

Cash Balance - Unconventional Wells Account			\$ 151,650.30
Cash Balance - Legacy Account			\$ 417,293.10
Cash Balance - Bridge Department Account			\$ 440,217.22

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND/FUND 51

Cash Balance			\$ 1,238,507.78
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Adult Probation Office

Chief Clerk Revak read the agenda items.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, PCCD, Project Modification Request (PMR) for Grant ID: 35749; Titled: Fayette 2021-22 PRC & Treatment; for a net change of \$1,331.00 for additional treatment supplies for the Fayette County Drug & Alcohol Commission, Inc.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the submission of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, PCCD, Grant Application, ID: 37164; Titled: Fayette Co. 2022-23 IPP & Treatment Programs. Maximum state funding available to Fayette County is \$180,000, of which, \$108,000.00 is for non-treatment services.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Assessment Office

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the following Veterans for real estate tax exemption as they have been approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Military Affairs having been qualified as 100% disabled veterans.

Paul A. DiPierro 609 Airshaft Rd New Salem PA 15468	30-35-0005 Redstone Twp	New	Eff	10/26/2021
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Harry S Morris 60 N Main St Fairchance PA 15436	11-10-0054 Fairchance Boro	New	Eff	1/11/2022
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Jacqueline R Rosnick 215 S Water St Point Marion PA 15474	29-02-0434 Pt Marion Boro	Renewal		
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James A. Dillinger 03-06-0198 Renewal
123 Park St Brownsville Twp
Brownsville PA 15417

Timothy R Reckner 25-42-0022 Renewal
84 Devan Ave North Union Twp
Uniontown PA 15401

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to adopt the following as Discount, Face & Penalty periods for both Real Estate & Per Capita Bills for the 2022 Fiscal year. This is to clarify a printing error on the 2022 statements recently mailed.

March 1 – April 30th 2% Discount Period
May 1 – June 30th Face Period (erroneously printed as June 29)
July 1 – December 31 10% Penalty Period

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Fayette County Behavioral Health Administration

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the following agreement modification.

	<u>Contract Value</u>	<u>Period</u>
<u>Modification Agreement #1 2021-2022</u>		
Western PA School for the Deaf	\$11,000	07/01/21-06/31/22

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Children and Youth Services

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve a **FY2021-22** Purchase of Service Agreement between the County of Fayette, through Fayette County Children & Youth Services and Fayette County Juvenile Probation and **Adoption Connection PA**, 700 Turnpike Street, Beaver, PA 15009, for foster care placement on an as needed basis. The rates are as follows:

Initial Clothing \$250.00	
Cert. # 411680	Rate/day
Basic: Infant-12 Years Old, BC	\$ 68.86
Parenting Teen: 13-19 Years Old with infant, PT	\$ 102.83
Enhanced: Infant-12 Years Old with Mild Issues, YF	\$ 79.86
Therapeutic: 13-19 Years Old with Moderate to Severe Issues, OT	\$ 114.86
Therapeutic: 3-12 Years Old with Moderate to Severe Issues, YT	\$ 109.87
Enhanced: 13-21 Years Old with Mild Issues, OF	\$ 84.85

Commissioner Dunn yes
 Commissioner Lohr yes
 Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve a **FY2021-22** Purchase of Service Agreement between the County of Fayette, through Fayette County Children & Youth Services and Fayette County Juvenile Probation and **Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health Georgia**, 1291 Stanley Road NW, Kennesaw, GA 30152, for residential placement. The rates are as follows:

Initial Clothing \$250.00	
Residential & Related Services	\$ 544.86/day
Education Services	\$ 208.25/day
1:1 Services	\$ 38.00/hour
Speech/Language or Occupational Therapy	\$ 116.00/hour

Commissioner Dunn yes
 Commissioner Lohr yes
 Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve a **FY2021-22** Maintenance & Support Agreement between the County of Fayette, through Fayette County Children & Youth Services and **Ford Business Machines, Inc.**, 700 Laurel Drive, Connellsville, PA 15425 for on-site technical support at a rate of \$4,600.00 per month.

