

CAMBRIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Minutes

April 10, 2025

Ebensburg, PA

March 13, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA

March 14, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA

March 17, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA

March 18, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA

March 19, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA

March 20, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA

March 21, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA

March 24, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA

March 25, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA

March 26, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA

March 27, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA

March 28, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA

March 31, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA

April 1, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA

April 2, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA

April 3, 2025

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

Ebensburg, PA
April 4, 2025
Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

Ebensburg, PA
April 7, 2025
Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

Ebensburg, PA
April 8, 2025
Commissioners Scott W. Hunt, Keith Rager, and Thomas C. Chernisky present.

Ebensburg, PA
April 9, 2025
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 at Contres-Greer Social Hall, Kennedy Avenue, Northern Cambria, at 10:05 a.m.

Public Comment:

None.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to waive the reading of the Minutes of the Commissioners' Meeting held March 13, 2025, but to approve them and place them on file.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed with a 2 to 1 vote. Commissioner Chernisky voted no.

Notice of Executive Sessions:

1. April 7, 2025, meeting with Agency Department Heads.
2. April 8, 2025, meetings with Human Resources and the Solicitor.

Proclamation:

Motion was made Commissioner Rager to approve a Proclamation for National Library Week – April 6, 2025, through April 12, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Resolutions:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve a Resolution providing for a Municipal Infrastructure Assistance Program utilizing Act 89, Fee for Local Use, funding.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed with a 2 to 1 vote. Commissioner Chernisky voted no.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve a Resolution providing for a Municipal Infrastructure Assistance Program utilizing Act 13, Highway Bridge Improvement Restricted Account, funding.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Amendment:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Amendment to the Assessment Services Agreement between Aging Well PA and the Cambria County Area Agency on Aging to amend the following all-inclusive rates:

- 1. \$259.35 per FED, PASRR-EV, and redetermination assessments; and**
- 2. \$142.27 for preparation and attendance at each consumer appeal hearing.**

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Agreements:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve an Agreement for the Sale and Purchase of an Agricultural Conservation Easement in Perpetuity with Mercedes M. Smith, Tax Map No. 50.008.-123.008, in the amount of \$1.00.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve a Hold Harmless Agreement with East Hills Ambulance to allow for storage of a County-owned vehicle.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve a Memorandum of Agreement between U.S. Immigration Customs Enforcement, (ICE), a component of the Department of Homeland Security, (DHS), and the Cambria County Prison to allow for the identification and processing of removable aliens who have been arrested and booked at the Prison.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Staffing Agreement with WorkLink Staffing to provide for personnel for Vector Control, beginning April 10, 2025, and ending April 9, 2026.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the counties of Allegheny, Armstrong, Butler, Fayette, Indiana, Lawrence, Mercer, Somerset, Washington, and Westmoreland pertaining to the governance, operation, and maintenance of a Regional Public Safety Radio System Controller Switch for the Inter-County Regional Radio System, (ICORRS).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Statement of Work with LifeSolutions Services, pursuant to the original Master Services Agreement, dated June 1, 2022, between Workpartners and the County, Exhibit Q, being effective June 1, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve exercising the renewal option for Grant No. 10074155000572021 with the Department of Human Services, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, allowing for an additional three-year term, being effective until December 31, 2028.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Grant Cooperation Agreement and Resolution with Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission, along with Bedford County, the Blair County Planning Commission, Fulton County, Huntingdon County, and Somerset County, to update and prepare a New Regional Greenways and Open space network plan, in the amount of \$6,250.00.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement with Nonprofit Partners with regard to the America250 celebration in Cambria County.

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 Agreement for Cambria County Children & Youth Services, Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Fostering Success: Boys to Men			
Cert No.	Unit ID	Service Provided	Rate
151480		Residential Services – Community Based	\$485.00/day

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve one (1) Service Contract Agreement for Cambria County Area Agency on Aging, Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

Vendor	Service Provided	Amount
Cambria County Transit Authority	Provide accessible/affordable transportation to individuals 65 and older.	\$20,000.00 max

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Appointments:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve appointing Jim McMullen as Chairperson, for 2025, to the Cambria County Agricultural Land Preservation Board.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve appointing Dianna Harmotta to the Cambria County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Board, to fill a vacancy, beginning April 10, 2025, and ending December 31, 2027.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

