

A meeting of the Fayette County Board of Commissioners was held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, August 17, 2023, at the meeting room at 2 West Main Street, Uniontown PA.

In attendance-

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

Commissioner Lohr welcomed everyone to the meeting at 10 a.m. He asked Pastor Andrew from Grace Brethren lead the room in prayer, which was followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment on Agenda Items- None

Proclamation

Commissioner Lohr read the proclamation for Suicide Prevention and Awareness Week- September 10-16, 2023. Two people who accepted the proclamation spoke about the importance of being involved to prevent suicide.

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	August 16, 2023		
GENERAL FUND			
Cash Balance	General Ledger	\$	9,139,618.79
TRAN Tax Anticipation Note		\$	5,400,000.00
2023 Revenue:	Budget	\$	55,971,295.00
	YTD	\$	32,408,208.90
	% Received		57.90%
2023 Expenditures:	Budget	\$	55,985,370.00
	YTD	\$	27,801,613.03
	% Used		49.66%
2022 Expenditures Paid in 2023:		\$	1,561,936.32
DUE TO GENERAL FUND			
Payroll Payments Due to General Fund - LF		\$	-
Payroll Payments Due to General Fund - CYS		\$	4,434,416.42
Loan Payable Due to General Fund - CYS		\$	2,176,500.00
<i>CYS Current Cash Balance = \$ 256,098.22</i>			
TOTAL		<u>\$</u>	<u>6,610,916.42</u>
ACT 13 MARCELLUS SHALE FUND/FUND 13			
Cash Balance - Unconventional Wells Account		\$	1,564,513.47
Cash Balance - Legacy Account		\$	535,794.71
Cash Balance - Bridge Department Account		\$	482,575.65
CAPITAL RESERVE FUND/FUND 51			
Cash Balance		\$	192,134.82

Commissioner Vicites asked what the rate of collection has been to date. Controller Abraham said 91 percent. Consultant Sam Lynch said the anticipated rate put in the budget was 92 percent.

Fayette County Redevelopment Authority

Chief Clerk Revak read the agenda items.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to Approve a resolution and cooperation agreement concerning an application requesting \$1.0 million through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) to support the Fairchance Innovation and Technology Park Project being undertaken by JE Real Estate I, LLC.

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.

Donald Martin 138 Turkeyfoot Road	25-27-0331 North Union Township	New Effective July 2023 Lemont Furnace PA 15456
Richard Check 74 Sharp Street	30-25-0027 Redstone Township	New Effective July 2023 Republic PA 15475
Sharon Morris 101 Spring Ave PO Box 210	21-07-0353 Masontown Borough	New Effective April 2023 Masontown PA 15461
David Stalnaker 219 Sterling Ave	21-02-0036 Masontown Borough	New Effective July 2023 Masontown PA 15461
Charlotte Coughenour 149 East End Road	04-31-0027 Bullskin Township	Renew Effective July 2023 Connellsville PA 15425

The following property is being removed from exempt status per the PA Department of Veterans affairs for veteran being deceased .

Howard Collands	34-08-0042	Remove effective March 2023
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121 Sixth Ave PO Box 358

South Union Township Uledi PA 15484

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Behavioral Health Administration

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the following agreements and modifications.

	<u>Contract Value</u>	<u>Period</u>
<u>Base Contract Agreements 2023-2024</u>		
Fayette County Drug and Alcohol Commission	\$50,803	07/01/23-06/30/24
<u>Modification Agreement #1 2022-2023</u>		
Fayette County Drug and Alcohol Commission	\$52,392	07/01/22-06/30/23
Pathways of Southwestern Pennsylvania	\$147,000	07/01/22-06/30/23

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 **FY2023-24** Purchase of Service Agreement between the County of Fayette, through Fayette County Children & Youth Services and Fayette County Juvenile Probation and **Family First**, Post Office Box 234, McClellandtown, PA 15458 for in-home services on an as needed basis for CYS & JPO families. The rates are as follows:

All treatment, collateral contacts, documentation and travel time for client and collateral contact but travel time will be capped at one hour per client face-to-face contact and collateral contact. Any supervision of subcontractors will be billed as collateral contact.

The Service Provider agrees to bill at a rate of \$65.00 per hour for all related family preservation services, counseling services, consultations, assessments, court testimony, documentation, collateral activity and training for the County. The submitted bill will include an invoice of all types and quantities of services provided clearly identifying the face-to-face time spent with the client.

Supervised Visitation	\$ 65.00 per hour
Transportation	\$ 30.00 per hour

Correspondence, report writing, and documentation to be billed at supervised visitation rate.

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 **FY2023-24** Purchase of Service Agreement between the County of Fayette, through Fayette County Children & Youth Services and **Anthony S. Dedola, Jr.**, Esquire, 51 E. South Street, Uniontown, PA 15401 for agency representation. The rate for his services is \$150.00 per hour and \$5.00 per notarization.

