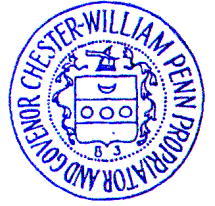




THE COUNTY OF CHESTER



COMMISSIONERS
Marian D. Moskowitz
Josh Maxwell
Michelle Kichline

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
313 W. Market Street, Suite 6202
P.O. Box 2748
West Chester, PA 19380-0991
(610) 344-6100

**COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
&
PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHUYLKILL RIVER
PASSENGER RAIL AUTHORITY MINUTES**

April 27, 2022

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The public meeting of the Chester County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 10:02 AM on April 27, 2022 in the Commissioners' Boardroom by the Chair of the Board of Commissioners, Marian D. Moskowitz. Commissioner Josh Maxwell and Commissioner Michelle Kichline were also present.

CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Moskowitz asked Representative Joe Ciresi to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Kichline read a Proclamation recognizing Humphrey Marshall Day, which was accepted by Conor Hepp, President of the Chester County Historical Society.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Maxwell read a Proclamation recognizing Active People Healthy Nation Week, which will be posted to the County's website.

Chair Moskowitz read a Proclamation recognizing Sexual Assault Awareness Month, which was accepted by Chris Zaccarelli, CEO of the Crime Victims' Center of Chester County.

Chair Moskowitz announced that the Board of Commissioners met in Executive Session on Thursday, April 7, 2022 and Monday, April 25, 2022 to discuss personnel and legal matters.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA

Deb Swagely and Sandra Bowman spoke about the recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month and outlined their concerns surrounding certain books present and allowed in local public school libraries.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Barbara Powers referenced Budget Change 06-22 while expressing her concerns surrounding current election procedures.

There was no further public comment on agenda items.

(Consent Agenda)

5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Commissioner Maxwell made a motion to adopt the agenda.
Commissioner Kichline seconded the motion. Motion carried to adopt the April 27, 2022 Commissioners' Meeting agenda.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- 6. CONSENT AGENDA** – Commissioner Kichline made a vote to approve the following routine items of business without discussion. Commissioner Maxwell seconded the motion. Motion carried to approve the following items:

CONSENT AGENDA

a. Minutes of the April 7, 2022 Commissioners' Meeting

Approval of Minutes

b. Resolution 22-22

Resolution of the Chester County Commissioners authorizing the exoneration of certain county taxes for the North American Islamic Trust in Tredyffrin Township.

Resolution 22-22

c. Resolution 23-22

Resolution of the Chester County Commissioners authorizing the exoneration of certain county taxes for Tredyffrin/ Easttown School District in Tredyffrin Township.

Resolution 23-22

d. Resolution 24-22

Resolution of the Chester County Commissioners approving the Chester County Industrial Development Authority Next Generation Farmer Loan application/ project on behalf of John G. and Esther S. Stoltzfus.

Resolution 24-22

e. Resolution 25-22

Resolution of the Chester County Commissioners approving the Chester County Industrial Development Authority Next Generation Farmer Loan application/ project on behalf of Christian E. and Katie F. Stoltzfus.

Resolution 25-22

f. Contracts

Contracts

Aging Services

Contract

With: Moore, Megan M.

Amount: \$30,000.00

Purpose: In-Home and Telecommunication

Psychological Consultant Services

Term: 05/01/2022-06/30/2024

Facilities

Contract Amendment

With: McCormick Taylor, Inc.

Amount: \$0.00

Purpose: Restricted Access Assessment of the

Brandywine Valley viaduct

Term: 05/01/2022-12/31/2022

(Consent Agenda)

Managed Behavioral Healthcare

Contract

With: Penn Psychiatric Center

Amount: \$361,724.00

Purpose: Expansion of CommonGround Services for the HealthChoices Program

Term: 05/01/2022-12/31/2022

Public Health Admin

Contract

With: Hammond, Aliya M.

Amount: \$15,000.00

Purpose: Consumer Education Outreach in the greater Coatesville area

Term: 04/27/2022-06/30/2022

g. Grants

Grants

Adult Probation, Parole, and Pretrial Services

Grant Application Renewal

With: Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency

Amount: \$429,068.00

Description: Intermediate Punishment Program (State Intermediate Punishment/ Drug and Alcohol Restrictive Intermediate Punishment)

Term: 07/01/2022-06/30/2023

Human Services

Grant Award Renewal

With: Pennsylvania Department of Human Services

Amount: \$1,037,571.00

Description: Family Centers

Term: 07/01/2022-06/30/2025

Mental Health/ Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Grant Application Renewal

With: Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Amount: \$240,000.00

Description: First Episode Psychosis Program

Term: 07/01/2022-06/30/2023

Grant Application Renewal

With: Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency

Amount: \$110,525.00

Description: Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program – Cross-System Re-entry Social Worker for Prison

Term: 07/01/2022-03/31/2023

(Consent Agenda)

Planning Commission

Grant Award

With: Pennsylvania Department of Conservation
and Natural Resources

Amount: \$60,000.00

Description: Countywide Trail Plan - Planning

Term: 07/01/2022-12/31/2024

Public Health

Grant Award Renewal

With: Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

Amount: \$6,750.00

Description: Farmers Market Nutrition Program

Term: 05/01/2022-12/31/2023

h. HR Agenda

Hires and rehires

Transfers

Promotions

Ends of employment

Retirements

HR Agenda

i. Budget Change 06-22

Department: Public Health

Amount: \$1,368.00

To establish a budget for the Farmers Market
Nutrition Program Grant

Department: Public Health

Amount: \$2,500.00

To establish a budget for the National
Environmental Health Association Grant

Department: Voter Services

Amount: \$99,283.00

To roll forward of the Election Security Grant
from 2021

Department: Voter Services

Amount: \$214,520.00

To budget for an increase in poll worker pay and
polling location compensation as authorized by
Resolution 13-22

Department: Public Safety Communications

Amount: \$80,885.00

To roll forward of the PEMA Interconnectivity
Grant from 2021

Budget Change 06-22

(Consent Agenda)

Department: Workforce Development
Amount: \$55,219.00
To establish budget for the PY19 Innovation
Technology Action Group Next Gen Industry
Partnership Grant

Department: Workforce Development
Amount: \$160,000.00
To establish budget for the PY20 Ag Connect
Next Gen Industry Partnership Grant

Department: Workforce Development
Amount: \$194,782.00
To establish budget for the PY20 Innovation
Technology Action Group Next Gen Industry
Partnership Grant

Capital Reserve Fund
No Net Change
To carry-forward the 2021 Alternate 9-1-1 Center
Infrastructure project

j. Vouchers as submitted by Controller

Vouchers

7. OLD BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items of old business.

**8. PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHUYLKILL RIVER
PASSENGER RAIL AUTHORITY**

PUBLIC HEARING

Commissioner Maxwell made a motion to open the public hearing for the Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority. Commissioner Kichline seconded the motion. Motion carried to open the public hearing.

Chester County Planning Commission's Executive Director, Brian O'Leary, gave a presentation outlining the authority. Mayor of Phoenixville Peter Urscheler, State Representative Joe Ciresi, and local residents Alex Tablokov and David Meadows each expressed their thanks to everyone involved with forming the authority, and their support of it on behalf of the community as a much needed revitalization. Deputy County Administrator Erik T. Walschburger noted the receipt of a letter supporting the establishment of the Authority that was sent by State Senators representing Berks, Chester, and Montgomery Counties. Representative Ciresi submitted a letter of support from State Representatives representing the tri-county region. Both letters are attached to these meeting minutes.

Commissioner Kichline made a motion to close the public hearing for the Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority. Commissioner Maxwell seconded the motion. Motion carried to close the public hearing.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Resolution 26-22

Commissioner Maxwell made a motion to approve Resolution 26-22 authorizing the County to incorporate, jointly with the counties of Berks County, Pennsylvania and Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, to form the Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority. Commissioner Kichline seconded the motion. Motion carried to approve Resolution 26-22.

b. Resolution 27-22

Commissioner Kichline made a motion to approve Resolution 27-22 requesting appropriate funding to support the increased demand for services within the mental health system in the FY 2022-2023 State Budget. Commissioner Maxwell seconded the motion. Motion carried to approve Resolution 27-22.

c. Contracts

Commissioner Maxwell made a motion to approve the Contracts Agenda. Commissioner Kichline seconded the motion. Motion carried to approve the Contracts Agenda.

d. Grants

Commissioner Kichline made a motion to approve the Grants Agenda. Commissioner Maxwell seconded the motion. Motion carried to approve the Grants Agenda.

10. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Maxwell reported that Saturday, April 30, 2022 is National Adopt a Shelter Pet Day and encouraged everyone to adopt a pet into a loving home if they are able and interested.

Commissioner Kichline reported that she recently attended a Pennsylvania Bar Election Law Seminar and encouraged her colleagues to consider inviting an outside party to review the County's current election procedures.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jane Joyce, Bobbie Cerig, Dave Schumaker, Sandra Bowman, Amanda Prince, Steve Larick, Joanne Bamber, Deb Swagely, Mary Bellemy, Daryl Campbell, Stephanie O'Brien, Karen Lampe, Sues S., Gary Heasley, and an unnamed individual expressed their concern over current election procedures and expressed their support for an audit of previous elections.

Michael Taylor, Solicitor for the Republican Committee of Chester County, asked if his recommended changes for ballot drop box procedures will be incorporated for the upcoming Primary Election.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 26-22

Resolution 27-22

Contracts

Grants

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

(Consent Agenda)

Lynn Strauss, Jeff Hucakbee, Catherine Miller, and Ginny Kerslake expressed their support of the Board and the current elections procedures.

A woman speaking on behalf of Remy Way, who was unable to attend, expressed Remy's concern over the salary rates for part-time county employees.

There was no further public comment.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned following a motion made by Commissioner Kichline, which was seconded by Commissioner Maxwell. Motion carried to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 12:23 PM.

ADJOURNMENT



Taken by Taylor Pettit

On behalf of Chief Clerk Robert J. Kagel

Senate of Pennsylvania



April 18th, 2022

Berks County Commissioners
633 Court Street, 13th Floor
Reading, PA 19601

Chester County Commissioners
313 West Market Street
West Chester, PA 19380

Montgomery County Commissioners
One Montgomery Plaza
Norristown, PA 19401

Re: Support for the Formation of the Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority

Dear County Commissioners:

As state legislators representing the tri-county region of Berks, Chester, and Montgomery counties, we are writing to support the formation of the Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority (SRPRA) by your respective counties. With the transformative potential of restoring passenger train service to the Schuylkill River Valley, the formation of this authority would be an important step to unlocking far-reaching benefits for our region.

Since the termination of passenger train service west of Norristown in the early 1980s, the region has seen rapid population growth, development, and worsening traffic congestion. The restoration of passenger train service to this region would spur job creation and economic development, relieve traffic congestion, support community revitalization, boost property values, provide environmental benefits, and promote equity and inclusion for underserved populations. A TEMS study supports this project's potential as a major economic driver, projecting that it would generate almost \$1.4 billion in new regional income and increase property values by over \$1 billion over 30 years.

Bringing back train service has been identified as not only technically feasible and economically viable but was also found in a Fall 2021 study as the best option for Route 422 traffic congestion relief. Passenger rail is an effective and efficient way to move people along the corridor, and it will open up access to new job markets and economic opportunities for residents of Reading, Philadelphia, and communities along the train line, as well as provide access to dining, entertainment, educational, and cultural venues throughout the region. This will bring significant improvements in quality of life, support downtown revitalization efforts, and dramatically increase local, state, and federal tax revenues.

April 18, 2022
County Commissioners
Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority

Forming the Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority is an important next step on the path to restoring passenger train service and would allow the project to obtain state and federal funding, execute necessary contracts, select a service operator, and perform other work necessary for train service. With unprecedented federal funding available for new passenger rail service and Amtrak's demonstrated interest in this corridor through their Amtrak Connects Us vision, we need to seize this opportunity and continue building momentum for this project.

Creating an authority will allow the project to continue moving forward and get us closer to achieving significant benefits for Berks, Chester, and Montgomery counties. We hope that you will support creation of the SRPRA at your April commissioners' meetings. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Judith Schwank
State Senator - 11th District



Art Haywood
State Senator - 4th District



Tim Kearney
State Senator - 26th District



Amanda Cappelletti
State Senator - 17th District



John Kane
State Senator - 9th District



Katie Muth
State Senator - 44th District



David Argall
State Senator - 29th District



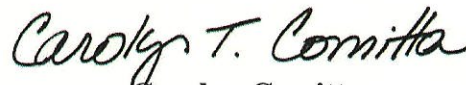
Scott Martin
State Senator - 13th District



Bob Mensch
State Senator - 24th District



Maria Collett
State Senator - 12th District

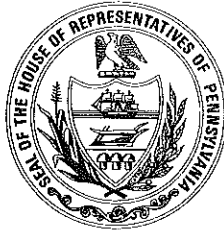


Carolyn Comitta
State Senator - 19th District

JOSEPH CIRESI, MEMBER
146TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

125A EAST WING
P.O. BOX 202146
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2146
(717) 783-4086
FAX: (717) 705-1891

PARK TOWNE PLAZA
301 N. LEWIS RD., SUITE 140C
ROYERSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA 19468
(484) 200-8265
FAX: (484) 200-8275



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

POLICY, VICE CHAIR
EDUCATION
TOURISM & RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT,
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SUBCOMMITTEE, CHAIR
COMMERCE
GAMING OVERSIGHT

CAUCUSES

BIPARTISAN FILM CAUCUS, CO-CHAIR
LITTER CAUCUS, CO-CHAIR
ANIMAL PROTECTION CAUCUS
ARTS & CULTURE CAUCUS
CLIMATE CAUCUS
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CAUCUS

BOARDS

PA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS
SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING COMMISSION

March 31, 2022

Berks County Commissioners
633 Court Street, 13th Floor
Reading, PA 19601

Chester County Commissioners
313 West Market Street
West Chester, PA 19380

Montgomery County Commissioners
One Montgomery Plaza
Norristown, PA 19401

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through their Amtrak Connects Us vision, we need to seize this opportunity and continue building momentum for this project.

Creating an authority will allow the project to continue moving forward and get us closer to achieving significant benefits for Berks, Chester, and Montgomery counties. We hope that you will support creation of the SRPRA at your April commissioners' meetings. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Representative Joe Ciresi
146th Legislative District



Representative Tracy Pennycuik
147th Legislative District



Representative Ben Sanchez
153rd Legislative District



Representative Kristine Howard
167th Legislative District



Representative Danielle Friel Otten
155th Legislative District



Representative Mark Gillen
128th Legislative District



Representative Tim Briggs
149th Legislative District



Representative Matthew Bradford
70th Legislative District



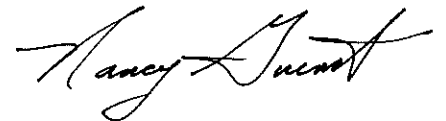
Representative Mark Rozzi
126th Legislative District



Representative Milou Mackenzie
131st Legislative District



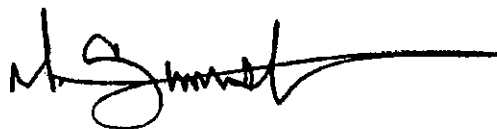
Representative Christina Sappey
158th Legislative District



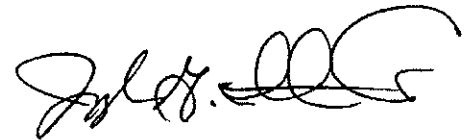
Representative Nancy Guent
152nd Legislative District



Representative Tim Hennessey
26th Legislative District



Representative Melissa Shusterman
157th Legislative District



Representative Joe Webster
150th Legislative District



Representative Jerry Knowles
124th Legislative District



Representative Manuel Guzman
127th Legislative District