

ATTENDANCE:

- BOARD** Daniel Treviño, Chair
Pam Robb, Vice-Chair
Anita Thies, Supervisor (via tele-conference)
Betsy Whitman, Supervisor
- STAFF** Doug Erickson, Township Manager
Alexandra Castrechini, Acting Township Engineer
Tyler Jolley, Chief of Police (via tele-conference)
Lawrence Pegher, Finance Director (via tele-conference)
- ABSENT** Elliot Abrams, Supervisor
Betsy Dupuis, Solicitor
- AUDIENCE** C-NET (2)
Mark Parfitt, CATA
Jim Payne, Resident (via tele-conference)
Pam Adams, CRCOG (via tele-conference)
Joan (via tele-conference)
Rod Khayat (via tele-conference)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Trevino called the October 13, 2021 Board of Supervisors Meeting to order at 5:05PM.

a. Announcements

- [1] The Board of Supervisors meet with the Township Manager in Executive Session on September 29, 2021 to discuss personnel matters.
- [2] The Board Chair and Vice Chair, along with Township Staff, met with representatives from Chick-fil-A on October 6th - see enclosed report (See agenda attachment Item 1a.2)

b. Pledge of Allegiance

c. Additions to the Posted Agenda

The Board of Supervisor has adopted the following procedures for adding items to a posted agenda:

The tentative agenda for the Patton Township Board of Supervisors is typically published on the Friday prior to the Wednesday meeting. An Updated Agenda is typically published on the Tuesday prior to a Wednesday meeting. The Updated Agenda shall be considered the "posted" agenda in accordance with Act 65 of 2021.

At this time, the Chair may announce and/or ask the other Board members for the addition of agenda items that constitute Emergency Business or are considered de minimas in nature and do not involve the expenditure of funds or entering into a contract or agreement. The Chair shall determine if the items do constitute Emergency Business or are considered de minimas in nature and will determine the placement of each such added item within the meeting agenda.

Any Board member wishing to add an item to the agenda that is not Emergency Business and not considered de minimas in nature shall ask for recognition by the Chair and shall make a motion to

1. **CALL TO ORDER (Continued)**

c. **Additions to the Posted Agenda**

add an item, including stating the nature of the item and reason for changing the agenda. If the motion is seconded, the Chair shall oversee discussion and a vote on the motion to add the item. If the motion is approved by a majority vote of the individuals present and voting, the item shall be added to the agenda. The Chair shall determine the placement of the added item within the meeting agenda.

The Chair added Item 3aaa to the agenda as a de minimas item.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Khayat asked the Board to reconsider removing the pickleball courts at Green Hollow Park.

3. **PRESENTATIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS**

aaa. **Letter to Federal Congressional Representative regarding the “Build Back Better” 2022 Budget Resolution and Reconciliation Package**

The Board reviewed the draft letter provided by resident Valerie Burnett regarding the subject pending legislation and approved a motion to the letter to Senators Casey and Toomey and Representative Thompson.

Ms. Whitman moved to approve sending a letter regarding “Build Back Better 2022 Budget Resolution and Reconciliation Package” to Senators Casey and Toomey, and Representative Thompson. Seconded by Ms. Thies the motion passed 4-0.

aa. **Report and Request from Patton’s Representative to the CATA Board of Directors Regarding Service Cuts in Patton Township**

On Friday, October 8, the CATA General Manager announced planned service cuts that had been approved by the CATA Board of Directors in response to a shortage of bus operators. Please see attachment “Item 3aa. CATA Service Cuts Announced.” The planned cuts would go into effect on October 25th.

Mark Parfitt, Patton’s representative to the CATA Board of Directors, addressed the Board of Supervisors and provided a letter (attachment Item 3aa.2) explaining his opposition to the service cuts on the A (Park Forest Village) and G (Graysdale) routes in the Township. Mr. Parfitt also suggests the potential alternative of providing CATAGO service to these neighborhoods.

Ms. Robb stated with CATA eliminating the A route it will affect a lot of Patton Township residents especially disabled residents. Mr. Parfitt agrees completely and stated that they are looking at about 6 months without this service. Ms. Robb stated that this is not acceptable.

Ms. Whitman stated her concern was what would be the costs to provide CATA Go vs maintaining the A Route. Mr. Parfitt stated that he would suggest Patton Township get in line as an expansion site for that micro transit.

Ms. Thies suggested that the Board send a letter to CATA supporting the points discussed tonight.

Mr. Trevino asked the Manager to compose a letter to CATA.

3. PRESENTATIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS (Continued)

a. Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP)

The Centre Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), in collaboration with its six member municipalities, has been developing a Climate Action and Adaptation Plan intended to make the Centre Region a more healthy, equitable, resilient, and sustainable community. Ms. Pam Adams, CRCOG's Sustainability Planner, will provide a presentation on the climate action and adaptation planning process and the Plan. The board members and the public will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

The Executive Summary of the draft plan is included with the agenda materials as attachment Item 3a.1. The full draft Climate Action and Adaptation Plan can be found here: <https://www.crcog.net/caap> (*For optimal viewing of the CAAP report: Download the file to an Adobe pdf and 'Open with system viewer'. The pdf is best viewed in two page view with a cover page.*)

At its September 27, 2021 meeting, the General Forum forwarded the CAAP to the municipalities for review and for comments to be sent to Ms. Adams by October 29, 2021.

The CAAP provides a framework for the community to begin reducing its greenhouse (GHG) emissions and adapting to a changing climate. It will serve as a guide for governmental entities, residents, businesses, and community organizations to take an active part in the transition to a low carbon future, prepare for the impacts of climate change, and create a healthier and more prosperous community. Climate action planning is a continuous cycle and does not stop with the development of this document. Given that this is the Region's first climate action plan, and to encourage broad participation, CRCOG envisions a phased approach for implementation.

The initial phase will focus on:

- municipal and CRCOG actions
- disseminating information on opportunities and incentives
- using the CAAP to guide policymakers to determine the priorities for the coming years, and as informed by the consultant study proposed for 2022

At its November 8, 2021 meeting, CRCOG's Climate Action and Sustainability Committee hopes to revise the CAAP to incorporate municipal and public comments and forward an updated CAAP to General Forum for adoption at its November 22, 2021 meeting.

Ms. Adams gave a brief overview of the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan.

Ms. Thies asked if there is one or two key items that we could highlight on our website. Ms. Adams stated that she will be happy to get something for the website.

Ms. Whitman commented that she encouraged Ms. Adams and others to do more community outreach as they did at the Township's Children's Safety Fair last weekend.

3. PRESENTATIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS (Continued)

b. Draft Conservation Easement for Gray's Woods Preserve

The Township Manager and Solicitor have arrived at an agreement-in-principle with the Hamer Foundation and Clearwater Conservancy on the terms of a Conservation Easement to be placed on the Gray's Woods Preserve (GWP), which was purchased in late 2017 with \$3,500,000 in Township Open Space funds and a \$750,000 grant from the Hamer Foundation.

A copy of the draft Conservation Easement Agreement is included in the agenda materials as Item 3b.1. Highlights of the agreement include:

- Any transfer or subdivision of the property is expressly prohibited (Section 2.01).
- The Conservation objectives will be determined by the Township's Open Space Stewardship Committee (OSSC) (Section 1.04).
- Clearwater Conservancy will be the Holder of the easement and be responsible for monitoring activities and interpreting the terms of the Easement if requested (Article 6).
- The Hamer Foundation will cover the costs for all of the Holder's activities under a 3-party agreement (Section 6.05).
- On issues subject to Review by the Holder (see Section 6.04) the Holder will also review any recommendations provided by the OSSC and meet with them if requested.

If the draft easement agreement is found acceptable, there are a few steps remaining before a final agreement can be executed. The Hamer Foundation Board President has asked the parties to keep working at a pace that will find everything finalized within the next 3 months.

Mr. Hamilton stated that this is a very special property, and they would be honored to partner with the Township on this easement.

Ms. Whitman asked about the status of the forestry management grant. Mr. Morse stated as soon as we have approval for the easement the grant has been approved.

By consensus the Board endorsed the draft agreement and directed staff to continue working towards a final product.

c. COVID-19 Protocols in Patton Township

Ms. Thies addressed the Board regarding the following items:

- Vaccine status of Patton Township employees
- Masking requirements for businesses and public facilities (see attachment 3c.2)
- Requiring the COVID vaccine for new Township hires (see attachment 3c.3)
- Sharing CDC information with the Board and public (see attachment 3c.4)

The Board asked staff to go ahead and do a self reporting survey on vaccination status of the township employees.

The Board took a 4 minute recess at 6:33PM.

4. **PUBLIC SAFETY**

a. **Police Update**

Chief Jolley gave a brief overview of the September 2021 Public Safety Report that was enclosed.

Ms. Robb stated that she attended a workshop at PML in regards to use of force and wanted to let Chief know that the instructor knew who Chief was and that he represents the Township well and is doing a wonderful job.

b. **Participation Information for National Opioid Settlement**

The Township has received correspondence from the Pennsylvania Attorney General (Item 4b.1) stating “two proposed nationwide settlement agreements have been reached that would resolve all opioid litigation brought by states and local political subdivisions against the three largest pharmaceutical distributors, McKesson, Cardinal Health and AmerisourceBergen (“Distributors”), and one manufacturer, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and its parent company Johnson & Johnson (collectively, “Janssen”).”