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 FY 2023-2024 for a lease agreement between the County of Fayette, Fayette County CYS and Uniontown Mall Realty LLC, Uniontown CH LLC, And Uniontown Nassim LLC, 1368 Mall Run Rd, Uniontown, Pa. 15401. The terms of the lease are for a 12-month term beginning 9/1/2023 through 8/31/2024 at the rate of \$800.00 per month. The location will be utilized for a Fayette County Plans of Safe Care Women and Family Center. Funding is appropriated through Plans of Safe Care support grant.

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 of the resignation of Fayette County Children & Youth Services Advisory Board Member, Jodee Proud, effective immediately.

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 of the reappointment of Carol Phipps to a 3-year term on the

Fayette County Children & Youth Services Advisory Committee. The new term will expire on August 31, 2026.

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 Vicites to approve an Ordinance, being formal action under the Local Government Unit Debt Act to authorize the County's General Obligation Note, Series of 2023, and to set out terms and conditions for its security and payment, as presented by Bond Counsel, and to award the Note to a commercial bank, FNB Bank in the amount of \$6,050,000.00 as purchaser, according to the recommendations of the County's Chief Financial Consultant, following the solicitation and review of bank proposals. The proceeds of the Note will be used to pay a portion of the project costs of various capital improvements throughout the County completed in conjunction with other local government units and agencies of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as further described in the Ordinance, which is being amended to delete the application of Jefferson Township and to reallocate that funding to the contingency category within that account.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Prior to the motion, Mark Rafail said he is the lead person in the county for the Fayette County Infrastructure Bank. He said six applicants applied and all were eligible and one dropped out at the last minute. Bond counsel Chris Brewer spoke about the projects and explained the financing process. A discussion ensued about the exact wording on the motion. Solicitor Purcell read the agenda item into the record. Following the vote, Commissioner Vicites said it is the second round of the infrastructure bank and there has been \$14 million loaned out for infrastructure needs in the county. He said some projects may have not been done if not for this program. He said we are a leader of this in Pennsylvania. Joe Muscatello said he has been working for the county for 20 years and the county is at the highest rating in years with an A rating. He thanked Mr. Rafail and financial consultant Sam Lynch for all the work they did.

Commissioner Vicites said when he came back into office in 2016 the credit rating was downgraded but since that time it has been upgraded. He spoke about how Mr. Lynch helped with getting the audits done on time. Commissioner Lohr said in 2017 there was a letter dealing with the audits from the state that wasn't friendly. He said the infrastructure bank is proving what the county has done is right. The commissioners

discussed how they turned the county finances around years ago. Commissioner Dunn said they realize the importance of infrastructure.

Emergency Management Agency

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the revised maintenance agreement with Kelly Generator & Equipment Inc. The county removed the old generator from the annex building and added a new generator and added generators at our (2) new tower sites Morrell and Pt. Marion. The total yearly cost is \$8,236.00, an increase of \$1,529.05.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Human Resources

BRIDGE

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the hiring of Shawn Fuller, Bridge Worker I, SEIU, PG 7, Step SR, \$13.90/hour (\$28,912.00 annually) effective August 21, 2023.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

BUILDING & GROUNDS

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the promotion of Logan Michaels to Maintenance Worker II, SEIU, PG 8, Step SR, \$14.35/hour (\$27,982.50 annually) effective August 21, 2023.

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 Joshua Wadler to Maintenance Worker I, SEIU, PG 6, Step C, \$15.77/hour (\$32,801.60 annually) effective August 21, 2023.

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 Steven Landis, Lead Maintenance Worker, effective August 25, 2023.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

CENTRAL DEPARTMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the resignation of Cameron Hunt, Part Time Clerk, effective July 28, 2023.

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 transfer of George Wyland to Part Time Clerk, \$12.00/hour, effective August 7, 2023.

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 Cooper Hunt, Part Time Clerk, effective August 11, 2023.

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 transfer of Carol Croci to Part Time Clerk, \$12.00/hour, effective August 21, 2023.

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 resignation of Chevelle Fulton, Caseworker II, effective July 21, 2023.

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 Polly Roebuck, Caseworker I, SEIU **CYS**, \$22.04/hour (\$42,978.00 annually) effective August 21, 2023.

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 Mikalana Hartz, Caseworker I, SEIU **CYS**, \$22.04/hour (\$42,978.00 annually) effective August 21, 2023.

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 Michael Spolan, Caseworker I, SEIU **CYS**, \$22.04/hour (\$42,978.00 annually) effective August 21, 2023.

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 approve the resignation of Carolyn Pagac, Dispatcher I, effective July 17, 2023.

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 ratify the hiring of James Shetler, Full Time Bus Driver (Non-CDL), SEIU, PG 12, Step SR, \$16.46/hour (\$32,097.00 annually), effective August 28, 2023.

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 Justin Fazenbaker, Mechanic Tech D, SEIU, PG 10, Step SR, \$15.40/hour (\$30,030.00 annually), effective August 14, 2023.

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 Ashley Walker to Full Time Bus Driver (Non-CDL), SEIU, PG 12, Step SR, \$16.46/hour (\$32,097.00 annually) effective September 5, 2023.