Commissioner Dunn yes

Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Lohr to approve acceptance of the reappointment of Dr. Selina Matis to a 3-year term on the Fayette County Children & Youth Services Advisory Committee. Dr. Matis's current term will expire on April 30, 2022. The new term will expire on April 30, 2025. The Advisory Committee voted unanimously, at the February monthly meeting, to recommend her reappointment to the commissioners at the March, 2022 meeting.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Economic Development

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Lohr to approve a resolution to submit a grant application request to the Business in Our Sites program from the Commonwealth Financing Authority, through the Department of Community and Economic Development of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to be used for the development of the North Union Commercial Park. The grant request will not exceed 40% of the project costs, and is TBD based upon amount of loan requested by J.D. & D. Enterprises from the same program.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to execute the HRG Agreement for the Fayette County Infrastructure Bank pending final legal review and approval.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to execute the RBC Capital Markets Agreement for the Fayette County Infrastructure Bank pending final legal review and approval.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Dunn said the last two items are regarding the infrastructure bank and it should be rolling shortly. Commissioner Lohr said it is a way to get infrastructure built. Commissioner Vicites said they have known about the program for a few years but it is difficult to get the funding. He said Fayette is the third county in the state to do this program.

Human Resources

BUILDING & GROUNDS

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the retirement of Keith Collins, Custodial Worker III effective February 2, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to ratify the promotion of Robert Klink to Maintenance Worker II, SEIU, PG 8, Step A, \$15.07/hour (\$31,345.60 annually) effective March 1, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the retirement of Charles Pulig, Maintenance Worker I effective March 4, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to ratify the promotion of Jonnie Shandor to Maintenance Worker I, SEIU, PG 6, SR1, \$13.15/hour (\$25,642.50 annually) effective March 7, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the hiring of Steven Landis, Maintenance Worker II, SEIU, PG 8, SR, \$13.54/hour (\$28,163.20 annually) effective March 21, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

CYS

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the hiring of Dianna Pluto, Fiscal Tech, SEIU CYS, \$18.14/hour (\$35,371.57 annually) effective March 21, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the acceptance into the Child Welfare Education of Leadership (CWEL) program to begin fall of 2022 for Jessica Burden, Caseworker.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

EMA

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to ratify an unpaid internship for Jakob Sabatula to begin February 21, 2022 for 120 total hours to end in May 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the resignation of Ricki Sampson, Part Time Dispatcher, effective March 7, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the resignation of Gianluigi Langeri, Part Time Dispatcher, effective March 7, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

FACT

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the resignation of John Isler, Full Time Bus Driver, effective February 21, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the separation of employment of Lori Groover-Smith, Director of Human Services, effective February 22, 2022, due to her passing.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

After the motion, Commissioner Lohr said he wished the best for her family, adding that she will be missed. Commissioner Vicites said it really was a tragedy but she did a good job and she will be missed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to ratify the hiring of Khattie Goodwin, Full Time Bus Driver (Non-CDL), SEIU, PG 12, SR \$15.53/hour (\$30,283.50 annually) effective March 1, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to ratify the hiring of Lawrence Grace, Part Time Bus Driver (CDL), SEIU, PG 14, SR \$16.64/hour effective March 1, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the retirement of Anthony Theodori, Mechanic Tech A effective March 1, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to ratify the hiring of Charles Crago, Full Time Bus Driver (Non-CDL), SEIU, PG 12, SR \$15.53/hour (\$30,283.50 annually) effective March 7, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to ratify the promotion of Donald Gano to FACT Dispatcher, Non-Union, Supervisor, PG 9, Step B, \$21.23/hour (\$41,398.50 annually) effective March 7, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the promotion of Kevin Mansberry to Mechanic Tech A, SEIU, PG 16, SR, \$17.78/hour (\$34,671.00 annually) effective March 21, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