The letter continues “The proposed Settlements require the Distributors and Janssen to pay billions of dollars to abate the opioid epidemic. Specifically, the Settlements require the Distributors to pay up to \$21 billion over 18 years and Janssen to pay up to \$5 billion over no more than 9 years, for a total of \$26 billion (the “Settlement Amount”). Of the Settlement Amount, approximately \$22.7 billion is earmarked for use by participating states and subdivisions to remediate and abate the impacts of the opioid crisis.”

Please note the following points:

- Patton Township has not been a party to any lawsuit involving this issue
- Patton is eligible to participate in the settlement as a municipality with a population of more than 10,000
- While it is not clear if the Township is eligible for any direct funding through the Commonwealth, opting in will increase the share of the settlement provided to Pennsylvania

For additional information, interested parties can find detailed information at <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/>.

Board members may wish to review the [Executive Summary](#) from the website or as attached to this agenda (Item 4b.2) together with graphics detailing the settlement process and timeline.

Ms. Whitman moved to designate the Township Manager to be “authorized to sign formal and binding documents on behalf of the Township” for this matter. Seconded by Ms. Robb, the motion passed 4-0.

5. **PUBLIC WORKS**

a. **Director of Public Works Vacancy**

Mr. Erickson stated that he spoke to Public Works staff about filling the vacancy and he is looking at splitting it into two separate positions. One would be Operations directed by a Public Works Director and the other would be directed by the Township Engineer as a Community Service Department which would include the Planner and Zoning Officer. He stated he is working on job descriptions and that he has in-house people interested in both positions.

5. **PUBLIC WORKS (Continued)**

b. **Draft Ordinance for Regulating and Permitting Small Cell Wireless Facilities in the Public Right-of-way**

The Manager will review the proposed Township Ordinance (Item 5b.1) to enact the requirements of PA Act 50 of 2021 that provides for the regulation of small wireless facilities in municipal rights-of-way. Please see the [September 8th](#) and [September 22nd](#) agendas for further background on this matter.

By consensus the Board directed the Manager to advertise the Ordinance for potential adoption at the October 27, 2021 Board meeting.

For your information – because the Act 50 Ordinance does not include any items regulated under the Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) a formal Public Hearing is not required prior to consideration of action to adopt.

6. **PLANNING AND ZONING – no items**

7. **ADMINISTRATION**

a. **American Rescue Plan Expenditures**

The Board members will continue their discussion on potential expenditures under this plan.

The US Treasury has changed the initial reporting date from October 31, 2021 to April 30, 2022 – see attachment Item 7a.1. An updated schedule for the ARP grant program is also included as attachment Item 7a.2.

The Board would like to continue the discussion at the October 27, 2021 Meeting and asked the Manager to prepare a list of projects suggested by Board members.

b. **2022-2026 Capital Improvement**

Mr. Pegher presented the initial draft of 2022 – 2026 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The presentation included:

- An overview of forecasted revenues, operating expenditures, current debt service, and on-going capital expenditures for the next five years
- The Manager's recommendation for new initiatives (capital projects and other significant expenditures) for inclusion in the five-year plan.
- A forecast of anticipated tax rates required to support the Manager's recommendation.

The Board is asked to receive the Plan and provide direction to the Manager for preparation of the next draft or, potentially, the final version of the Plan to be adopted. The plan for capital projects and other

7. ADMINISTRATION (Continued)

b. Capital Improvement Plan, 2022 – 2026 (Continued)

significant expenditures scheduled for 2022 will then be incorporated into the Annual Budget to be presented in November.

The draft Capital Improvement Plan 2022 – 2026 is included with the agenda materials (Item 7b). Highlights of the Plan include:

- The American Rescue Plan funds are included as revenues but were not earmarked to specific projects. Specific additional ARP projects can be inserted as desired/directed by the Board, but will likely require some listed projects to be delayed by a year or two.
- The presented plan includes a 1% property tax increase in Year 4 of the Plan.
- The plan includes \$17,754,228 in capital projects for the five-year period.

Ms. Thies asked if the K-9 could be shared with other townships to share costs and opportunities. Chief Jolley stated that in Centre County there is no narcotics K-9. He stated that we would be open to making the K-9 unit available to other departments.

Mr. Trevino asked about the costs. Chief Jolley stated that the estimated amount includes cost of dog, equipment and vehicle equipped to carry the dog. He also said there is an officer who has expressed interest in becoming the handler.

