

CAMBRIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Minutes

February 9, 2023

**Ebensburg, PA
January 25, 2023**

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

**Ebensburg, PA
January 26, 2023**

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

**Ebensburg, PA
January 27, 2023**

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

**Ebensburg, PA
January 30, 2023**

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

**Ebensburg, PA
January 31, 2023**

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

**Ebensburg, PA
February 1, 2023**

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

**Ebensburg, PA
February 2, 2023**

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

**Ebensburg, PA
February 3, 2023**

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

**Ebensburg, PA
February 6, 2023**

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

**Ebensburg, PA
February 7, 2023**

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

**Ebensburg, PA
February 8, 2023**

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

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

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

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to waive the reading of the Minutes of the meeting held January 25, 2023, but to approve them and place them on file.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

John DeBartola questioned if the Commissioners think about reassessment due to the number of tax appeal settlements and tax exonerations that are approved by the County.

He also stated that he believes the County mismanaged the ERAP Program. Now that the Program has been suspended, per the State, he wonders how many landlords will go without payment and how many people will lose their homes.

Joe Taranto also spoke regarding the ERAP Program. He is a landlord, and he believes that it takes too long to have the applications processed and payments made, as other counties appear to have a shorter turnaround time.

A Certificate of Recognition was presented to the Ebensburg Cambria Public Library to recognize its 100th anniversary.

COMMISSIONERS

Notice of Executive Sessions:

1. February 6, 2023, meeting with Agency Department Heads.
2. February 7, 2023, meeting with Human Resources and Solicitor.

Contracts (Provided Funding is Available):

Motion was made by Commissioner Hunt to approve one (1) Service Contract for Cambria County Area Agency on Aging Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Service Provided</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Cambria County Transit Authority	Advertising	\$1,170.00

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hunt to approve two (2) Service Contracts for Cambria County Drug & Alcohol Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Service Provided</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Portage Area School District	SAP Training Reimbursement	\$3,000.00
Portage Area School District	Vaping Detector Reimbursement	\$7,159.80

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and passed unanimously.

Contract Correction (Provided Funding is Available):

Motion was made by Commissioner Hunt to approve correcting the amount of the following Service Contract for Cambria County BH/ID & EI Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget, originally approved at the Commissioners' Meeting held January 25, 2023:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Service Provided</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Breaking Barriers	Provide emergency mobile crisis staffing assistance.	\$350,000.00

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and passed unanimously.

Bids:

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to approve the bid of Conserv Flag Company, of Sidney, Nebraska, for grave flag holders, in the amount of \$9,049.95.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to approve the bid of Metro Flag Company, of Wharton, New Jersey, for grave flags, in the amount of \$38,016.00.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to approve the bid of William Penn Printing, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for ballot printing and miscellaneous supplies for the 2023, 2024, and 2025 Primary and General Elections, in the following amounts:

2023	\$24,278.24
2024	\$24,948.36
2025	\$25,618.48

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Resignation:

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to approve the resignation of Kim Gorman from the Cambria County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Board, effective immediately.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Appointment:

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to approve the appointment of Loreen Bencie to the Cambria County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Board, to fill an unexpired term, beginning February 9, 2023, and ending December 31, 2023.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Reappointment:

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to approve the reappointment of Christine Greene to the Cambria County BH/ID & EI Advisory Board, for a 3-year term, beginning January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Tax Appeals:

Motion was made by Commissioner Hunt to approve the Settlement by Stipulation in the tax appeal of Gautier Steel, Ltd., filed at Case No. 2021-3738.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Hunt to approve the Stipulation to Settle in the tax appeal of Hazak 507 Main, LLC, filed at Case No. 2021-3368.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and passed unanimously.

Tax Exonerations:

Motion was made by Commissioner Hunt 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
16-110430	16-001.-000.098	Hann, Joshua	Cresson Township	2017-2022 taxes. Trailer strike-off per Assessment.
23-119016	23-016.-427.000	Datres, Deven	East Taylor Township	2018-2022 taxes. Sold at 12/2/22 Private Sale.
25-100195	25-010.-000.093	Ferguson, Helen	Ebensburg Borough	2019-2022 taxes. Trailer strike-off per Assessment.
30-104521	30-038.-000.090	Jones, Theresa	Gallitzin Borough	2020-2022 taxes. Trailer strike-off per Assessment.
33-114326	33-013.-000.099	Shonsky, Eric	Hastings Borough	2018-2022 taxes. Sold at 12/2/22 Private Sale.
39-62448	39-023.-188.000	Porath, Bryan M.	Lower Yoder Township	2003-2022 taxes. Sold at 12/2/22 Private Sale.

49-66105	49-008.-128.01T	Oshall, Bill & Shelia	Reade Township	2011-2022 taxes. Sold at 12/2/22 Private Sale.
50-118322	50-005.-000.068	Peck, David & Patricia & Williams, David	Richland Township	2018-2022 taxes. Trailer strike-off per Assessment.
68-83143	68-028.-315.000	RFH Development, LLC	White Township	2015-2022 taxes. Sold at 12/2/22 Private Sale.
68-108476	68-028.-316.000	RFH Development, LLC	White Township	2012-2022 taxes. Sold at 12/2/22 Private Sale.
68-224771	68-014.-116.70T	Delancey, Charles H.	White Township	2021-2022 taxes. Strike-off per Assessment.
68-224789	68-015.-202.096	Hoover, Michael & Jennifer	White Township	2014-2022 taxes. Strike-off per Assessment.
68-224791	68-015.-202.098	Pollock, John	White Township	2019-2022 taxes. Strike-off per Assessment.
68-224801	68-015.-202.108	Nansteel, Charles	White Township	2020-2022 taxes. Strike-off per Assessment.
68-224817	68-014.-116.01T	Johnston, James Michael	White Township	2021-2022 taxes. Strike-off per Assessment.
68-224936	68-015.-202.052	Brown, Tina & Williams, Zachary	White Township	2017-2022 taxes. Strike-off per Assessment.
68-224937	68-015.-116.053	Weslager, Larry G.	White Township	2021-2022 taxes. Strike-off per Assessment.
68-224950	68-015.-202.063	Hogue, Charles & Tamara	White Township	2021-2022 taxes. Strike-off per Assessment.
68-225149	68-014.-116.83T	Luke, Donna	White Township	2021-2022 taxes. Strike-off per Assessment.
68-225181	68-014.-116.26T	Warner, Jeff	White Township	2016-2022 taxes. Strike-off per Assessment.
79-4526	79-005.-417.000	Commonwealth Charter Academy Charter School	White Township	2015-2022 taxes. Sold at 12/2/22 Private Sale.
79-112825	79-005.-417.001	Commonwealth Charter Academy Charter School	White Township	2017-2022 taxes. Sold at 12/2/22 Private Sale.
87-10751	87-054.-300.000	Collier, Sherry	City of Johnstown	2007-2022 taxes. Sold at 12/2/22 Private Sale.
87-10878	87-031.-214.000	Reynoso, Pedro M.	City of Johnstown	2011-2022 taxes. Sold at 12/2/22 Private Sale.
90-119176	90-009.-121.001	Bretz, Ralph, Jr.	City of Johnstown	2009-2022 taxes. Sold at 12/2/22 Private Sale.
90-12725	90-023.-604.000	Reynoso, Pedro	City of Johnstown	2018-2022 taxes. Sold at 12/2/22 Private Sale.
90-12937	90-009.-103.000	Bretz, Ralph, Jr.	City of Johnstown	2015-2022 taxes. Sold at 12/2/22 Private Sale.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and passed unanimously.

Tax Refund Correction:

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to approve a 2022 tax refund for DLP Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center, LLC, Parcel No. 78-009.-204.000, in the amount of \$1,080.62, not \$1,102.67, for tax paid in error. (Action originally taken at the January 12, 2023, Commissioners' Meeting).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Agreement:

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with AFSCME Local 2411, beginning February 9, 2023.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

New Hires:

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to hire Gladys Bantly, Full-Time Caseworker I for Children & Youth Service, (Paygrade 52-C/\$37,050.00 annually), effective February 13, 2023. (Employment is contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment health screening).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to hire Trista Cory, Full-Time Caseworker I for Children & Youth Service, (Paygrade 52-C/\$37,050.00 annually), effective February 13, 2023. (Employment is contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment health screening).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to hire Danielle Whitaker, Full-Time Caseworker I for Children & Youth Service, (Paygrade 52-C/\$37,050.00 annually), effective February 13, 2023. (Employment is contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment health screening).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to hire Kevin Dolney, Full-Time Information Systems Specialist for Technology, (Paygrade 41-H/\$31,200.00 annually), effective February 20, 2023. (Employment is contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment health screening).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to hire Melissa Coleman, Full-Time Clerk Typist I for BH/ID & EI, (Paygrade 7-B/\$23,400.00 annually), effective February 20, 2023. (Employment is contingent upon successful completion of pre-employment health screening).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Transfers:

Motion as made by Commissioner Smith to transfer Laura Boxen, Full-Time Magistrate Clerk II for Magistrate Varner's Office, (Paygrade 11-E/\$16.04 per hour), to Full-Time Magistrate Clerk II for Magistrate Creany's Office, (Paygrade 11-E/\$16.04 per hour), effective January 27, 2023.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to transfer Roberta Fisher, Full-Time Clerk Typist I for the Area Agency on Aging, (Paygrade 7-B/\$24,258.00 annually), to Full-Time Fiscal Technician for Children & Youth Service, (Paygrade 30-F/\$26,500.50 annually), effective February 13, 2023.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to transfer Gwen Paul, Full-Time Watchman/Custodian for Maintenance, (Paygrade 9-D/\$13.57 per hour), to Full-Time Account Clerk II/Steno-Float for Tax Assessment, (Paygrade 11-K/\$14.25 per hour), effective February 13, 2023.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Remove from Payroll:

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to remove Kerry Kirsch, Full-Time Director of Records Storage for Records Storage, (Paygrade 54-E/\$57,002.14 annually), effective February 4, 2023.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to remove Bobby Rainey, Full-Time Correctional Officer I for the Prison, (Paygrade 26-A/\$21.52 per hour), effective January 24, 2023.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to remove Courtney Helsel, Full-Time Department Clerk I for the Prothonotary's Office, (Paygrade 3-B/\$12.00 per hour), effective January 21, 2023.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to remove Michael Pribish, Full-Time Correctional Officer I for the Prison, (Paygrade 26-A/\$21.52 per hour), effective January 25, 2023.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to remove Steven Bender, Full-Time Storage, Virtualization & Disaster Recovery Administrator for Technology, (Paygrade 50-M/\$54,161.12 annually), effective February 11, 2023.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to remove Mark Ledford, Full-Time Chief Probation Officer for the Courts, (Paygrade 88-B/\$88,564.84 annually), effective February 21, 2023.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to remove Brandon Rhodes, Full-Time Correctional Officer I for the Prison, (Paygrade 26-A/\$21.52 per hour), effective February 17, 2023.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to remove Matthew Lang, Full-Time Correctional Officer I for the Prison, (Paygrade 26-A/\$21.52 per hour), effective February 10, 2023.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Corrections:

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to correct Jane McGuirk, Full-Time Case Aide I for the Area Agency on Aging, (Paygrade 15-W/\$24,375.00 annually), effective January 31, 2023, not December 19, 2022. (Action originally taken at the Commissioners' Meeting held December 8, 2022).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to correct Michael Kozak, Part-Time Van Driver for the Area Agency on Aging, (Paygrade 9-J/\$12.00 per hour), effective February 6, 2023, not December 19, 2022. (Action originally taken at the Commissioner's Meeting held December 8, 2022).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Chernisky stated that the next Commissioners' Meeting would be held on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at the John P. Murtha Center, University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, at 6:05 p.m.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to adjourn the meeting.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Michael Gelles, IV, Chief Clerk