FCBHA

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to ratify the hiring of Sara Sichi, County Care Manager, Non-Union, PG 39, Step OO, \$31.26/hour (\$60,957.00 annually) effective February 28, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the resignation of Benjamin Crable, MR Program Specialist 2, effective March 4, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to ratify the promotion of Brenda Buskirk to MH Program Specialist 1, Non-Union, PG 39, Step KK, \$27.97/hour (\$54,541.50 annually) effective March 7, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the promotion of Sherri Mitchell to Deputy MR Administrator 1, Non-Union, PG 44, Step YY, \$48.62/hour (\$94,809.00 annually) effective March 21, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Human Resources

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the collective bargaining agreement between the County of Fayette Board of Commissioners and SEIU 668 (Master Unit) employees represented by SEIU 668 for the period of January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2025.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve a Bring Your Kids to Work Day for all appropriate county employees on April 28th, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve updates to county policies 6.2 Travel and Business Expenses, 6.3 Directive on Outside Communications and 6.6 Vehicle Use and Operations effective March 17, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the amended Fayette County Behavioral Health Administration Compensation Plan for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Planning, Zoning and Community Development

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn to table approval of a PA-DCNR grant proposal for improvements at Mill Run Park, Springfield Township, a Fayette County owned park – including ADA upgrades and a walking trail around the park facility that is approximately one quarter mile. Total project is TBD. Commissioner Vicites asked if there is a deadline, saying he didn't want to miss a deadline. Chief Clerk Revak said she spoke with Art Cappella and he asked to table the item. Commissioner Vicites said he didn't want to table the motion, he didn't want to wait and he didn't want to miss the deadline. Solicitor Purcell said they can approve it and amend it next month. Commissioner Dunn said the email from Mr. Cappella said he wanted to present it next month. Commissioner Dunn rescinded his motion to table.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve a PA-DCNR grant proposal for improvements at Mill Run Park, Springfield Township, a Fayette County owned park – including ADA upgrades and a walking trail around the park facility that is approximately one quarter mile. Total project is TBD.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

After the vote, Commissioner Vicites said they had an issue with lighting and they raised the money to fix it.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to Approve a SMART grant proposal for design of the Sheepskin Trail – from South Union Township (Hutchinson area) to Fairchance Borough – approximately 4.5 miles. Total project cost is \$312,500.00. SMART funding request is \$250,000.00. The program requires a non-federal match of 20% of the SMART funds being requested. In this case it is \$62,500.00 and will be paid through loss revenue.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve a PA-DCNR grant proposal for construction of trails at both Dunlap Creek Park and German-Masontown Parks, Fayette County owned. Total project cost is TBD.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Prior to a motion, Commissioner Dunn said they had a request to table due to no final cost but he was making a motion to proceed. Solicitor Purcell said when they get the number they can vote on it next month.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lohr and seconded by Commissioner Dunn to table a grant/loan proposal to the USDA for a security wall in front of the Main Courthouse Building. Total project cost is \$1,140,491.00.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Prior to a motion, Commissioner Lohr said he didn't want a loan on that project. Commissioner Dunn said he has been voting for this because he thought it was only a grant and not a loan. Solicitor Purcell said the USDA funding is almost always a mixture of grants and loans. He said he is pretty sure there will be some loan to it. Commissioner Lohr said he would rather table it.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve a supplemental engineering agreement for Bridge 73. The supplemental agreement is for Design Services during Construction. Total cost is \$25,000.00.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Vicites joked that he dreams about Bridge 73. Commissioner Lohr said the bridge has been closed for eight years.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve a SMART grant proposal to construct the Sheepskin Trail within the city limits of the City of Uniontown. Total project cost is estimated at \$612,703.00. The program requires a non-federal match of 20% of the SMART funds being requested. In this case it is \$122,541.00. The City of Uniontown is providing the match.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

After the vote, Commissioner Vicites said he heard about SMART grants at an SPC meeting. He spoke about the program.

