

A (virtual) agenda meeting of the Fayette County Board of Commissioners was held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at the Grey Room of the Fayette County Courthouse, 61 East Main Street, Uniontown PA.

**In attendance-**

Commissioner Chairman Dave Lohr  
Commissioner Scott Dunn  
Commissioner Vincent A. Vicites  
Chief Clerk Amy Revak  
Chief County Solicitor Jack Purcell

**Commissioner Lohr** welcomed everyone to the meeting at 10:03 a.m. He asked everyone to stand for a moment of silent prayer, which was followed by the recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioner Lohr said he wanted to make a motion to amend the agenda and to table the conservation district appointment.

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Lohr and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to amend the agenda to table placing on the agenda a motion to appoint John Joseph to the Fayette County Conservation District as a public representative to fill the unexpired term of Alan George, for a term ending December 31, 2023.

Commissioner Dunn no  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed 2-1**

**Prior to** voting on the motion, Commissioner Dunn clarified that if this motion passes, none of the public comment can be taken on the item. Solicitor Purcell said public comment can be taken on it at the end but not in the beginning under public comment on agenda items.

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to amend the agenda to consider placing on the agenda approval of three LERTA applications from Nemaocolin Woodlands (NWL). The first two are for renovations to existing facilities at the Sundial Lodge and the Golf Academy. The third application covers a new pool at the Sundial Lodge.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to amend the agenda to consider placing on the agenda a motion to appoint George Rattay to the Westmoreland-Fayette Workforce Development Board in the Labor sector for a term of July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2025.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

**Jim Rosenberg** began to read from a letter objecting to the appointment of John Joseph to the Fayette County Conservation District. Commissioner Lohr said they removed that item from the agenda. Mr. Rosenberg said there are appeals regarding a case against Mr. Joseph. Solicitor Purcell said he could speak at the end of the meeting if he wishes.

**Fayette County Redevelopment Authority**

**Andrew French** read the agenda items.

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of a Cooperation Agreement between the County, the Redevelopment Authority, and Western Pennsylvania Conservancy related to the administration of \$1 million in funding received through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) for Falling Water.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of a Cooperation Agreement between the County and the Redevelopment Authority related to the administration of \$2 million in funding received through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) for Fayette County Business Park expansion.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Commissioner Vicites** said that land abuts the Springer Farm and they could possibly make it a larger tract.

**Assessment Office**

**Harry Brownfield** presented the agenda items.

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider approval of the following three Veterans' Exemptions from real estate taxation. In each case, the named party has been qualified as a 100% disabled veteran by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs. The first application is a new filing while the remaining two are renewals.

Gerald D. & Cindy L. Martin      144 Elizabeth Street      Hopwood, PA 15445  
Parcel No. 34-34-0089      Acreage: 0.34 AC      Improvements: R1 RM  
Deed:RB2875-2047Municipality: South Union Township Effective Date: March 16, 2021

James A. & Cherie M. Scarry      1301 Oak Street      Connellsville, PA 15425  
Parcel No. 05-13-0077      Acreage: 0.32 AC      Improvements: R1 ATTD RG  
Deed: RB3304-2187 Municipality: Connellsville City Effective Date: March 13, 2021

Giovanna & Lanny R. Golden      62 Scott Drive      Lemont Furnace, PA 15456  
Parcel No. 25-30-0041-05      Acreage: 0.794 AC      Improvements: R1 ATTD RG  
Deed: RB1141-353 Municipality: North Union Township Effective Date: April 21, 2021

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of three LERTA applications from Nemaocolin Woodlands (NWL). The first two are for renovations to existing facilities at the Sundial Lodge and the Golf Academy. The third application covers a new pool at the Sundial Lodge.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Fayette County Behavioral Health Administration**

Lisa Ferris presented the agenda item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of the following agreements:

	<u>Contract Value</u>	<u>Period</u>
<b><u>Base Contract Agreements 2020-2021</u></b>		
Achieva	\$1,500	05/05/21 - 06/30/21
<b><u>HealthChoices Amended and Restated Agreement 2021</u></b>		
Beacon Health Options of Pennsylvania, Inc.	N/A	2021
<b><u>Base Contract Agreements 2021-2022</u></b>		
Achieva	\$1,500	07/01/21-06/30/22
Fayette County Drug and Alcohol Commission	\$49,271	07/01/21-06/30/22
Pathways of Southwestern Pennsylvania	\$130,000	07/01/21-06/30/22
<b><u>Professional Services Agreements 2021-2022</u></b>		
Dr. John Carosso, Psy. D. & Associates Inc.	\$500	07/01/21 - 06/30/22
Connellsville Counseling & Psychological Services	\$500	07/01/21 - 06/30/22
John M. Purcell, Esquire	\$175 per hour	07/01/21 - 06/30/22
Keli Reams	\$5,000	07/01/21 - 06/30/22

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Building and Grounds**

Ray Eicher presented the agenda items.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda advertising for bids to replace the retaining wall along Penn Street & Court Street.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Commissioner Vicites** asked for the timeline on the project. Mr. Eicher said he anticipates that it should be done by the end of the year. He said they want to do the parking lot paving also.

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda purchasing cars from CYS to be used by Parks, West Nile, Bridge Dept., Building and Grounds, and Tax Assessment.

2014 Escape	\$2,500.00
2013 Explorer	\$3,500.00
2013 Escape	\$2,800.00 (new motor)
3-2009 Chevy Malibu	\$1,000.00 Each

Total cost \$11,800,00

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda ratification of change order Electrical No.1 for Bid 21-01 in the amount of \$2,925.00 for audiovisual prep work to Westmoreland Electric Services LLC of Tarrs, PA.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda ratification of change order General No.1 for Bid 21-01 in the amount of \$11,920.00 for the removal of a vault to ArTECH Group LLC of Crabtree, PA.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda ratification of Audiovisual work in Commissioners meeting room by Dagostino Electronic Services of Pittsburgh, PA in the amount of \$55,500.00.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Children and Youth Services**

Gina D'Auria presented the agenda items.

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of a **FY2020-21** Purchase of Service Agreement between the County of Fayette, through Fayette County Children & Youth Services, and **Speak Write**, 6300 Bridge Point Pkwy, Bldg 1, Suite 100, Austin, TX 78730 for transcription services. The rates are as follows:

General	1 ½ cents per word
Legal	1 ½ cents per word
Multi-Speaker	2 ¼ cents per word
Spanish Translation	\$ 9.00 per audio minute
Urgent	\$ 24.95 in addition to per word

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of a **FY2021-22** Purchase of Service Agreement between the County of Fayette, through Fayette County Children & Youth Services and **Combustion Service & Equipment Company** of 2016 Babcock Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA, 15209 from June 1, 2021, through May 31, 2022, for HVAC mechanical equipment preventative maintenance at the CYS office building at a cost of \$2,040.00 annually.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of a **FY2021-22** Purchase of Service Agreement between the County of Fayette, through Fayette County Juvenile Probation, and **County of Jefferson** on behalf of the Jefferson County Detention Center, a division of Jefferson County Juvenile Court, 16001 State Route 7, Steubenville, Ohio 43952 for placement of delinquent youth on an as needed basis. The rates are as follows:

- a. \$185.00/day/bed. This cost includes education during the school year. Medical, psychological, or other expenses are not included in this rate and would be at an additional cost.
- b. In the event that any transportation costs are deemed by Jefferson to be necessary, such costs shall be based on a rate of \$25.00 per hour, for security and transportation (i.e., outside doctor, dentist, planned parenthood, mental health services, hospital emergency room).

