DAUPHIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LEGISLATIVE MEETING

DECEMBER 13, 2023
10:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mike Pries, Chairman
Chad Saylor, Vice Chairman
George P. Hartwick, III, Secretary

STAFF PRESENT

J. Scott Burford, Chief Clerk; Joseph A. Curcillo, III, Esq., Solicitor; Steve Libhart, Deputy Chief Clerk; Mary Bateman, Controller; Vince Paese, Acting Treasurer; Nick Chimienti, Sheriff; Anthea Stebbins, Director of Parks & Recreation; Chris Davis, Director of Budget & Finance; Edgar Cohen, Director of Facilities Maintenance; Jeff Enders, Director of Public Safety; Fred Lighty, Esq., Solicitor's Office; Rebecca McCullough, Esq., Solicitor's Office; Chris Spackman, Voter Registration/Elections; Donna Miller, Risk Manager; Katie Hornberger, Human Resources; Rob Morgan, Human Resources; Michelle McKeown, Parks & Recreation; Jennifer Fitch, Press Secretary; Jennifer Simpson, Court Administration; Jim Markel, Controller's Office; Ron Lutz, Information Technology; Ryan Peters, Security; Jessica Spandler, Commissioners' Office; Ruby Doub, Commissioners' Office; Julie Mackey, Commissioners' Office; and Richie-Ann Martz, Assistant Chief Clerk

GUESTS PRESENT

Justin Douglas, Allison Wert, Rev. Earl Harris, WHTM 27 media, Tom Connolly, Nick DiFrancesco, Ed Kunkle, Antonio Perez along with his family and friends

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Pries, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Everyone observed a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. Saylor that the Board approve the November 22, 2023 Workshop Meeting Minutes and the November 29 2023 Legislative Meeting Minutes; motion carried.

It was moved by Ms. Bateman and seconded by Mr. Hartwick that the Salary Board approve the November 29, 2023 Salary Board Minutes; motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS HELD BETWEEN MEETINGS

There were no Executive Sessions held between meetings.

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS/GUESTS

Mr. Pries asked Mr. Saylor to change seats. He asked Mr. Saylor to proceed with the meeting.

A. Dauphin County Commissioners

1. Presentation of Proclamation to Antonio Perez, the new World Boxing Council (WBC) International Lightweight Champion

Mr. Pries stated that we have a champion in the house – Antonio Perez. It is also Antonio's 22nd birthday. Antonio is a Central Dauphin High School graduate who recently won a World Boxing Council International Lightweight Championship title. (He called Mr. Perez forward.) Mr. Kunkle is here from the Pennsylvania State Athletic

Commission. Also, Nick Chimienti, Sheriff of Dauphin County, also serves as a professional boxing judge.

Mr. Perez and his family and friends were in attendance.

Mr. Pries stated that he is sure they are as proud of Antonio as the Board is. It is an incredible accomplishment.

Mr. Perez stated that it means the world to him.

Mr. Hartwick stated that you know when the Perez's are in the house – half of Harrisburg shows up. Antonio never disappoints when he is in the ring. It is really gratifying to see the hard work that you put into boxing. We have some diamonds in the County. He thanked Mr. Perez for his dedication (keeping with a diet and keeping mentally in a zone). The Board is your biggest fan.

Mr. Saylor asked what it felt like when they announced that he was the champion.

Mr. Perez stated that it was amazing. He was looking for this his entire life. It was a dream come true.

Mr. Saylor indicated that he will be a role model for future boxers. He congratulated him on his championship.

Mr. Pries read the following Proclamation:

Office of County Commissioner
Dauphin County, Pennsylvania

Proclamation

***We**, the Dauphin County Board of Commissioners, are pleased to celebrate Antonio Perez as the new World Boxing Council (WBC) International Lightweight Champion.*

***Whereas**, Antonio Perez competed for the title Saturday, December 2, in Miami, Florida, and dominated against Haskell Rhodes in 10 rounds; and*

***Whereas,** Antonio Perez, who trains at Harrisburg's Capital Punishment Boxing Club, scored a unanimous decision win in June 2023 during a pay-per-view event, earning him accolades and allowing him to compete in front of larger audiences; and*

***Whereas,** Antonio Perez and his twin brother started going to the gym while after being inspired by a cousin, and they now serve as mentors for younger fighters in the capital region; and*

