

CAMBRIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Minutes

April 11, 2024

**Ebensburg, PA
March 14, 2024**

Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

**Ebensburg, PA
March 15, 2024**

Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

**Ebensburg, PA
March 18, 2024**

Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

**Ebensburg, PA
March 19, 2024**

Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

**Ebensburg, PA
March 20, 2024**

Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

**Ebensburg, PA
March 21, 2024**

Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

**Ebensburg, PA
March 22, 2024**

Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

**Ebensburg, PA
March 25, 2024**

Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

**Ebensburg, PA
March 26, 2024**

Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

**Ebensburg, PA
March 27, 2024**

Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

**Ebensburg, PA
March 28, 2024**

Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

**Ebensburg, PA
March 29, 2024**

Courthouse closed for Good Friday.

**Ebensburg, PA
April 1, 2024**

Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

**Ebensburg, PA
April 2, 2024**

Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

**Ebensburg, PA
April 3, 2024**

Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

**Ebensburg, PA
April 4, 2024**

Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

Ebensburg, PA
April 5, 2024
Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

Ebensburg, PA
April 8, 2024
Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

Ebensburg, PA
April 9, 2024
Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

Ebensburg, PA
April 10, 2024
Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

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

The Commissioners' Meeting was called to Order by President Commissioner Scott W. Hunt in the Jury Room of the Cambria County Courthouse, Ebensburg, at 10:00 a.m.

Public Comment:

John DeBartola noted that the current Administration had been in office for 100 days, and he questioned the legacy it was leaving, specifically what he believes is mismanaging the new Day Reporting Center, bonuses to employees, money owed to the federal government by the Area Agency on Aging, raising taxes twice, and not following the healthcare policy for one employee. He then mentioned the Cambria County War Memorial Authority entering into a contract to manage the Conference Center and questioned if hotel tax money was going to be used to pay Conference Center bills.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to waive the reading of the Minutes of March 14, 2024, but to approve them and place them on file.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rager and passed unanimously.

Notice of Executive Sessions:

1. April 8, 2024, meeting with Agency Department Heads.
2. April 9, 2024, meetings with Human Resources and Solicitor.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Cambria County Prison Emergency Operations Plan, pending Solicitor approval.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Amendment:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Lease Amendment with Breaking the Barriers, for additional space at the Central Park Complex Building, specifically Rooms 309 and 320, at rates of \$148.64 and \$123.92 per month, respectively.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Agreements:

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to approve the Short-Term Lease Payment Agreement with Blackstone Capital, LLC, for property located at 701 Messenger Street, Dale Borough, in the amount of \$875.00 per month.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rager and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to approve the Subrecipient Agreement with the Redevelopment Authority of Cambria County, with regard to the 2022 Community Development Block Grant, Contract No. C000086462, in the amount of \$656,639.00, to be disbursed as follows:

Cambria County - \$330,754.00	Cambria Township - \$114,713.00
Adams Township - \$114,023.00	Jackson Township - \$97,149.00

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rager and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Agreement with AT&T Corp. for wireless communication services and equipment.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to approve the Letter Agreement between Breaking the Barriers and the Cambria County Department of Emergency Services/Cambria County 911 with regard to the sharing of information.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rager and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to approve the Grant Agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Subgrant Award No. 2023-IP-ST-40731, in the amount of \$90,000.00, beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024, to be used for Adult Probation.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rager and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Grant Application with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Subgrant Award No. 43882, in the amount of \$75,000.00, to be used for vests, tasers, and radios for Adult Probation.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Agreement with Sikora Logging to remove timber from Duman Lake County Park.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Staffing Agreement with WorkLink Staffing to recruit, screen, interview, hire, and assign its employees, for various County positions, at rates of \$12.00 to \$16.00 per hour.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Contracts (Provided Funding is Available):

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve one (1) Service Contract Amendment for Cambria County BH/ID & EI, Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

Vendor	Service Provided	Original Amount	New Amount
Center for Community Resources	Provider will link, coordinate, and monitor services per needs of the consumer.	\$10,000.00	\$15,000.00

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve one (1) Service Contract Amendment for Cambria County Drug & Alcohol, Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

Vendor	Service Provided	Amount
3JB, LLC	Addition of Mainline Pharmacy Hastings	Average wholesale price per prescription

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve one (1) Service Contract for Cambria County Area Agency on Aging, Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

Vendor	Service Provided	Amount
The Tribune Democrat	Advertising – Foster Grandparent Program	\$3,952.00 max

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve one (1) Service Contract for Cambria County Area Agency on Aging, Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Vendor	Service Provided	Amount
Cambria County Transit Authority	Provide transportation for those 65 and older.	\$210,000.00 max

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve one (1) Service Contract for Cambria County Children & Youth Service, Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

KidsPeace National Centers, Inc.							
Cert No.	Unit ID	Service Provided	Rate	Title IV-E Unallowable.	Title IV-E Allowable	Allowable Maintenance	Allowable Admin
	AA	Residential Treatment	\$633.54 per diem	\$275.94		\$256.90	\$100.70
207040	AA	Diagnostic	\$633.54 per diem	\$275.94		\$256.90	\$100.70
	SA	Clinical Shelter	\$802.23 per diem	\$360.54		\$340.57	\$101.12
		Personal Care Costs	\$ 3.00 per diem				
		One-on-One Services	\$72.00 per hour				
207090 302710 141870 352290 112270 239140 352330 206210 239120 352310	EE	Regular Foster Care – 10-18 years	\$130.77 per diem	\$52.00		\$25.00	\$53.77
207090 302710 141870 352290 112270 239140 352330 206210 239120 352310	BB	Specialized Foster Care	\$128.47 per diem	\$49.40		\$28.00	\$51.07
207090 302710 141870 352290 112270 239140 352330 206210 239120 352310	AA	Intensive Foster Care – 0-9 years	\$130.45 per diem	\$49.39		\$30.00	\$51.06
207090 302710 141870 352290 112270 239140 352330 206210 239120 352310	DD	Regular Foster Care – 0-9 years	\$120.49 per diem	\$49.41		\$20.00	\$51.08
		Mileage (in excess of 100 miles round trip)	\$ 0.54 per mile				
		Lodging	\$100.00 per night (plus tax)				
		Meals & Other Subsistence Expenses	State Minimum Rates				
		Staffing Expenses – Direct Care Staff (minimum 4 hours)	\$ 50.00 per hour				
		Staffing Expenses – Clinical Staff (minimum 4 hours)	\$ 100.00 per hour				
		Staffing Expenses – Medical Staff (minimum 4 hours)	\$ 200.00 per hour				

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Tax Exonerations:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve exonerating 2024 County taxes for Richard K. Sisco, Jr., properties known as Map Nos. 66-102.-105.000, 66-090.-214.000, and 66-090.-200.000, pursuant to the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs Real Property Tax Exemption Certification, effective February 5, 2024.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to authorize and direct the Tax Claim Bureau Director to strike, from the records in her office, taxes, plus penalty, interest, and fees assessed against:

Control No.	Map No.	Assessed Name	Municipality	Exonerate
45-25834	45-024.-201.000	Hartzog, William F.	Patton Borough, 2 nd Ward	2023 taxes. D.A.V. exempt Since 3/16/23. School bill should not have been sent out.
78-3039	78-018.-313.000	Sheridan, Christopher F. & Karen J.	Johnstown, 8 th Ward	2023 taxes. Sold at 3/23 Private Sale.
87-10402	87-006.-227.000	Lamantia, Greg	Johnstown, 17 th Ward	2023 taxes. Sold at 3/23 Private Sale.
87-10461	87-005.-108.000	Abram, Cory	Johnstown, 17 th Ward	2023 taxes. Sold at 6/23 Private Sale. Should have been exempt from school taxes.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Appointment:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve appointing Laura Maruca to the Cambria County General Financing Authority, for a 5-year term, beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2028.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

New Hires:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Deborah Makin, Full-Time Tax Claim Specialist for Tax Claim, (Paygrade 23-M/\$16.10 per hour), effective April 29, 2024. (Employment is contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment health screening).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Tonya Myers, Full-Time Fiscal Technician for the Area Agency on Aging, (Paygrade 30-F/\$27,300.00 annually), effective April 22, 2024. (Employment is contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment health screening).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Terrence Sloan, Part-Time Van Driver for the Area Agency on Aging, (Paygrade 9-J/\$12.41 per hour), effective April 15, 2024. (Employment is contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment health screening).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Joseph Harasty, Per-Diem Summer Duman Park Worker for Duman Park, (Paygrade 000-Q/\$12.50 per hour), effective April 15, 2024, through October 31, 2024. (Employment is contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment health screening).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Brody Gies, Per-Diem Summer Duman Park Worker for Duman Park, (Paygrade 000-Q/\$12.00 per hour), effective May 13, 2024, through October 31, 2024. (Employment is contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment health screening).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Jackson Rummel, Per-Diem Summer Duman Park Worker for Duman Park, (Paygrade 000-Q/\$12.50 per hour), effective May 13, 2024, through October 31, 2024. (Employment is contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment health screening).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Jason Burkhardt, Per-Diem Summer Duman Park Worker for Duman Park, (Paygrade 000-Q/\$12.50 per hour), effective May 13, 2024, through October 31, 2024. (Employment is contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment health screening).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Marleena Clapper, Full-Time Account Clerk I/Steno-Float for Tax Assessment, (Paygrade 5-K/\$12.48 per hour), effective April 29, 2024. (Employment is contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment health screening).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Transfer:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to transfer Lisa Oyaski, Full-Time Tipstaff/Court Clerk for the Courts, (Paygrade 22-G/\$22,586.20 annually), to Full-Time Jury Commission Supervisor for the Courts, (Paygrade 27-K/\$15.00 per hour), effective April 15, 2024.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Remove from Payroll:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Jennifer Vargo, Full-Time Floating Court Secretary for the Courts, (Paygrade 22-F/\$21.32 per hour), effective April 13, 2024.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Annette Wachs, Full-Time Watchman/Custodian for Maintenance, (Paygrade 9-D/\$16.12 per hour), effective March 28, 2024.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Michelle McCall, Full-Time Domestic Relations Clerk IV for Domestic Relations, (Paygrade 22-J/\$23.05 per hour), effective April 27, 2024.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Tara Brunnet, Full-Time Second Deputy for the Prothonotary's Office, (Paygrade 48-F/\$15.23 per hour), effective April 9, 2024.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Regina Tusing, Full-Time Manager/DUI for the District Attorney's Office, (Paygrade 36-I/\$36,461.88 annually), effective April 27, 2024.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Garrett Horner, Full-Time Fiscal Technician for Children & Youth Service, (Paygrade 30-F/\$29,466.06 annually), effective March 30, 2024.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hunt stated that the next regularly scheduled Commissioners' Meeting would be held on Thursday, April 25, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., in the Jury Room of the Cambria County Courthouse, Ebensburg.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rager and passed unanimously.

Alex M. Ashcom, Chief Clerk