

# CAMBRIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## Minutes

October 10, 2024

Ebensburg, PA  
September 26, 2024  
Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

Ebensburg, PA  
September 27, 2024  
Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

Ebensburg, PA  
September 30, 2024  
Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

Ebensburg, PA  
October 1, 2024  
Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

Ebensburg, PA  
October 2, 2024  
Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

Ebensburg, PA  
October 3, 2024  
Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

Ebensburg, PA  
October 4, 2024  
Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

Ebensburg, PA  
October 7, 2024  
Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

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

Ebensburg, PA  
October 9, 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, at 10:05 a.m.

### **Public Comment:**

Etta Albright spoke regarding an event that was held at UPJ entitled "Save our Republic."

John DeBartola questioned the Lease for \$1.00 that was on the Agenda for approval along with the Resolution for the Eli Lilly lawsuit. He also voiced concerns over hearing that there is a budgetary shortfall.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to waive the reading of the Minutes of September 26, 2024, but to approve them and place them on file.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

**Notice of Executive Sessions:**

1. **October 7, 2024, meeting with Agency Department Heads.**
2. **October 8, 2024, meetings with Human Resources and Solicitor.**

**Proclamation:**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve a Proclamation for National Veterans Small Business Week, beginning November 11, 2024, and ending November 15, 2024.**

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**Resolutions:**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve a Resolution approving and authorizing the submittal of an application for fiscal year 2024 funds, under the Pennsylvania Community Development Block Grant Program, for Cambria County, and an application on behalf of the entitlement Townships of Adams, Cambria, and Jackson.**

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve a Resolution authorizing the retention of counsel for litigation against Eli Lilly, et al.**

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**Amendments:**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve Amendment No. 5 to the HealthChoices Behavioral Health Grant Agreement, No. 10074155000572021, with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Human Services, effective July 1, 2024.**

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve Amendment No. 1 to the Service Agreement with Maximus US Services to allow for the following fees:**

<b>2024</b>	<b>\$13,800.00</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>\$13,800.00</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>\$13,800.00</b>
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**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**Leases:**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Lease Agreement with John Sikora, Damien Perry, and Paul Toth, for a portion of the property located at 525 Manor Drive, Ebensburg, for a term beginning October 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2027, for the amount of \$1.00 annually.**

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Lease Agreement with Pennsylvania Highlands Community College, to lease space for the East Hills Senior Activities Center, beginning February 1, 2025, and ending January 31, 2029, at a rate of \$1,400.00 per month, or \$16,800.00 per year.**

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**Agreements:**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Hazardous Material Response Fund Grant Agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, Contract No. HMRF C950004602, in the amount of \$8,483.00, for a term beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.**

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Agreement with Community Action Partnership of Cambria County, with regard to the Medical Assistance Transportation Program, beginning July 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024, at a rate of \$27.07 per trip.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the 2024 HAVA Grant Agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of State, beginning March 24, 2024, and ending December 31, 2025, in the amount of \$4,335.76.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Agreement with Empire Lawn Care and Seasonal Services, LLC, to provide snow removal services at the County-owned parking lots in Johnstown, for the 2024-2025 snow season, at a rate of \$200.00 per plowing.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the UPMC Health Benefits, Inc., stop loss insurance renewal, the UPMC Health Plan renewals, and the UPMC Benefit Management renewal, effective January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Agreement with The EADS Group to provide a structural evaluation of a catwalk adjacent to the Central Park Complex, at a rate of approximately \$2,500.00.

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 2024-2025.

Vendor	Service Provided	Amount
Kids First Affiliated Services	Provide physical, occupational, and speech therapy including any special instructions for the Early Intervention Program.	From: \$75,000.00 To: \$81,927.00

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve one (1) Service Contract for Cambria County BH/ID & EI, Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Vendor	Service Provided	Amount
Alliance for Behavioral & Developmental Disabilities, Inc.	Conducts certified investigations in accordance with MR Bulletins No. 00-04-11, "Certified Investigations," and No. 6000-04-01, "Incident Management," as well as the Pennsylvania Certified Investigations Manual.	\$466,929.00

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve four (4) Service Contracts for Cambria County Children & Youth Service, Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Children's Aid Home Programs of Somerset County, Inc.					
Cert No.	Unit ID	Service Provided	Rate	Allowable Maintenance	Allowable Admin
312330	FC	CAHP - Foster Family Care	\$84.96/day		
312340	CD	CAHP-Community Based Residential	\$150.58/day		

Beginnings, Inc.