***Whereas,** Antonio Perez, a Central Dauphin High School graduate whose style is self-described as "tricky" in the ring, won three national champions as an amateur and today competes in the 135-pound class; and*

Whereas, *Antonio Perez is now unbeaten with a record of 9-0 after having dropped Rhodes twice in Round 10 to cap a 100-88 3x sweep.*

Therefore, *we join the 286,000 residents of Dauphin County in congratulating the WBC International Lightweight Champion Antonio "Bam Bam" Perez on his hard work, dedication to the sport and new title. We do hereby proudly proclaim December 13, 2023, to be "Antonio Perez Day" in Dauphin County.*

(Applause was given and pictures were taken.)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

HUMAN RESOURCES – KATIE HORNBERGER

Ms. Hornberger reported that a Personnel Packet was sent out yesterday. She is requesting a vote on the Packet.

It was moved by Mr. Pries and seconded by Mr. Hartwick that the Board approve the Personnel Packet.

Question: Mr. Pries – Aye; Mr. Saylor – Aye; and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

BUDGET & FINANCE DIRECTOR – CHRIS DAVIS

Investment Report

Mr. Davis provided the following report:

Report from the Office of Budget & Finance

December 13, 2023

Account Transfers:

Date:	*From:*	*To:*	*Amount:*
11/30/23	Concentration	Payables	$ 3,171,417.42
	Concentration	Payroll	$ 2,591,500.89
12/7/23	Concentration	Payables	$ 4,606,718.44

Wire Payments Since Last Report: $ 519,821.05

Debt Service Payments Since Last Report: $ 43,282.59

Term Investments:

Purchase Date:	***Investment:***	***Financial Institution:***	***Rate:***	***Initial Investment:***	***Maturity Date:***
12/15/22	12 Month Term	PLGIT	5.14%	$ 5,000,000.00	12/14/23
4/20/23	9 Month Term	PLGIT	5.31%	$ 5,000,000.00	1/15/24

2/24/23	12 Month Term	PLGIT	5.25%	$ 5,000,000.00	2/23/24
7/12/23	10 Month Term	PLGIT	5.84%	$ 5,000,000.00	5/7/24
7/12/23	11 Month Term	PLGIT	5.84%	$ 5,000,000.00	6/6/24
10/19/23	9 Month Term	PLGIT	5.87%	$ 5,000,000.00	7/15/24
10/19/23	10 Month Term	PLGIT	5.84%	$ 5,000,000.00	8/14/24
10/19/23	11 Month Term	PLGIT	5.84%	$ 5,000,000.00	9/13/24
10/19/23	12 Month Term	PLGIT	5.84%	$ 5,000,000.00	10/18/24
10/23/23	12 Month Term	PLGIT	5.84%	$ 5,000,000.00	10/18/24

Investment Accounts:

Account:	***Financial Institution:***	***Rate:***	***Balance:***
**4860	PA INVEST	5.34%	$ 28,631.76
**4743	First National Bank	2.43%	$ 110,188.87
**1209	S&T Bank	0.12%	$ 34,615.39
**7714	Santander Bank	0.10%	$ 24,351.20
**9102	Customers Bank	6.00%	$ 7,922,011.17
**6051	Customers Bank	6.00%	$ 7,083.51
**3023	PLGIT Prime	5.52%	$ 19,491,509.20
**9210	Mid Penn Bank	0.75%	$ 34,417.57
**7194	Citizens Bank	5.00%	$ 55,162.51
**5517	M&T Investment	4.77%	$ 98,325.45
**7506	Old Dominion Bank	5.75%	$ 22,583,249.45
**9449	Univest Bank	5.54%	$ 15,097,892.69

No T.R.A.N. Line of Credit required for 2024.

Adoption of the 2024 Calendar Year Budget

Mr. Davis reported on the 2024 Calendar Year Budget. The General Fund increased by $1,224,043 from 2023 to 2024 - $220,678,481. The initial budget request for all of the departments under the oversight of the Courts was approximately $50.8 million. Again, this year, with the cooperation of the President Judge, this amount was significantly reduced by $1.8 million. There is no tax increase for 2024. The budget was on display at the receptionist's desk and was also posted online. Today was the date advertised for the adoption.

(The entire 2024 Approved Budget Summary is attached.)

Mr. Pries thanked Mr. Davis and his staff, the Judges, Row Officers, Directors and employees for enabling the Board to provide the level of services that the residents have grown accustomed to. This Board reviewed the budget line item by line item.