Tax Claim Bureau

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the following bids opened on March 1, 2022, Subject to all conditions being met. Total accepted bid amount is \$4,263.88.

Accepted Bids

Bidder Name	Parcel	Twp/City/Boro	Amount
Deborah Berry	34-35-0012	South Union Twp	\$1,019.63
Cody Knotts	05-07-0313	Connellsville City	\$688.45
Cody Knotts	05-07-0315	Connellsville City	\$2,555.80
			\$4,263.88

Rejected Bids

Bidder Names	Parcel	Twp/City/Boro	Amount	Reason
Jason Paul	05-11-0261	Connellsville City	\$100.00	Unmarked
Eric Holcomb	02-02-0020	Brownsville Boro	\$607.41	Unmarked/personal check
Jimmy Merosier	19-33-0013	Luzerne Twp	\$420.00	Unmarked
JJ Bizelia	19-02-0020	Luzerne Twp	\$1,000.00	Unmarked
Scott Jordan	30-06-0080	Redstone Twp	\$651.00	Banned/didn't record from last sale

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the Director of Tax Claim to attend the Tax Claim Association Spring conference held in State College, on April 22, 2022. Total budgeted cost is \$103.00.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to charge a non-refundable pre-registration fee of \$20, in accordance with Act 33 that was passed making it mandatory to pre-register bidders and charge a fee at the tax claim sales.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

After the vote, Commissioner Dunn said if you go to a tax claim sale, you will need to be preregistered and must pay a \$20 fee. Solicitor Purcell said it is to ensure they are viable bidders.

Commissioners

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the February 15, 2022 commissioners agenda minutes.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the February 17, 2022 commissioners meeting minutes.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to appoint James A. Hercik, GA CPE as Chief Assessor/Director of Assessments in the Assessment Office effective February 22, 2022 under a Professional Services Agreement.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to adopt a resolution to apply for a \$410,000 State LSA grant for property acquisition work in Dunbar and North Union Townships for the Sheepskin Trail.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Lohr said they need to keep building the links of the trail from Dunbar. Commissioner Dunn said there are four phases of trail building, and he explained each of them. He said he is a big trail advocate and he is excited to have sites in each of the phases. He said things are moving along. Commissioner Vicites said years ago the county acquired the rail line but a lot of properties from Dunbar to North Union were not acquired. The commissioners discussed where properties need to be acquired and the challenges they will face. Commissioner Lohr said railroads do not go under transportation, it is the department of defense. They discussed the grant funding that will be coming available.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to advertise for bids for the connection structure between the Fayette County Courthouse and the Ferens Building.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Public Announcements

Commissioner Dunn said there is a nonprofit grant symposium on March 25 from 9 a.m. to noon at Penn State. He said an agricultural round table will be held on April 8 at the fairgrounds. He said they have enough suits they need people in dungarees to attend. He said both events are free to attend.

Public Comments

Gerald O’Ryan said it has been 25 years to get the trail done. He said he is there to speak in favor of building the trail, not to complain. Commissioner Vicites gave the history of the project. He said they are stepping it up, but it takes years. Mr. O’Ryan said the state recreation director is in favor of trails. He said he rides with people from West Newtown and the trail has to get done because it is a gateway to West Virginia. Commissioner Vicites said he has been a supporter of the trail since he took office. Commissioner Dunn said the first step is getting control of the property. Mr. O’Ryan said in 1996 it was put on the table, with Commissioner Vicites saying he was in office then.

Mr. O’Ryan said there will never be more money available than there is now. Commissioner Vicites said when he started to tout the trail a lot of officials didn’t even know what it was but now there is momentum. Commissioner Lohr said he first spoke with Bill Shuster’s office about the trail when he took office. Commissioner Vicites said three years ago they hired a parks director and he is highly involved in the trail. He said from Fairchance to North Union will be on the way in the next few years, which is about five miles of trail. He said they will look for every dollar they can get.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously