

January 18, 2024
Office of the County of Elk Commissioners
Meeting Minutes

Elk County, Ridgway, PA

The County of Elk Commissioners met on Tuesday, January 18, 2024 at 10:00 AM, County of Elk Courthouse, Thomas G. Wagner Conference Room. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were Commissioners M. Fritz Lecker, Matthew G. Quesenberry and Gregory J. Gebauer. Also present were Rick Brown, Solicitor; Patrick Straub, Chief Clerk; Emily Anders, Office Administrator; Dan Rimer, IT; Matthew Frey, Treasurer; Nancy Baker, Director of Children and Youth Services; Gerald Copella, Director of Veteran Affairs; Chad Kahnell, Assistant Director of Domestic Relations; Mike McAllister, Director of Emergency Services; Becki Taylor, CDBG Coordinator; Dr. Clythera Horning, Guest; and Marilyn Secco, Press.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA-

A motion was made by Matthew G. Quesenberry to approve the agenda, seconded by Gregory J. Gebauer and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. January 2, 2024 Commissioners Meeting - **A motion was made by Gregory J. Gebauer to approve the January 2, 2024 minutes as presented, seconded by Matthew G. Quesenberry and carried unanimously.**
2. January 2, 2024 Reorganizational Meeting - **A motion was made by Matthew G. Quesenberry to approve the December 28, 2023 minutes as presented with notation of the error from the meeting, seconded by Gregory J. Gebauer and carried unanimously.**

PRESENTATIONS - N/A

RESOLUTIONS

1. 2024-02 – Requested by the Planning Department, Community Block Grant Competitive Application for the Horton Township Whetstone Waterline Project. **Information was provided by Becki Taylor. A motion was made by Gregory J. Gebauer, seconded by Matthew G. Quesenberry and carried unanimously.**

OLD BUSINESS

1. Rescind appointment of the Mental Health Hearing Officer-Attorney George N. Daghir (Jim) from Reorganizational Meeting on January 2, 2024. **A motion was made by Gregory J. Gebauer, seconded by Matthew G. Quesenberry and carried unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS

1. Appoint Mental Health Public Defender as Gary Knaresboro- **A motion made by M. Fritz Lecker, seconded by Gregory J. Gebauer, carried unanimously.**
2. Requested by Court of Common Pleas of the 59th Judicial District, Hearing Officer Contract between the County of Elk, Rebekka Dean, and the Court of Common Pleas of the 59th District. This term is from January 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025.- **A motion made by Gregory J. Gebauer, seconded by Matthew G. Quesenberry carried unanimously.**
3. Requested by Children & Youth Services, renewal contract with Alcohol & Drug Abuse services from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. **A motion made by Matthew G. Quesenberry, seconded by Gregory J. Gebauer carried unanimously.**
4. Requested by the Planning Department, reappointment of Carl Gamarino, Horton Township, and Jim McClain, Highland Township to the Planning Board from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2027. **A motion made by M. Fritz Lecker, seconded by Gregory J. Gebauer, carried unanimously.**
5. Requested by Veterans Affairs, approval of benefits for 32 Widow burials and 1 Veteran burial. **A motion made by Gregory J. Gebauer, seconded by Matthew G. Quesenberry carried unanimously.**
6. For ratification, 911 Statewide Interconnectivity Grant Agreement between Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (through PEMA) and Elk County Emergency Services. **A motion made by Matthew G. Quesenberry, seconded by M. Fritz Lecker carried unanimously.**
7. For ratification, Mission Critical Partners as a temporary maintenance provider for 911 network maintenance until a permanent provider is acquired. **A motion made by Gregory J. Gebauer, seconded by Matthew G. Quesenberry carried unanimously for the 3-month contract.**

CORRESPONDENCE – (The following correspondence, if any, is available in the Commissioner’s office for further review.)

1. Potter County Pennsylvania (received January 8, 2024) regarding availability for review of the newly completed draft 2024 Potter County Hazard Mitigation Plan (“Plan”). It is important that counties surrounding Potter have the ability to review and comment on the draft Plan which will be available for public comment from January 5th through February 3rd, 2024 at <https://pottercountypa.net/post.php?pid=24>

GOOD OF THE COUNTY

- We welcome and encourage the public to attend our meetings. **Matthew G. Quesenberry approached the subject of moving the meetings to Thursdays. At this point, the Commissioners are looking to alert the public and asking for input.**
- Please continue to pray for our military personnel, our families and our children, their teachers, all elected officials and peace in the world.

- **M. Fritz Lecker announced the passing of Brian Stockman, a press reporter from the Ridgway Record who attended many Commissioner meetings. A moment of silence was held in his honor.**

QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

1. Marilyn Secco asked about the term of Mission Critical Partners as the temporary provider for 911 network maintenance. She also asked what RFP means. Mike McAllister explained this is a 3-month contract and RFP means Request for Proposal.

QUESTIONS FROM TAXPAYERS – N/A

ADJOURN MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 10:28AM on a motion by Matthew G. Quesenberry seconded by Gregory J. Gebauer and carried unanimously

**Next Meeting:
Tuesday, February 6, 2024
10:00 A.M. Thomas G. Wagner Conference Room, Courthouse Annex**

Attest: _____