Mr. Hartwick stated that the County has some financial issues that lie ahead. A hard look at County government will need to occur. The Board will need to have some serious discussions on the 9-1-1 funding. It should not be the responsibility of the taxpayers to pay for the 9-1-1 fees. In 2019, the fees for 9-1-1 were approximately

$719,000 and it is now around $4.4 million because the State will not address the issue. Mr. Davis is getting the best possible return on investments. The County has challenges with the workforce – getting people who are qualified and hardworking. He is grateful for the employees and elected officials.

Mr. Pries echoed those comments. He also welcomed the Commissioner-Elect Justin Douglas.

Mr. Saylor stated that you don't have 19 years without a tax increase by not having teamwork. The Courts shaved off $1.8 million and other departments had some savings as well. as well as the other departments. Nineteen years without a tax increase makes Dauphin County unique. It is not easy. He thanked Mr. Davis for his hard work on the budget.

It was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. Pries that the Board adopt the 2024 Calendar Year Budget.

Question: Mr. Pries – Aye; Mr. Saylor – Aye; and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

Bid Award for MDJ and APO Cleaning Services

Mr. Davis asked that the Board approve the bid for MDJ and APO Cleaning Services to DSC Solutions at a cost of $354.50/day. There were no other bids.

Bid Award for County Office Supplies

Mr. Davis asked the Board to approve the bid for Office Supplies to H.B. Mason at a bid price of $103,557.30. Again, there were no other bids. It is $10,600 over from last year. The current supplier, Office Basics, didn't submit a bid.

Mr. Hartwick discussed the possibility of piggybacking on a national level to get lower prices. He indicated that discussions should be held on how to increase bidder participation.

It was moved by Mr. Pries and seconded by Mr. Hartwick that the Board approve the following bids:

MDJ & APO Cleaning Services – DSC Solutions - $354.50/day
Office Supplies – H.B. Mason - $103,557.30

Question: Mr. Pries – Aye; Mr. Saylor – Aye; and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

CHIEF CLERK'S REPORT – J. SCOTT BURFORD

Mr. Burford wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – JOSEPH A. CURCILLO, III, ESQ.

Mr. Curcillo reported that the items listed are ready for approval. It noted that Items Q & R should be approved pending Solicitor's final approval. That being the last meeting, "Joe Out".

MATTERS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

A. Authorizing the acceptance of the Lease/Purchase with The Bancorp (through Whitmoyer Auto Group) for two (2) 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe PPV Vehicles for the Prison, and granting authorization to Donna Miller to execute, on behalf of the Board, any necessary documents consistent with this transaction.

B. Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency 911 Statewide Interconnectivity Funding Grant Agreement between Dauphin County (Public Safety) and PA Emergency Management Agency.

C. Dauphin County Local Share Municipal Grant Agreement between Dauphin County and the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Dauphin - $114,300.00.

D. Letter of Intent between the County and Manada Conservancy for the acquisition of recreational land located at Fleming Run Lane, Middle Paxton Township (Parcel #43-029-004).

E. Acceptance of the 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets for the Parking System.

F. Resolution #20-2023 - Tax Levy and Appropriation for 2024.

G. Authorization for the Chief Clerk and/or designee to execute the lowest responsible electricity bid as recommended by Provident Energy.

H. Resolution #21-2023 - Hiring Freeze promulgated by the Dauphin County Board of Commissioners for all employment positions in the County of Dauphin.

I. License Agreement between Dauphin County (Parks & Recreation) and To Espresso, LLC for a mobile café at Fort Hunter.

J. Purchase of Service Agreement between Dauphin County (Children & Youth) and City Mission-Living Stones, Inc.

K. Purchase of Service Agreement between Dauphin County (MH/A/DP) and ConnectionsPA, LLC.

L. Amendment #1 to Purchase of Service Agreement between Dauphin County (Drug & Alcohol) and JFT Recovery and Veterans' Support Services, Inc.

M. Website Support and Maintenance Contract Consulting Services Agreement between Dauphin County (Information Technology) and Mindburn Solutions, LLC.

N. Resolution #22-2023 - Application to Encumber Liquid Fuels Tax Funds - Dauphin County Bridge #23 - $400,000.00 for engineering and construction.

O. Resolution #23-2023 - Application to Encumber Liquid Fuels Tax Funds - $600,000.00 for engineering and construction to completely replace the Paxton Street Bridge.