Commissioner Dunn yes  
 Commissioner Lohr yes  
 Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of a **FY2021-22 Purchase of Service Agreement** between the County of Fayette, through Fayette County Children & Youth Services, and **Speak Write**, 6300 Bridge Point Pkwy, Bldg 1, Suite 100, Austin, TX 78730 for transcription services. The rates are as follows:

General	1 ½ cents per word
Legal	1 ½ cents per word
Multi-Speaker	2 ¼ cents per word
Spanish Translation	\$ 9.00 per audio minute
Urgent	\$ 24.95 in addition to per word

Commissioner Dunn yes  
 Commissioner Lohr yes  
 Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of a **FY2021-22 Purchase of Service Agreement** between the County of Fayette through Fayette County Children and Youth Services and **Adams and Adams, Attorneys at Law**, 55 E. Church Street, Suite 101, Uniontown, PA 15401 for four parking spaces in the lot of Adams and Adams. The parking spaces are numbers 24, 25, 26 and 27. The rate is:

Twenty-Five Dollars \$25.00 per parking spot for a total of  
 One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per month.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
 Commissioner Lohr yes  
 Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

## Courts

**Katy Roebuck** presented the agenda item.

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda ratification of the submission of a PCCD Drug Court & Pretrial Diversion Initiative Grant for the Fayette County Specialty Courts. The Grant is titled, "The Fayette 2021-2022 Drug Treatment Court Expansion" and the application is \$46,000. These funds will be utilized to provide electronic monitoring services, drug screening supplies, staff training to include conference costs and in-house training, program supplies to include educational handouts, certificates, recovery aides, and office supplies.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

## Election Bureau

**Billie Jo Guthrie** presented the agenda item.

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval for three Election Bureau employees to attend the annual conference at Bear Creek Mountain Resort in Macungie, PA from August 2 - August 5 at a cost of \$1,018 plus applicable taxes. The expense is budgeted.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Commissioner Vicites** asked who would be attending. Ms. Guthrie said it would be the director, deputy director and the election technology manager, which is Larry Blosser, Ms. Guthrie and Janice Lake.

## Human Resources

**Cristi Spiker** presented the agenda item.

## COMMISSIONERS



**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda the hiring of Mark Rafail, Economic Development Coordinator, Non-Union, Non-Supervisor, PG 23, SR \$22.72/hour (\$44,304.00 annually), effective June 28, 2021.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Prior to** a vote, Commissioner Lohr said he is excited about Mark Rafail coming on board. He said other interviewees were great. He said he is looking forward to working with him and improving the county.

**CYS**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda ratification of the resignation of Maura Miller, Caseworker I, effective June 11, 2021.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda ratification of the resignation of Sara Walls, Caseworker I, effective June 18, 2021.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda the promotion of Reba Stramat to Caseworker I, SEIU CY5, \$18.95/hour (\$36,952.50 annually), effective June 21, 2021.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**ELECTION BUREAU**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda ratification of the hiring of Kara Popson, Part Time Clerk, \$10.00/hour, effective May 24, 2021.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**EMA**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda the promotion of Tina Carrigan to Dispatcher II, SEIU, PG12, Step B, \$18.49/hour (\$38,459.20 annually) effective June 20, 2021.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**FACT**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda ratification of the hiring of Teresa Braxton, Part Time Bus Driver (Non-CDL), SEIU, PG8, SR \$13.54/hour, effective May 25, 2021.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda ratification of the separation of employment of Stanley Horvath, Full Time Bus Driver, effective May 31, 2021, due to his passing.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Commissioner Vicites** said he wanted to say that Stanley passed away and he was a good employee for Fayette County. He said he wanted to express his condolences to his family, adding that he was a very reliable bus driver.

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda ratification of the resignation of Steve Corcoran, Part Time Bus Driver, effective June 11, 2021.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda ratification of the hiring of David Mitchell, Full Time Bus Driver (Non-CDL), SEIU, PG8, SR \$13.54/hour (\$26,403.00 annually), effective June 14, 2021.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda ratification of the hiring of Robert Mitchell, Full Time Bus Driver (Non-CDL), SEIU, PG8, SR \$13.54/hour (\$26,403.00 annually), effective June 14, 2021.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**FCBHA**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda ratification of the hiring of Tressa Morris, County Caseworker 2, Non-Union, PG 35, Step AA, \$18.70/hour (\$36,465.00 annually), effective June 7, 2021.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Office of Human and Community Services/FACT**

**Lori Groover-Smith** presented the agenda items.

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of an advertising agreement with Pickle 99.3 FM for FY 2021-22 at a cost of \$1,030 per month.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of an advertising agreement with Broadcast Communications (KVE, WANB and KHB) for FY 2021-22 at a cost of \$1,120 per month.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of an advertising agreement with SWPAAA Senior Times for FY 2021-22 at a cost of \$97 per month.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

### **Planning, Zoning and Community Development**

**Chief Clerk** Revak read the agenda item.

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda RZ 21-04 Charles Foster, German Township, requesting a change of zone from "A-1" Agricultural-Rural to "B-1" General Business. The property is located on Footdale Road in German Township. The parcel ID# is 15-28-0067-03.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Solid Waste/Recycling**

**Sheila Shea** presented the agenda items.

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval to advertise for bids for the disposal of the 2016 International curbside recycling truck.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval to advertise for bids for the disposal of Excel cardboard baler.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval to apply for the 902 Development and Implementation grant to pave the parking lot at the recycling center and for additional recycling bins.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Commissioners**

**Chief Clerk Revak** read the agenda items.

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of the May 18, 2021 agenda meeting minutes.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes

Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of the May 20, 2021 commissioners meeting minutes.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of the May 20, 2021 commissioners special meeting minutes.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of the request of Menallen Township to exonerate the County real estate taxes on property located at 802 Second Street, Keisterville, PA, and identified as Tax Parcel #: 22-07-0023. Menallen Township obtained this property under the conservatorship law.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda approval of the request of Redstone Township to exonerate the County real estate taxes, if any, on property located at 1027 Main Street, Republic, PA and identified as Tax Parcel #: 30 24 0170. Redstone Township obtained this property through a donation by Jarret Brothers Mobile Home Park, Inc.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Following the motion**, the commissioners discussed if the taxes were current or not. Sarah Minnick of the Tax Claim Bureau said they are back taxes. The commissioners discussed municipalities taking over properties to enhance the neighborhood.

**Chief Clerk Revak** asked for a motion to Consider placing on the agenda approval of the audit engagements between Fayette County and Zelenkoske Axelrod LLC for the Row Offices of Recorder of Deeds, Clerk of Courts, Prothonotary, Register of Wills and the special Audits on the Drug Task Force and the Prison Commissary.

**The commissioners** discussed the need for such an engagement. Commissioner Lohr said it is temporary until some of the issues in the Controller's office get resolved. Commissioner Dunn said audits are not under the function of the Fayette County commissioners. He said the commissioners can request audits in addition to the Controller's audits not in place of the Controller's audits. He said the commissioners are to ask for RFPs with input from the Controller. He read into the record County Code 1702 B, amended in 2018. Sam Lynch, the county's chief financial consultant, spoke about the lack of auditors in the Controller's office. He said Z&A agreed to work with the Controller and not the Commissioners, adding that he didn't know how bad and far behind they were with audits. He said this isn't coming from the commissioners, all their role is they agreed to the funding.

**Controller Scott Abraham** explained that his office is years behind on audits and the chief auditor who suffered a medical issue and will not return was the trainer in his office. He said he has one person who has one week experience in the position. He said she is trainable. Controller Abraham said training is what he really needs for his auditors. Solicitor Purcell said because of the way county code was amended in 2018 he would recommend that they do an RFP for audit services. He said it is required because of the change in county code, adding that is what Commissioner Dunn read into the record. Solicitor Purcell said the commissioners can do their own audits but it doesn't substitute for what the Controller does. Controller Abraham said he needs training, adding he has to hire another auditor to replace the girl promoted to Chief Accountant. He said he needs training and he needs the state audit performed, adding the new people won't be able to do it.

**Commissioner Vicites** asked what action the commissioners were being asked to take. Controller Abraham said he needs numerous funds audited. Solicitor Purcell asked about the wording of the motion. A discussion was held about which audits needs to be included in the RFP. Mr. Lynch said it is imperative to get audits completed or findings will result. He said the county has to get caught up with the audits.