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 updated 2023 Workers Compensation Panel effective September 1, 2023. The changes include the removal of Ophthalmologist Gallo Eye Surgical due to retirement and the addition of Podiatrist Morris Podiatry Associates.

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 an update to the 2023 Workers Compensation Panel effective September 1 2023. The change will include the addition of Maddas Chiropractic & Rehab for both the McClellandtown and Belle Vernon locations.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Office of Human and Community Services/FACT

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the 4th Quarter Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) Report.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Planning, Zoning and Community Development

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to direct the head of the Office of Planning, Zoning, & Community Development in conjunction with the Fayette County Planning Commission to propose an ordinance amendment regarding injection well sites and related operating activities.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Prior to a vote, Commissioner Dunn said they will be looking at the zoning of these injection wells and Murrysville is also looking to restrict these wells. He said they want to work with the municipalities who do their own zoning to help them update ordinances also. He said he is on the record against injection wells for Fayette County, adding the geology is not set for it due to undermining in the past. Commissioner Vicites said since June 21, the commissioners have been working diligently to stop injection wells. He

talked about how they worked to stop an application for an injection well in Nicholson Township. The commissioners said that such wells are not a benefit to the county.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to send a letter of commitment with Indiana County, Sustainable Pittsburgh, and the Pennsylvania Solar Center for the proposed Energy Resilience Strategy Development for Southwest Pennsylvania. This letter of commitment will establish Indiana County as the prime applicant to submit a competitive grant proposal for federal funding through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program under the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of State and Community Energy Programs that would support energy efficiency and conservation activities in Indiana and Fayette counties during the 2024-2025 cycles in the aggregate amount of \$2,000,000.00.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Prior to a vote, Commissioner Dunn explained this is a grant with Indiana County in which money will be used to make the Fayette building energy efficient. He said there is no match. Commissioner Vicites said \$1 million has been secured to help with the building. He said the county saved a building in downtown from being blighted. Commissioner Lohr said if the county would not have obtained the building that no one wanted, it would have turned into a white elephant. He said you can't always look at what it will cost, but look at what it will save for the future. The commissioners said if they hadn't saved the building, people would be looking back in 40 years and asking why no action was taken. They said by taking the building it has helped by freeing up the fourth floor of the courthouse, which may save money down the road.

Solid Waste/Recycling:

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to apply for a DEP Technical Assistance Grant to evaluate the recycling program and evaluate waste diversion. This is no cost to the County up to \$7,500 in free technical assistance.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Vicites said the issue has to be constantly examined to keep the pressure off the landfill. Solicitor Purcell said it is a big issue.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to grant approval for Sheila Shea to attend Fayette County Association of Township Supervisors (FCATS) at the Fayette County Fairgrounds and have an outreach table Sept 14-15, 2023.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Lohr said the FCATS has grown to multiple days and is held at the fairgrounds. Solicitor Purcell said it was the vision of Jim Means, who is retiring, to make it a big event.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to grant approval to hold Rascals Fall Fest on Oct 21, 2023 from 12 p.m. -2 p.m. at the Recycling Center.

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 grant approval for Sheila Shea to attend Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful in person Affiliate Roundtable Oct 25, 2023, in Harrisburg.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Tax Claim

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to Approve the following repository bids opened on August 1, 2023, subject to all conditions being met. Total bid amount is \$150.00.

Bidder	Parcel	Amount	Twp/Boro
German Township	15-37-0036	\$50.00	German
German Township	15-35-0273	\$50.00	German
German Township	15-35-0201	\$50.00	German

Total:\$150.00

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Commissioners

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to approve the July 13, 2023 agenda 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 approve the July 15, 2023 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 approve a motion to appoint Warren Hughes to the Hotel Tax Grant Board for a term of October 1, 2022- September 30, 2024.

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 motion to appoint Tammy Stenson to the Hotel Tax Grant Board for a term from October 1, 2022- September 30, 2024.

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 motion to appoint Sean Sypolt to the Hotel Tax Grant Board for a term of October 1, 2022- September 30, 2024.

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 motion to appoint Don Travis to the Westmoreland-Fayette Workforce Development Board for a vacant position in the Business sector for a term of August 17, 2023 – June 30, 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 lease agreement with Pitney Bowes for a SendPro C Series - Version 4 mail machine, at a cost of \$105.54 per month (\$316.62 quarterly) for a period of 60 months, to be placed in service at the new Fayette County Jail.

Commissioner Dunn yes
Commissioner Lohr yes
Commissioner Vicites yes

Motion passed unanimously

Public Announcement

The Behavioral Health Advisory Board has one vacant position in the physician category for a term that expires on December 31, 2023. Anyone interested in serving on this board should send a letter of interest to Chief Clerk, Amy Revak at arevak@fayettepa.org or 61 East Main Street, Uniontown, PA 15401. Letters must be received no later than August 31, 2023.

Public Comments

Commissioner Lohr said the A rating helped with the county jail and when they went out for finances the USDA gave a great rate. Commissioner Vicites said the significance in dollars is a savings of 20 to 25 million dollars. The commissioners spoke about how Fayette County people are doing things on a state level.

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