P. Partial Refund of 2023 Real Estate Taxes - Parcel #09-001-008 (417 Walnut Street) - Pennsylvania Chamber of Business & Industries - $4,432.31.

Q. Stipulation for Settlement and Joint Motion for Agreed Upon Order and authorization for John Dornberger, Attorney representing Dauphin County, to execute a Tax Refund Agreement between Dauphin County and BRV Apartments, LP - BVR Apartments, LP v. Dauphin County Board of Assessment Appeals - Parcel #35-009-216 (Blue Ridge Village) - Docket No. 2021-CV-1574-TX.

R. Stipulation for Settlement and Joint Motion for Agreed Upon Order and authorization for John Dornberger, Attorney representing Dauphin County, to execute a Tax Refund Agreement between Dauphin County and HH Crown LP - HH Crown, LP v. Dauphin County Board of Assessment Appeals - Parcel #24-052-451 (200 High Pointe Drive) - Docket No. 2021-CV-8642-TX.

S. Purchase of Service Agreement between Dauphin County (Tax Assessment) and Mid-Atlantic Valuation Group, Inc.

T. Purchase of Service Agreement between Dauphin County (Drug & Alcohol) and APC Home Services, Inc.

U. Purchase of Service Agreement between Dauphin County (MH/A/DP) and James Petrascu, Esquire.

V. Approval of Proposal from EHD for the renewal of the Drone Package Policy with American Alternative Insurance Corporation from January 2, 2024 through January 2, 2025.

W. Agreement between Dauphin County, Dauphin County Treasurer's Office, and Halifax Borough for the collection of real estate taxes for the Borough.

X. Approval of County sponsorship, for eligibility purposes only, of Local Share Municipal Gaming Grant Application - Dauphin County Redevelopment Authority - $75,000.

Y. Grievance Settlement Agreement between Dauphin County, PSSU, and Joe Ann Dillard.

Z. Agreement of Sale between Dauphin County Institution District and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and any other associated documents for the condemnation of Parcel No. 247, Claim No. 2200613000 in Swatara Township.

AA. Appointment of Tara Toms to the South Central Workforce Development Board, effective January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2027.

BB. Training Packet.

It was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. Pries that the Board approve Items A through BB listed above under Matters Requiring Board Action, noting that Items Q and R are pending Solicitor's approval.

Discussion: The Commissioners asked for a description on Item H.

Mr. Burford stated that this is the annual resolution where the Board establishes four windows for hiring purposes. The first window is February 14/21, 2024. It allows for positions to be reevaluated. The critical/essential positions that are 24/7 are excluded from this freeze.

Mr. Pries asked about the appointment of Tara Toms.

Mr. Burford stated that the majority of the appointments will be made in the new year. There was a legal requirement to get this particular appointment made.

Question: Mr. Pries – Aye; Mr. Saylor – Aye; and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

FORMER BUSINESS

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

COMMISSIONERS' DISCUSSION & ACTIONS

There was none.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence has been received in the Commissioners' Office and will be handled by the staff appropriately.

A. Notification from AET Agricultural Consulting advising that Ag Ventures, LLC – Schwalm Farm is applying to DEP for a NPDES Permit for a concentrated animal feeding operation located at 351 Bastian Road, Jackson Township.

B. Notification from AET Agricultural Consulting advising that Carsonville Farms, LP is applying to DEP for a NPDES Permit for a concentrated animal feeding operation located at 2731 Powell's Valley Road, Wayne Township.

C. Notification from GHD advising that the Susquehanna Township Authority is applying to DEP for a Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit and an Act 537 Sewage Planning Special Study for their proposed PC-32A Fox Fun Trunk Replacement project.

D. Receipt of a letter from Dominic D. DiFrancesco, II advising that he is resigning from the Dauphin County Planning Commission.

E. Notification from Larson Design Group advising that they, on behalf of PennDOT Engineering District 3-0, are applying to DEP for an application for the rehabilitation of

Bridge SR 225-003 over Mahantango Creek in Pillow Borough, Dauphin County and Lower Mahanoy Township in Northumberland County.

F. Notification from TeamAg advising that Noah W. Kreider & Sons LLP are applying to DEP for a NPDES Permit for a concentrated animal feeding operation at 301 Long View Drive, Lower Swatara Township.