Service Provided	Rate
Court-Appointed Special Advocate Program (CASA) - Actual expenses billed on a monthly basis.	\$138.00 per child
Ages & Stages Evaluation - Maximum of 12 units of service within a 10-mile radius. Greater than 10 miles, maximum of 20 units of service.	\$7.50 per 15-minute unit

**Cornell Abraxas Group, LLC**

Cert No.	Unit ID	Service Provided	Rate	Allowable Maintenance	Allowable Admin
411250/ 411200	AI	Abraxas I- Marienville Male Drug & Alcohol	\$370.76/day		
419760	MD	Female Drug & Alcohol	\$384.65/day		
406800	AI	Intensive Open Residential Program Leadership Development Program – South Mountain	\$400.80/day		
310320	LO	Abraxas Specialized Treatment Program	\$418.15/day		
355310	CC	Abraxas South Mountain Shelter	\$415.63/day		
		Abraxas Youth Center – South Mountain			
304420	CA	Secure Residential Treatment (ReSet/FS/SO)	\$403.26/day		
		Abraxas Academy – Morgantown			
144040	AA	Secure Residential Treatment (HO/SO)	\$543.56/day		
144050	AC	Detention (Pre-Purchased)	\$720.00/day		

**Independent Family Services, Inc.**

Service Provided	Rate (Per Hour)
Family Based Mental Health Services (FBMHS) Behavioral Health Treatment Services for children under 21 years of age that involves family therapy and occurs in the school, home and community; includes those with Co-Occurring Disorders (MA eligible and upon approval)	No Charge
	Direct Services (including Telehealth) - \$89.00 Supervised Visitation \$89.00 Court Preparation & Testimony - \$89.00 Court Report - \$31.50 (maximum 2hr charge) Consultation - \$52.50
In-Home Parent Support Services – a. Parenting Enhancement Services- Including SAFE CARE b. Family Activity Building Services c. Community Support Building Services d. Supervised Visitation, e. Comprehensive Reporting Services includes; Monthly Progress Reports and Family Functionality Assessment and Evaluation. Includes Telehealth services, and truancy education services.	Direct Services (including Telehealth) – \$89.00
Crisis Intervention – IFS Family Resource Professionals offer 24/7 telephone coverage for CYS families in crisis. These situations can lead to traumatic and life-threatening events if left unattended. The families that work with the IFS Family Resource Professionals often rely on the IFS worker as their first line of defense. Families are also encouraged to use local and state police, the Cambria County Crisis Unit, and the Women's Help Center while learning to independently deal with their crises.	Direct Services (including Telehealth) – \$89.00
Follow-Up Aftercare Services – Monthly contact with families who successfully complete an IFS program up to 12 months. Review Discharge Planning and assist family as necessary.	No Charge
Assessment & Evaluation Services – In-Home Family Functionality Assessment and Baseline Measurement of current functionality with report to referring agency. Maximum of 12 hours. IF IFS services are initiated after the assessment & evaluation then the evaluation results will be utilized for referred family.	\$89.00
Batterer's Intervention Group – 26 – week Duluth model; Educational materials and presentations to males/females (over 18 years old) who have been involved in domestic violence situations. All participants will be charged an assessment fee of \$80.00 and will be charged a minimum fee of \$20.00 per group. Weekly groups are held in Johnstown and have an open enrollment.	No Charge
Court Preparation & Involvement – Court preparation and testimony as to family progress, deficiencies, and issues within the scope of the IFS program. Provide recommendations and prognoses.	See individual service listed
Court Reports – Detailed description of family progress and recommendations for treatment/intervention. Court notice must be provided a minimum of 15 days prior to hearing date to ensure delivery of IFS Court Report. Minimum charge of 1-hour, Maximum charge of 2 hours.	See individual service listed
IFS Consultation – Face-to-face consultation with caseworker regarding a family referred for IFS services or consultation after services have been initiated that has been requested by the caseworker/supervisor	See individual service listed
	Direct Services (including Telehealth) - \$50.00 Court Preparation & Testimony - \$50.00 Court Report - \$21.00 (maximum 2 hr. charge) Consultation - \$31.50
Home Management Services – Designed to offer the most basic needs that are necessary in the development of healthy and safe children. The program utilizes a Home Manager to assist the family with the basics of providing food, shelter, and clothing in a safe and sanitary environment where each individual learns their specific role in meeting these basic family goals. The Home Management program conducts Lice/Bedbug/Cockroach Protocol specifically authorized by the Cambria County Caseworker. Includes Telehealth services.	Lice/Bedbug/Cockroach Protocol Primary worker- \$94.50 Additional Staff - \$50.00 Court Preparation & Testimony - \$50.00 Court Report - \$21.00 (maximum 2hr charge) Consultation - \$31.50
Lice/Bedbug/Cockroach Protocol – Designed to assist families with infestations to reduce the infestation and teach real life skills to the family to eliminate the need for services in the future. The program utilizes 1 to 3 Home Management staff to assist the family with eliminating the infestation, treating the home, and/or preparing the home for treatment by exterminators. A primary staff member coordinates and utilizes additional IFS staff member(s) dependent upon the severity and nature of the infestation to implement initial protocols and then singularly monitors and manages the protocols henceforth.	Court Report - \$21.00 (maximum 2hr charge) Consultation - \$31.50
Recovery Coach Services – An intensive, community-based case management program for individuals and their families who are involved with their local county Children & Youth Services agency and are experiencing distress because of a substance use disorder (SUD) within the family unit. Recovery coaches help individuals' transition through the continuum of addiction treatment (i.e., from detox to aftercare), provide education to the family about SUD to further strengthen recovery and help individuals sustain their recovery in conjunction with formal addiction treatment through consultation, skills training, and coaching. Includes Telehealth services.	Direct Services (including Telehealth) - \$76.00 Recovery Coach Group \$22.00 per person Court Preparation & Testimony - \$76.00 Court Report - \$21.00 Consultation - \$31.50
Family First Foster Parent Program: A program designed to support foster parents and CCCYS by a two-person team consisting of a Master's and Bachelor's level staff to prevent placement disruptions. FFP services can be provided by staff jointly or independently. The program places the children at the center of the equation, grounded first and foremost in what children need. Foster Parents and Caregivers are provided coaching and support in building specialized skills to effectively care for children who have experienced instability and trauma. Includes Telehealth services.	Direct Services (including Telehealth) - \$79.00 Court Preparation & Testimony - \$79.00 Court Report - \$21.00 (maximum 2hr charge) Consultation - \$31.50
Telehealth: IFS began using various forms of communication as a result of the global COVID-19 crisis in addition to face-to-face direct services. IFS staff conduct the various services offered via facetime, zoom, skype, and telephone communication dependent upon the technical capabilities of the client(s).	See individual service listed
Training – Staff training, parent training, conference trainings, Service Provider Training	\$525.00 per day/6hrs
	Direct Services (including Telehealth) - \$89.00
Safe Care Program: An evidence-based In-Home family service program for children 5 or under to educate the family on Safety, Health and Parent Child Interaction needs. Includes Telehealth services.	Coaching/Audio Consultation - \$52.50
Transportation: To be billed in 15-minute increments	\$50.00/hr.
Transportation Wait Time: To be billed in 15-minute increments	\$32.00/hr.
Transportation Cancellation Without 24-Hour Notice Fee	\$50.00

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve one (1) Service Contract for Cambria County Drug & Alcohol, Fiscal Year 2024-2025.**

Vendor	Service Provided	Amount
Westmont Hilltop School District	SAP Training Reimbursement	\$3,000.00

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**Bids:**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the bid of Smith Lawn Service, Inc., Ebensburg, Pennsylvania, for snow plow removal services, for the following winter seasons, at the following facilities and amounts:

<u>Site/Service</u>	<u>Season/Amount</u>	<u>Season/Amount</u>
Services Building/Plow Lot	2024-2025/\$80.00	2025-2026/\$80.00
Services Building/Salt Lot	2024-2025/\$60.00	2025-2026/\$60.00
Services Building/Shovel Walks	2024-2025/\$30.00	2025-2026/\$30.00
Services Building/Salt Walks	2024-2025/\$20.00	2025-2026/\$20.00
HSB/Plow Lot	2024-2025/\$160.00	2025-2026/\$160.00
HSB/Salt Lot	2024-2025/\$120.00	2025-2026/\$120.00
HSB/Shovel Walks	2024-2025/\$40.00	2025-2026/\$40.00
HSB/Salt Walks	2024-2025/\$30.00	2025-2026/\$30.00
CCCA/Plow Lot	2024-2025/\$75.00	2025-2026/\$75.00
CCCA/Salt Lot	2024-2025/\$70.00	2025-2026/\$70.00
CCCA/Shovel Walks	2024-2025/\$50.00	2025-2026/\$50.00
CCCA/Salt Walks	2024-2025/\$30.00	2025-2026/\$30.00

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the bid of Elite Outdoor Services, LLC, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania, for snow plow removal services, for the following winter seasons, at the following facilities and amounts:

<u>Site/Service</u>	<u>Season/Amount</u>	<u>Season/Amount</u>
Courthouse/Plow Lot	2024-2025/\$72.00	2025-2026/\$74.88
Courthouse/Salt Lot	2024-2025/\$65.00	2025-2026/\$67.60
Prison/Plow Lot	2024-2025/\$150.00	2025-2026/\$156.00
Prison/Salt Lot	2024-2025/\$115.00	2025-2026/\$119.60
LTSR/Plow Lot	2024-2025/\$40.00	2025-2026/\$41.60
LTSR/Salt Lot	2024-2025/\$30.00	2025-2026/\$31.20
NCRC/Plow Lot	2024-2025/\$45.00	2025-2026/\$46.80
NCRC/Salt Lot	2024-2025/\$30.00	2025-2026/\$31.20

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

**Appointment:**

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the appointment of Bob Miller to the Cambria County Solid Waste Authority Board, to fill an unexpired term, beginning October 10, 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 Matthew Hoover, Per-Diem Court Clerk for the Courts, (Paygrade 22-C/\$12.00 [1000 hours] per hour), effective October 27, 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 Karin Saylor, Full-Time Court Clerk/Tipstaff for the Courts, (Paygrade 22-G/\$22,586.20 [1820 hours] annually), effective October 27, 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 approve hiring the following individuals as Full-Time Correctional Officer I's for the Prison, (Paygrade 26-A/\$23.62 [2080 hours] per hour), effective October 14, 2024. (Employment is contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment health screening).**

**Thomas J. Davis  
Tyler Long**

**Johnathan Regala**

**William Muir**

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Patricia Reed, Per-Diem Grant Administrator/Rapid DNA for the District Attorney's Office, (Paygrade 36-N/\$20.00 [770 hours] per hour), effective October 14, 2024, through September 30, 2025. (Employment is contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment health screening).**

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**Transfers:**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to transfer Maddi Harvey, Full-Time Domestic Relations Clerk III for Domestic Relations, (Paygrade 16-A/\$18.99 [1820 hours] per hour), to Full-Time Unit Supervisor for Domestic Relations, (Paygrade 28-A/\$19.94 [1820 hours] per hour), effective October 14, 2024.**

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to transfer Matthew Varner, Full-Time Acting Lieutenant for the Prison, (Paygrade 67-C/\$58,891.04 [2080 hours] annually), to Full-Time Lieutenant for the Prison, (Paygrade 67-C/\$58,891.04 [2080 hours] annually), effective October 27, 2024.**

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**Remove from Payroll:**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Brooklynn Davis, Full-Time Telecommunicator for the Department of Emergency Services, (Paygrade 35-F/\$17.78 [2080 hours] per hour), effective September 27, 2024.**

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Jylian Baker, Full-Time Correctional Officer I for the Prison, (Paygrade 26-A/\$24.65 [2080] per hour), effective October 4, 2024.**

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Kathryn Antol, Full-Time Clerk Typist III for Children & Youth Service, (Paygrade 21-C/\$28,353.00 [1950 hours] annually), effective October 19, 2024.**

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

**President Commissioner Hunt stated that the next regularly scheduled Commissioners' Meeting would be held on Thursday, October 24, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., in the Jury Room of the Cambria County Courthouse, Ebensburg.**

**Adjournment:**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to adjourn the meeting.**

**Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.**

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**Alex M. Ashcom, Chief Clerk**