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda, upon recommendation of the County Controller, the issuance of an RFP for audit engagements for the Drug Task Force, the Clerk of Courts, the Prison Commissary, and any outstanding Tax Sales, as determined by the County Controller.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Prior to** the next two items listed on the agenda, a discussion was held about whether or not it was necessary to approve them. Controller Abraham said he believes his staff can perform them with training. He said he needs training for them to be completed. Mr. Lynch said the problem in the past has been that the senior auditor that is no longer working for the county told the other auditors the incorrect way to conduct audits. He said they have to follow auditing standards. He said review and training by outside people is needed.

**Chief Clerk Revak** read the following- Consider placing on the agenda approval on the audit engagements between Fayette County and Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC for the seven Fayette County Magisterial District Justices. The agenda item died when no motion was made.

**Chief Clerk Revak** read the following- Consider placing on the agenda approval of the audit engagements between Fayette County and Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC for the annual audits of 10 of the Fayette County Tax Collectors. The agenda item died when no motion was made.

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda a motion to reappoint Muriel Nuttall to serve on the Laurel Highlands Visitors Bureau for the term of July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda a motion to appoint Josh Krysak to the Westmoreland-Fayette Workforce Development Board in the Business sector for a term of July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2025.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda a motion to appoint Doug Decker to the Westmoreland-



Fayette Workforce Development Board in the Business sector for a term of July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2025.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda a motion to appoint Eric Miller to the Westmoreland-Fayette Workforce Development Board in the Business sector for a term of July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2025.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda a motion to appoint George Rattay to the Westmoreland-Fayette Workforce Development Board in the Labor sector for a term of July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2025.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to consider placing on the agenda ratification of a resolution for the Fayette County Commissioners to officially sponsor the first Wednesday Walk of 2021 in Connellsville, PA on June 2, 2021.

Commissioner Dunn yes  
Commissioner Lohr yes  
Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

**Commissioner Dunn** said the first was a success and the next one is at Mt. St. Macrina. Commissioner Vicites said he did it and he encourages everyone to do it to get exercise.

**Public Announcements- None**

### **Public Comments**

**Jim Rosenberg** spoke against the appointment of Mr. Joseph. He read from the attached letter that he emailed to the commissioners. He said there were 50 names. The email included 27 names. Commissioner Lohr said Mr. Joseph was nominated by an organization. He said it was Penn State Extension.

### **Adjournment**

**A motion** was made by Commissioner Dunn and seconded by Commissioner Vicites to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Dunn yes

Commissioner Lohr yes

Commissioner Vicites yes

**Motion passed unanimously**

According to the recently published agenda for the Commissioners' Agenda Meeting for 6/15/2021, the commissioners are considering an appointment of John Joseph to the Fayette County Conservation District as "public representative". This is a profoundly unfortunate choice. Are the commissioners aware that Mr. Joseph is currently under *criminal indictment* in Fayette County Court of Common Pleas case CP-26-CR-0002049-2017 for the illegal dumping of Oil & Gas Waste in Fayette County? The allegations against Mr. Joseph were extensively detailed in the Uniontown Herald-Standard on 5/29/2017, see:

[http://www.heraldstandard.com/news/hsnewsnow/investigation-reveals-oil-and-gas-drilling-waste-dumped-at-local/article\\_ec3b9a18-12ae-5b25-89ef-2aa5f78d7d45.html](http://www.heraldstandard.com/news/hsnewsnow/investigation-reveals-oil-and-gas-drilling-waste-dumped-at-local/article_ec3b9a18-12ae-5b25-89ef-2aa5f78d7d45.html)

In addition to the criminal case, Mr. Joseph's company, John Joseph Contracting, was cited by the DEP for the illegal dumping; those orders were appealed to the Environmental Hearing Board in case 2015046, see

[https://ehb.courtapps.com/public/document\\_shower\\_pub.php?docketNumber=2015046](https://ehb.courtapps.com/public/document_shower_pub.php?docketNumber=2015046)

(That case has been stayed pending the outcome of Mr. Joseph's criminal trial.)