G. Notification from TE Connectivity (formerly AMP, Inc.) advising that they are applying to DEP for a NPDES Permit for the discharge of treated water from Groundwater Remediation System to Wiconisco Creek in Williamstown Borough.

H. Notification from Hershey advising that they have filed a Notice of Intent with the Susquehanna River Basin Commission seeking approval for the consumptive use of water. The water will be used for evaporative cooling, process cleaning, manufacturing of confectionary products and other process uses at the Hershey Plant located in Derry Township.

I. Notification from Hyland Engineering advising that Aero Corporation is applying to DEP for a NPDES Permit for stormwater discharges associated with the construction to consolidate 4 parcels into one at 1998 W. Harrisburg Pike.

J. Notification from Brown and Caldwell advising that Derry Township Municipal Authority is applying to DEP for a permit for the biosolids facility improvement: installation of sludge dryer/gasification system project in Derry Township.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. DiFrancesco extended his best wishes to Scott Burford on his new career. Scott was hired to handle a big issue – the nursing home. He lead the transition of the nursing home in a good way. He thanked Scott for his years of service. York County is going to make out.

Mr. DiFrancesco thanked Mr. Saylor for everything he has done in the County. He appreciated every success that they had in those early years. As Chief Clerk he always made sure things were getting done.

Mr. Pries acknowledged the great work that the staff has done. He is pleased to have a dedicated workforce. A special congratulations to Scott Burford. He is leaving at the end of the year. He has done a remarkable job, and the people of York County will be calling him Commissioner.

Mr. Hartwick stated like you expressed yesterday, it has been an honor to work together over the last couple years. We may disagree sometimes, but we still have respect for each other.

Mr. Hartwick read the following Proclamation:

Office of County Commissioner

Dauphin County, Pennsylvania

Proclamation

We*, the Dauphin County Board of Commissioners, are honored to recognize Chad Saylor, for his many years of loyal and dedicated service to the citizens of Dauphin County.*

Whereas*, Chad began his service to Dauphin County in 2004 as the Chief Clerk/Chief of Staff to the Board of Commissioners; and*

Whereas, *he served more than fourteen years as the Chief Clerk/Chief of Staff, and provided sound advice, wise counsel, and a steadying influence throughout his tenure; and*

Whereas, *Chad distinguished himself in providing calm, competent, and compassionate leadership to the departments and staff of Dauphin County throughout the Coronavirus Pandemic of 2020, regardless of the multiple challenges and obstacles to providing county services, he resolutely encouraged all to press "Onward"; and*

Whereas, *in 2021, he was appointed as Dauphin County Commissioner by a unanimous vote of the Judges of the Dauphin County Court of Common Pleas; and*

Whereas, *Commissioner Saylor has demonstrated great drive, dedication, and tenacity throughout his service to Dauphin County, particularly in his unwavering commitment to maximize citizen services while controlling costs, and his dogged determination to enhance the availability and sustainability of County Parks. His contributions to making Dauphin County the best place to live and work are countless, and we are proud to count him as a colleague and friend.*

Therefore, *we join the 286,000 residents of Dauphin County in wishing Chad Saylor all the best in all his future endeavors. We do hereby proudly proclaim December 31st, 2023, to be "Commissioner Chad Saylor Day" in Dauphin County.*

(Applause was given.)

Mr. Paese stated that he knew Chad before coming to the County. It was nice to have a familiar face. Thank you for your friendship and mentorship. He wished him the best of luck.

Ms. Bateman stated ditto.

Mr. Pries stated that Mr. Saylor was Chief Clerk for several years and then went to serve in the Corbett administration. In 2021, Mr. Saylor replaced Mr. Haste as a Commissioner. He always had the best interest of the County at heart and was a team player. He is a member of the Central Pennsylvania orchestra.

Mr. Saylor stated that it has been an excellent ride. We have faced many challenges – Hurricanes Lee and Irene, sale of the nursing home, saving the City of Harrisburg from bankruptcy, 19 years without a tax increase and the pandemic. It was tough during the pandemic – the County had offices that had to be manned 24/7 and those employees came through. The County has an amazing workforce. It was my privilege to be a part of this. In 2004, a friend of his talked to him about working for Dauphin County. He

mentioned that he learned a lot and it was a real privilege working with everyone. He read a note that was left by a former employee when she retired.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Saylor and seconded by Mr. Hartwick that the Board adjourn; motion carried.

Transcribed by: Richie-Ann Martz