

CAMBRIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Minutes

June 25, 2026

Ebensburg, PA

June 11, 2026

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

Ebensburg, PA

June 12, 2026

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

Ebensburg, PA

June 15, 2026

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

Ebensburg, PA

June 16, 2026

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

Ebensburg, PA

June 17, 2026

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

Ebensburg, PA

June 18, 2026

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

Ebensburg, PA

June 19, 2026

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

Ebensburg, PA

June 22, 2026

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

Ebensburg, PA

June 23, 2026

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

Ebensburg, PA

June 24, 2026

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 Duman Lake County Park, Pavilion No. 10, at 10:05 a.m.

Public Comment:

Dave Gehlman stated that, during Covid, the County did not provide funding to his wife for her business, when she applied for it. However, he pointed out that, during the last 15 years, the County has given money back due to the large amount of assessment appeals. Now, his wife received a notice from the Tax Assessment Office that the taxes on her business were going to be raised due to an improvement. He believes the Commissioners need to have a handle on what is going on.

Marilyn Gehlman pointed out that she has never received any money for any of her businesses yet others get their taxes reduced.

John DeBartola spoke about the crime in the area and asked how the Commissioners were going to insure the safety of the people. He also requested a Proclamation for Pride Month and invited the Commissioners to attend the event being held.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to waive the reading of the Minutes of June 11, 2026, but to approve them and place them on file.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Notice of Executive Sessions:

- 1. June 22, 2026, meeting with Agency Department Heads.**
- 2. June 23, 2026, meetings with Human Resources and Solicitors.**

Authorization:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Authorization to Print with Infocon Corporation to allow for the printing of July 2026 interim tax bills.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Agreements:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Passthrough Agreement with Breaking the Barriers, in the amount of \$75,000.00, becoming effective only upon receiving PCCD Justice Reinvestment Initiative II grant funding.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Passthrough Agreement with FAVOR Laurel Highlands, in the amount of \$12,000.00, becoming effective only upon receiving PCCD Justice Reinvestment Initiative II grant funding.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Passthrough Agreement with Goodwill Industries, in the amount of \$64,000.00, becoming effective only upon receiving PCCD Justice Reinvestment Initiative II grant funding.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program Agreement for Local Agencies with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Agriculture, beginning on the date of the last Commonwealth signature, and ending on January 30, 2027, in the amount of \$3,000.00.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the Grant Cooperation Agreement with Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission and the Counties of Bedford, Blair, Fulton, and Huntingdon, with regard to developing a comprehensive plan, with Cambria County's cost being \$35,000.00.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve a Rental Agreement with Reverend Michael Noon, Sr., to rent the South Fork Senior Activities Center one (1) day per week, after normal business hours, at a rate of \$50.00 per week, beginning June 1, 2026, and ending May 31, 2027, pending Solicitor approval.

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 Drug & Alcohol, Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Service Provided</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Alternative Community Resource Program	Include language identifying when service time for client transport is compensable.	\$50,000.00 max (amount did not change)