Ms. Thies asked about looking at pedestrian issues in the Toftrees area.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

The items included below are routine in nature and it is not anticipated that any will generate discussion or questions. The actual Consent Agenda with a brief description of each item is included with the agenda packet materials distributed to the Board and will also be available to the public at the sign-in table. At the request of a Board member any single item or all items on the Consent Agenda can be discussed and voted on separately. If no items are “pulled,” the Board should consider a motion for “approval of the Consent Agenda items as shown on the agenda.”

a. Public Safety – no items

b. Public Works

1) Centre County Liquid Fuels Tax Grant Application

The Acting Township Engineer has prepared a grant application for safety improvements to Purdue Mountain Road in the far northeast corner of the Township. The grant would fund stormwater improvements, stream bank stabilization and the installation of new guide rail. The Township proposes to match the \$48,300 in grant funding with \$112,770 in expenditures for mill and overlay of the road.

It is recommended the Board approve the submission of the grant application as noted above.

c. Planning & Zoning – no items

8. CONSENT AGENDA (Continued)

d. Administration

1) Minutes: September 22, 2021

The draft minutes of the last Board meeting are included with agenda materials. Board members having questions or changes should contact the Township Manager prior to the meeting so revisions can be included in a supplemental distribution.

It is recommended that the Board approve the presented minutes.

2) Voucher Report

A copy of the September 2021 Voucher Report is enclosed. Board members having questions should contact the Township office prior to the meeting so the necessary information can be obtained.

It is recommended that the Board approve the Voucher Report.

Ms. Robb moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Ms. Whitman, the motion passed 4-0.

9. MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Erickson reported on the following:

- a. Correspondence
 - [1] Comcast notice to request grant to extend service area
 - [2] Email to Senator Corman on Senate Bill 775
- b. Announcements
 - [1] Oak wilt work mostly completed (3 sites)
 - [2] American Airlines Incentive Pool – meeting held
- c. 2021 Q3 Housing Starts Report (graphic enclosed)
- d. Upcoming Events
 - [1] ~~October 18-22 – Bulk Waste Collection~~ **POSTPONED**
 - [2] October 31 – 6 to 8 pm – Trick or Treat
 - [3] November 11, Veterans Day, Office **OPEN**
 - [4] November 25 & 26, Thanksgiving and Black Friday, Office Closed
 - [6] November 29, Traditional start of deer hunting, Office **OPEN**
 - [7] December 24, Christmas Eve, Office Closed
 - [8] December 31, New Years Eve, Office Closed

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

[Climate Action & Sustainability](#), Sept 13 (report enclosed – Item 10a.1)

- Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Draft
- Refuse Contract Transition to Waste Management

[Transportation and Land Use](#), Public Services & Environmental and CRPC, Oct 7,

- Amended Proposal – Expanding Housing Choice and Opportunities in the Centre Region
- Organization of the Centre Region Comprehensive Plan Update'
- Key Land Use, Transportation, and Community Infrastructure Challenges and Opportunities in the Centre Region 2023-2033

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

[Facilities](#), Oct 5, (report enclosed – Item 10a.3)

- Project Updates (Informational)
- Millbrook Marsh Boardwalk Feasibility Phase 2 (discussion)
- Preliminary FCA Fire Protection.
- Capital Budget Related Questions Or Requests For Clarification
- Facilities Committee Structure Follow Up Discussion
- Facilities Information File

[Human Resources](#), Oct 6 (report enclosed – Item 10a.4)

- COVID-19 Update

[Climate Action & Sustainability](#), Oct 11,

Finance, Sept 23, Sept 30, Oct 7 - Budget Review Sessions

[Finance](#), Oct 14, Budget wrap-up

- Budget Wrap-Up Session
- Facilities Committee Report

Exec, Oct 19,

[Public Safety](#), Cancelled

- b. Patton Township Housing Task Force, September
- c. State College Borough Water Authority (3rd Thursday)
- d. Centre Area Cable Consortium, [as needed – Trevino \(did not meet\)](#)
- e. Spring Creek Watershed Commission – Mason (did not meet)
- f. Centre County Metropolitan Planning Org. [Sept 28](#), – Robb, Abrams Alt. (report enclosed – Item 10f)
- g. [Centre County Airport Authority, \(4th Thursday\)](#)
- h. [Solar Power Purchase Working Group – Whitman, Pegher Alt. \(email enclosed\)](#)

11. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

12. ADJOURN

Ms. Whitman moved to adjourn the October 13, 2021 Board of Supervisor's Meeting at 7:27PM. Seconded by Ms. Robb, the motion passed 4-0.

Douglas J. Erickson, Township Secretary