

CAMBRIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Minutes

January 2, 2024

Ebensburg, PA
December 21, 2023

Commissioners Thomas C. Chernisky, William J. Smith, and Scott W. Hunt present.

Ebensburg, PA
December 22, 2023

Commissioners Thomas C. Chernisky, William J. Smith, and Scott W. Hunt present.

Ebensburg, PA
December 25, 2023

Courthouse closed in observance of Christmas Day.

Ebensburg, PA
December 26, 2023

Commissioners Thomas C. Chernisky, William J. Smith, and Scott W. Hunt present.

Ebensburg, PA
December 27, 2023

Commissioners Thomas C. Chernisky, William J. Smith, and Scott W. Hunt present.

Ebensburg, PA
December 28, 2023

Commissioners Thomas C. Chernisky, William J. Smith, and Scott W. Hunt present.

Ebensburg, PA
December 29, 2023

Commissioners Thomas C. Chernisky, William J. Smith, and Scott W. Hunt present.

Ebensburg, PA
January 1, 2024

Courthouse closed in observance of New Year's Day.

Commissioners in Session. Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith D. Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky were present.

The Reorganizational Meeting of the Cambria County Board of Commissioners was called to Order by Deputy Chief Clerk Tara N. Keilman in the Commissioners' Office of the Cambria County Courthouse, at 12:30 p.m.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to waive the reading of the Minutes of December 21, 2023, but to approve them and place them on file.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed. Commissioner Rager abstained.

Public Comment:

John DeBartola congratulated the Commissioners along with Ronald Repak, Esquire, on being appointed County Solicitor. He questioned the Buckeye tax appeal, the existence of a Republican transition team, and the position of Chief Clerk.

Reorganization:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to nominate Scott W. Hunt as President Commissioner.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hunt to nominate Keith D. Rager as Vice President Commissioner.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to nominate Thomas C. Chernisky as Secretary to the Board of Commissioners.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to table the appointment of a Chief Clerk at this time.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to appoint Tara N. Keilman as Deputy Chief Clerk.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rager and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve appointing the law firm of Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter & Graham, LLP, as Solicitor for the County, at the rate of \$62,400.00 annually, effective January 2, 2024.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to approve appointing the law firm of Wagner & Finn to provide legal services with regard to personnel, labor, and workers' compensation issues, in the amount of \$57,080.00 annually, effective January 1, 2024.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rager and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to approve appointing Gary A. Jubas, Esquire, to provide legal services with regard to tax assessments, tax claims, and tax appeals, in the amount of \$30,000.00 annually, effective January 1, 2024.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rager and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the following dates and locations for regular public 2024 Commissioner Meetings:

- January 11th, Courthouse, Jury Room, 10:00 a.m.
- January 25th, Community Arts Center of Cambria County, 1217 Menoher Boulevard, Johnstown, 15905, 6:05 p.m.
- February 8th, Courthouse, Jury Room, 10:00 a.m.

- February 22nd, Cambria Heights Elementary School Library, 138 East Campbell Street, Carrolltown, 15722, 6:05 p.m.
- March 14th, Courthouse, Jury Room, 10:00 a.m.
- April 11th, Courthouse, Jury Room, 10:00 a.m.
- April 25th, Courthouse, Jury Room, 10:00 a.m.
- May 9th, Courthouse, Jury Room, 10:00 a.m.
- May 23rd, St. Michael Fire Hall, 849 Locust Street, St. Michael, 15951, 10:00 a.m.
- June 13th, Courthouse, Jury Room, 10:00 a.m.
- June 27th, Duman Lake County Park, Pavilion No. 10, 157 County Park Road, Ebensburg, 15931, 10:00 a.m.
- July 11th, Courthouse, Jury Room, 10:00 a.m.
- July 25th, Pennsylvania Highlands Community College, Board Room, 101 Community College Way, Johnstown, 15904, 10:00 a.m.
- August 15th, Conference on the Park, Central Park Complex, 110 Franklin Street, 1st Floor, Johnstown, 15901, 10:00 a.m.
- September 12th, Courthouse, Jury Room, 10:00 a.m.
- September 26th, Courthouse, Jury Room, 10:00 a.m.
- October 10th, Courthouse, Jury Room, 10:00 a.m.

October 24th, Courthouse, Jury Room, 10:00 a.m.
November 14th, Courthouse, Jury Room, 10:00 a.m.
December 5th, Courthouse, Jury Room, 10:00 a.m.
December 19th, Courthouse, Jury Room, 10:00 a.m.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Appointments:

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to approve appointing Scott W. Hunt and Keith D. Rager as Commissioner Representatives to the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission Executive Committee.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rager and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve appointing Thomas C. Chernisky as the Commissioner Alternate to the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission Executive Committee.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve appointing Thomas C. Chernisky to the Cambria County Solid Waste Authority, for a 4-year term, beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2027.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to approve appointing Keith D. Rager to the Cambria Somerset Authority Board, for a 4-year term, beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2027.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to approve appointing Scott W. Hunt to the Cambria County Agricultural Land Preservation Board, for a 3-year term, beginning January 1, 2024, and ending January 1, 2027.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rager and passed unanimously.

Tax Appeal:

Motion was made by Commissioner Hunt to approve the Stipulation to Settle prepared in the tax appeals of Buckeye Community Fifty Six, LP, filed at Nos. 2020-3601 and No. 2020-3602.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rager and passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Remove from Payroll:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove William Gleason Barbin, Part-Time Solicitor, (Paygrade 000-F/\$74,856.34 annually), effective January 2, 2024.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hunt stated that the next regular Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 11, 2024, in the Jury Room of the Cambria County Courthouse, at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Tara N. Keilman, Deputy Chief Clerk