Mr. Joseph, like any citizen, is entitled to his day in court and the presumption of innocence until proven guilty. However: given the role that the Conservation District plays in approving many Erosion & Sedimentation permits, the circumstances surrounding the allegations against Mr. Joseph are hardly a qualification as "public representative" to the Fayette County Conservation District. In fact, they are a blatant conflict of interest regardless of the outcome of the legal proceedings against Mr. Joseph. This case is so blatant that it calls into question the due diligence of the commissioners in vetting candidates for public boards generally.

We, the undersigned, urge the commissioners to withdraw this nomination. For this nominee to take a seat as "public representative" on the Fayette County Conservation District would be a travesty.

1. Mary Kaufman 408 Walnut Ave Scattole PA 15683
2. Andrew N Berke 6111 Sellers Ave Jeannette PA 15644
3. Cathy Freston 1076 Breakneck Rd Connettsville Pa
4. Regina Nazimek 239 Oglevee Lane <sup>15425</sup>  
Connettsville Pa
5. Sharon Klumack 1206 Isabella Road, C'ville PA <sup>15425</sup>
6. Marcella Munson 609 E. Cummings Av Cville PA 15425
7. Brian Reshenberg 13-D Greenwood Hts C'ville, Pa  
<sup>15425</sup>

According to the recently published agenda for the Commissioners' Agenda Meeting for 6/15/2021, the commissioners are considering an appointment of John Joseph to the Fayette County Conservation District as "public representative". This is a profoundly unfortunate choice. Are the commissioners aware that Mr. Joseph is currently under *criminal indictment* in Fayette County Court of Common Pleas case CP-26-CR-0002049-2017 for the illegal dumping of Oil & Gas Waste in Fayette County? The allegations against Mr. Joseph were extensively detailed in the Uniontown Herald-Standard on 5/29/2017, see:

[http://www.heraldstandard.com/news/hsnewsnow/investigation-reveals-oil-and-gas-drilling-waste-dumped-at-local/article\\_ec3b9a18-12ae-5b25-89ef-2aa5f78d7d45.html](http://www.heraldstandard.com/news/hsnewsnow/investigation-reveals-oil-and-gas-drilling-waste-dumped-at-local/article_ec3b9a18-12ae-5b25-89ef-2aa5f78d7d45.html)

In addition to the criminal case, Mr. Joseph's company, John Joseph Contracting, was cited by the DEP for the illegal dumping; those orders were appealed to the Environmental Hearing Board in case 2015046, see

[https://ehb.courtapps.com/public/document\\_shower\\_pub.php?docketNumber=2015046](https://ehb.courtapps.com/public/document_shower_pub.php?docketNumber=2015046)

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1. Cathy <sup>City Council</sup> Junior - 645 Ridge Blvd. Connellsville, PA 15425
2. Rose Marie Galik - 615 Ridge Blvd., Connellsville PA 15425
3. ~~Rose Marie Galik~~ <sup>Rose Marie Galik</sup> - 630 Ridge Blvd. Connellsville, PA 15425
4. Doug Collins - 608 Amity Dr. Connellsville, PA 15425
5. Kelly Conroy - 608 Amity Drive Connellsville PA, 15425
6. Peg Brun - 620 Walnut Grove Rd Connellsville PA 15425
7. Judi Brun - 620 Walnut Grove Rd Connellsville PA 15425
8. Lois Wilson - 608 Walnut Grove Rd. Connellsville, PA 15425
9. Bonnie Salts - 608 Walnut Grove Road Connellsville, PA 15425
10. Karen Marko - 606 Walnut Grove Rd., Connellsville, PA 15425
11. Kenneth R. Matyas - 317 Falls Ave. Connellsville PA. 15425
12. Joseph J. Carlin - 317 Falls Ave Connellsville PA 15425
13. Andy T. ~~Sp~~ - 503 Amity Drive C'ville. PA 15425
14. Karen J. Sayore - 503 Amity Dr C'ville PA 15425

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15. Cathy Rhodes 509 Amity Drive Connellsville Pa
16. Terry Rhodes 509 Amity Dr. Connellsville, PA
17. Judy Rhodes 413 Terrance Dr Connellsville
18. Nancy Kee 305 Terrance Dr Connellsville
19. Jai S Kumar. 645 Ridge Blvd., Connellsville
- 20.