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve nine (9) Service Contracts for Cambria County Drug & Alcohol, Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Service Provided</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Services, Inc.</u> – Manos House	Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed Medium Intensity Inpatient – Adolescent	\$208.00/day
DARS, Inc. – Supervised Independent Living Program	Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed Medium Intensity Inpatient – Adolescent	\$185.00/day
<u>Impact Counseling Services, LLC</u>	Early Intervention (School or Office-Based) Intake (School or Office-Based) Outpatient Counseling – Individual Outpatient Counseling – Group Outpatient Counseling – School-Based Individual Outpatient Counseling – School-Based Group Outpatient Counseling – Co-Dependency Outpatient Counseling – Family Therapy	\$80.00/hour \$80.00/hour \$65.00/hour \$20.00/hour \$80.00/hour \$20.00/hour \$80.00/hour \$65.00/hour
Buprenorphine and Naltrexone	Intake/Physical Medical Follow-up Medication Callback Vivitrol Injection	\$200.00/occurrence \$80.00/occurrence \$70.00/occurrence Actual Cost
<u>Gateway Rehabilitation, Inc.</u> Gateway – Washington	Level 3.7 WM – Medically-Monitored Intensive Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed High Intensity Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed High Intensity	\$427.00/day \$336.00/day \$269.00/day
Gateway – Waynesburg Gateway – Lighthouse for Women Gateway – Lighthouse for Men Gateway – Aliquippa	Level 3.1 Halfway House Level 3.1 Halfway House Level 3.7 WM – Medically-Monitored Intensive Inpatient Level 3.7 Clinically-Managed High-Intensity Inpatient Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed High-Intensity Inpatient Level 3.7 WM – Medically-Monitored Intensive Adolescent Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed High Intensity Adolescent	\$168.00/day \$179.00/day \$553.00/day \$399.00/day \$307.00/day \$571.00/day \$502.00/day
Moffett House Gateway Erie Gateway – Westmoreland	Level 3.1 Clinically-Managed Low Intensity (HWH) Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed High-Intensity Inpatient Level 3.7 Medically-Monitored Intensive Inpatient (WM) Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed High-Intensity Inpatient	\$165.00/day \$264.00/day \$442.00/day \$439.00/day
Midland	Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed High-Intensity Inpatient	\$284.00/day
<u>Firetree, Ltd.</u>	Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed High-Intensity Inpatient Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed High-Intensity Inpatient Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed High-Intensity Inpatient	\$255.00/day \$275.00/day \$240.64/day
New Way of Life Indiana New Way of Life Snyder	Halfway House – Male Halfway House – Male	\$175.10/day \$171.00/day
<u>Pennsylvania Organization for Women In Early Recovery</u>	Level 3.1 Halfway House	\$231.75/day
<u>SpiritLife, Inc.</u>	Level 3.7 Medically-Monitored Intensive Inpatient (WM) Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed High-Intensity Residential	\$320.00/day \$266.00/day
<u>Bowling Green Brandywine</u>	Level 3.7 Medically-Monitored Intensive Inpatient (WM) Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed High-Intensity Inpatient Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed High-Intensity Inpatient Co-Occurring Level 2.5 Partial Hospitalization	\$446.00/day \$353.00/day \$337.00/day \$183.00/day
<u>Clearbrook Treatment Centers, LLC</u> d/b/a Huntington Creek Recovery Center	ASAM Level 3.7 (WM) – Adolescent ASAM Level 3.5 Inpatient – Adolescent ASAM Level 3.7 (WM) – Adult ASAM Level 3.5 Inpatient – Adult ASAM Level 3.5 Inpatient Co-Occurring – Adult	\$579.00/day \$472.00/day \$441.00/day \$425.00/day \$450.00/day
<u>Medical Decision Logic, Inc.</u>	Provide for Student Mental Health Software System, bhworks, to schools within Cambria County through the Cambria County RISE Project.	\$57,000.00 max

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve two (2) Service Contracts for Cambria County Children & Youth Service, Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

The Christian Home of Johnstown, Inc.			
<u>Service Provided</u>			<u>Rate</u>
Independent Living Services			\$113.78/contact
Outside In School Of Experiential Education, Inc.			
<u>Cert No.</u>	<u>Unit ID</u>	<u>Service Provided</u>	<u>Per-Diem Rate</u>
	PR	Pathway to Recovery Residential Substance Abuse	\$359.00
	VO	Voyagers Residential	\$348.00
462780	GP	Guided Path Residential	\$1,126.00

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve two (2) Service Contracts for Cambria County BHDS, Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Service Provided</u>	<u>Amount</u>
North Star Services, Inc.	Provider will link, coordinate, and monitor services per the needs of the intellectually disabled consumer.	\$5,000.00

Advocacy Alliance	Investigations conducted by a Department CI, Administrative Review of Investigations, Certified Investigator Peer Review (CIPR) Process, Management Review of Incidents, Initial Management Review, Final Management Review, Weekend/Holiday Incident Reviews.	\$50,000.00
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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 2026-2027.

Vendor	Service Provided	Amount
County Homemakers d/b/a Arcadia Home Care & Staffing	Personal Care Home Support	\$19.00/hour \$19.00/hour

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Request for Proposal:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve the proposal of The Nutrition Group, of Irwin, Pennsylvania, to provide congregate and home-delivered meals at a cost of \$5.25 per meal, with a 0.1 reimbursement per meal, beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2029.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

New Hires:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Jessica Sabella, Full-Time Caseworker I for BHDS, (Paygrade 41-E/\$41,106.00 [1950 hours] annually), effective July 6, 2026. (Employment is contingent upon pre-employment health screenings).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Mark Adams, Full-Time Caseworker I for BHDS, (Paygrade 41-E/\$41,106.00 [1950 hours] annually), effective July 6, 2026. (Employment is contingent upon pre-employment health screenings).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Ammanuel Ojha, Full-Time Caseworker I for BHDS, (Paygrade 41-E/\$41,106.00 [1950 hours] annually), effective July 6, 2026. (Employment is contingent upon pre-employment health screenings).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Thomas Dowdell, Part-Time Sheriff’s Deputy for the Sheriff’s Office, (Paygrade 35-A/\$15.00 [1000 hours] per hour), effective July 20, 2026. (Employment is contingent upon pre-employment health screenings).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Daryllynn Eger, Full-Time Administrative Secretary for the Prison, (Paygrade 36-C/\$36,000.00 [2080 hours] annually), effective July 6, 2026. (Employment is contingent upon pre-employment health screenings).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to hire Bethany Kenstowicz, Per-Diem Law Clerk for the Courts, (Paygrade 000-R/\$33.00 [1000 hours] per hour), effective July 6, 2026. (Employment is contingent upon pre-employment health screenings).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Transfer:

Motion was made by Commissioner Chernisky to transfer Marleena Clapper, Full-Time Account Clerk II/Steno-Float for Tax Assessment, (Paygrade 11-K/\$14.48 [1820 hours] per hour), to Full-Time UPI Assistant/Clerk III for the Recorder of Deeds Office, (Paygrade 16-C/\$15.20 [1820 hours] per hour), effective July 13, 2026.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunt and passed unanimously.

Remove from Payroll:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Melanie Shiley, Full-Time Program Specialist I for BHDS, (Paygrade 57-B/\$48,845.00 [1950 hours] annually), effective July 11, 2026.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove John Packer, Full-Time Sheriff's Deputy for the Sheriff's Office, (Paygrade 35-B/\$31.89 [2080 hours] per hour), effective August 1, 2026.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove James Rzasa, Full-Time Watchman/Custodian for CPC Maintenance, (Paygrade 9-D/\$17.40 [2080 hours] per hour), effective July 7, 2026.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Donald Ochenrider, Jr., Full-Time Major of Security and Investigations for the Prison, (Paygrade 70-K/\$66,963.52 [2080 hours] annually), effective July 1, 2026.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove M. Veil Griffith, Full-Time Administrator III for the Area Agency on Aging, (Paygrade 80-B/\$78,584.48 [1950 hours] annually), effective July 7, 2026.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Deborah McCoy, Full-Time Correctional Officer I for the Prison, (Paygrade 26-A/\$24.96 [2080 hours] per hour), effective June 9, 2026.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Jordan Hall, Full-Time Correctional Officer I for the Prison, (Paygrade 26-A/\$24.96 [2080 hours] per hour), effective June 9, 2026.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Duane Biller, Full-Time Correctional Officer I for the Prison, (Paygrade 26-A/\$24.96 [2080 hours] per hour), effective June 10, 2026.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Chrissa Kunrod, Full-Time Telecommunicator for the Department of Emergency Services, (Paygrade 35-F/\$17.78 [2080 hours] per hour), effective June 5, 2026.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to remove Joshua Shuster, Part-Time Deputy Sheriff for the Sheriff's Office, (Paygrade 35-A/\$15.67 [1000 hours] per hour), effective June 13, 2026.

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Corrections:

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve correcting the hiring information for Drake Derricott, Full-Time Telecommunicator for the Department of Emergency Services, from (Paygrade 35-F/\$18.45 [2080 hours] per hour) to (Paygrade 35-F/\$17.78 [2080 hours] per hour), effective July 6, 2026, rather than July 7, 2026. (Action originally taken at the Commissioners' Meeting held on June 11, 2026).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve correcting the rate of pay for Nicholas Gehlmann, Full-Time Telecommunicator for the Department of Emergency Services, from (Paygrade 35-F/\$18.45 [2080 hours] per hour) to (Paygrade 35-F/\$17.78 [2080 hours] per hour), effective June 22, 2026. (Action originally taken at the Commissioners' Meeting held on June 11, 2026).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve correcting the rate of pay for Evan Gardenhour, Full-Time Telecommunicator for the Department of Emergency Services, from (Paygrade 35-F/\$18.45 [2080 hours] per hour) to (Paygrade 35-F/\$17.78 [2080 hours] per hour), effective June 22, 2026. (Action originally taken at the Commissioners' Meeting held on June 11, 2026).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Rager to approve correcting the effective date of Madison Wagner, Full-Time Caseworker I for Children & Youth Services, (Paygrade 52-C/\$44,167.50 [1950 hours] annually), from June 22, 2026, to June 23, 2026. (Action originally taken at the Commissioners' Meeting held on June 11, 2026).

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Chernisky and passed unanimously.

President Commissioner Hunt stated that there would be a regularly scheduled Commissioners' Meeting on Thursday, July 9, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., at the Johnstown Flood Memorial, 733 Lake Road, South Fork.

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