New Hires:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Matthew Brown, Full-Time Director of Veteran Affairs for Veterans Affairs, (Paygrade 46-A/\$38,000.00 [1820 hours] annually), effective April 14, 2025. (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 Jennifer Shero, Full-Time Juvenile Probation Officer for Juvenile Court, (Paygrade 47-C/\$38,302.13 [1820 hours] annually), effective April 14, 2025. (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 Ariel Laughard, Full-Time Legal Secretary for Juvenile Court, (Paygrade 23-C/\$14.06 [1820 hours] per hour), effective April 14, 2025. (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 Lexington Koeck, Per-Diem Court Clerk for the Courts, (Paygrade 22-C/\$12.00 [1000 hours] per hour), effective April 14, 2025. (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 John Malenich, Per-Diem Summer Duman Park Worker for Duman Park, (Paygrade 000-Q/\$12.00 per [1000 hours] hour), effective April 27, 2025, through October 31, 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 Candy Livingston, Full-Time Clerk Stenographer II for the District Attorney's Office, (Paygrade 11-B/\$13.68 [1820 hours] per hour), to Full-Time Department Clerk IV for the District Attorney's Office, (Paygrade 21-B/\$15.09 [1820 hours] per hour), effective March 31, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to transfer Vanessa Byrne, Full-Time Domestic Relations Clerk I for Domestic Relations, (Paygrade 6-C/\$13.26 [1820 hours] per hour), to Full-Time Domestic Clerk III for Domestic Relations, (Paygrade 16-A/\$14.62 [1820 hours] per hour), effective April 14, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to transfer John Tremarki, Full-Time Correctional Officer I for the Prison, (Paygrade 26-A/\$25.32 [2080 hours] per hour), to Full-Time Correctional Officer II for the Prison, (Paygrade 38-A/\$27.53 [2080 hours] per hour), effective March 30, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to transfer Brian Latoche, Full-Time Captain for the Prison, (Paygrade 70-A/\$65,403.52 [2080 hours] annually), to Full-Time Major of Booking and Admissions for the Prison, (Paygrade 70-L/\$65,403.52 [2080 hours] annually), effective April 14, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to transfer Donald Ochenrider, Jr., Full-Time Captain for the Prison, (Paygrade 70-A/\$65,403.52 [2080 hours] annually), to Full-Time Major of Security and Investigations for the Prison, (Paygrade 70-K/\$65,403.52 [2080 hours] annually), effective April 14, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to transfer Megan Bursky, Full-Time Counselor for the Prison, (Paygrade 32-K/\$25.42 [2080 hours] per hour), to Full-Time Assistant Deputy Warden of Finance and Facility Services for the Prison, (Paygrade 72-I/\$68,280.16 [2080 hours] annually), effective April 14, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to transfer George Rozum, Full-Time Second Deputy Warden for the Prison, (Paygrade 72-G/\$68,280.16 [2080 hours] annually), to Full-Time Chief Deputy Warden of Operations for the Prison, (Paygrade 73-D/\$72,207.20 [2080 hours] annually), effective April 14, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Remove from Payroll:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Melissa Bogus, Full-Time Investigator for the District Attorney's Office, (Paygrade 24-A/\$13.87 [1820 hours] per hour), effective April 3, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Justin Buterbaugh, Full-Time Juvenile Probation Officer for Juvenile Court, (Paygrade 47-C/\$38,921.53 [1820 hours] annually), effective March 12, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove John Dryzal, Full-Time District Manager/Soil Conservation for the Conservation District, (Paygrade 50-D/\$55,486.60 [1820 hours] annually), effective March 15, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Joy Croyle, Full-Time Magistrate Clerk II for Magistrate Price's Office, (Paygrade 11-E/\$14.40 [1820 hours] per hour), effective April 3, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Daniel Zakraysek, Full-Time Highway Safety Project Coordinator for Highway Safety, (Paygrade 30-E/\$41,788.50 [1950 hours] annually), effective April 12, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Richard Cicero, Per-Diem Court Clerk for the Courts, (Paygrade 22-C/\$12.00 [1000 hours] per hour), effective April 14, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Alyson Bodenschatz, Full-Time Department Clerk III for the Prothonotary's Office, (Paygrade 15-E/\$14.11 [1820 hours] per hour), effective March 26, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Jason Graffius, Full-Time Correctional Officer I for the Prison, (Paygrade 26-A/\$24.29 [2080 hours] per hour), effective March 29, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove DeVonte Jordan, Per-Diem Correctional Officer I for the Prison, (Paygrade 13-G/\$18.00 [1000 hours] per hour), effective March 12, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Joshua Fultz, Full-Time Correctional Officer I for the Prison, (Paygrade 26-A/\$24.29 [2080 hours] per hour), effective March 14, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Derek Makin, Full-Time Correctional Officer I for the Prison, (Paygrade 26-A/\$24.29 [2080 hours] per hour), effective March 22, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Craig Descavish, Full-Time Interim Warden for the Prison, (Paygrade 88-D/\$83,183.36 [2080 hours] annually), effective April 12, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Alexander Short, Full-Time Correctional Officer I for the Prison, (Paygrade 26-A/\$24.29 [2080 hours] per hour), effective March 20, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Richard Cosgrove, Full-Time Caseworker II for BHDS, (Paygrade 43-C/\$42,137.55 [1950 hours] annually), effective March 22, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Alanna Bates, Full-Time Caseworker I for Children & Youth Service, (Paygrade 52-C/\$43,192.00 [1950 hours] annually), effective April 3, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Hillery Beverlin, Full-Time Clerk Typist I for Children & Youth Service, (Paygrade 7-B/\$29,250.00 [1950 hours] annually), effective March 13, 2025.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Corrections:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve correcting the removal date of Scott McCoy, Jr., Full-Time Correctional Officer I for the Prison, (Paygrade 26-A/\$24.29 [2080 hours] per hour), from March 15, 2025, to March 2, 2025. (Action originally taken at the Commissioners' Meeting held March 13, 2025).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve correcting the effective date of Kurt Wolford, Full-Time Captain for the Prison, (Paygrade 70-A/\$65,403.52 [2080 hours] annually), to Full-Time Warden for the Prison, (Paygrade 94-A/\$83,183.36 [2080 hours] annually), from April 12, 2025, to April 11, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. (Action originally taken at the Commissioners' Meeting held March 13, 2025).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

President Commissioner Hunt stated that the next regularly scheduled Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 24, 2025, at 6:00 p.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.

Alex M. Ashcom, Chief Clerk