

June 23, 2022

The regular meeting of the County Commissioners of Allegany County was held in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Allegany Room 100, 701 Kelly Road, Cumberland, at 5:00 p.m. on the above date. The following were present: Commissioner Jacob C. Shade; Commissioner Creade V. Brodie, Jr.; Commissioner David J. Caporale; County Administrator Jason M. Bennett; and Assistant County Attorney Ramon Rozas III.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

MOTION

There were no additions or deletions to the Agenda.

MOTION

Upon Motion by Commissioner Brodie, and seconded by Commissioner Caporale, the Minutes of the June 9, 2022 public business meeting were approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

ACTION AGENDA

Item 1 – Resolution 22-17 – Rocky Gap Slots Allocation – Board of County Commissioners to approve the Rocky Gap Slots Allocation for July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 as recommended by the Allegany County Local Development Council – Jason M. Bennett, CPA, County Administrator, reminded the Commissioners that Allegany County is by State law required to provide a Rocky Gap Slots revenue allocation, and that a Local Development Council has been formed to do that. Mr. Bennett explained that the Local Development Council comes up with a recommendation for an annual allocation plan, which is then brought before the County Commissioners for their approval. He told the Commissioners that the Local Development Council came up with their latest plan at their meeting in May 2022. Mr. Bennett then presented the recommendation allocation plan, as set forth on Resolution 22-17 – Rocky Gap Slots Allocation, a copy of which is attached to and made a part of these Minutes.

Mr. Bennett asked the Commissioners for their approval of Resolution 22-17 setting the spending allocation plan for Fiscal Year 2023.

Upon Motion made by Commissioner Caporale, seconded by Commissioner Brodie, and duly carried, the Board of County Commissioners passed Resolution 22-17 to approve the Rocky Gap Slots Allocation for July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, as recommended by the Allegany County Local Development Council.

Item 2 – Invest Allegany Grant Winners – Board of County Commissioners to approve and award 12 grant winners of the Invest Allegany grant program \$1,814,271.31, contingent upon the terms and conditions that will be set forth by the County – Adam D. Strott, Economic Development Specialist, presented background and details for this Item, as set forth on his staff report on the subject dated June 16, 2022, and the press release issued on the Invest Allegany Grant Program, copies of which are attached to and made a part of these Minutes. Mr. Strott announced the winners of the grant awards, as set forth on the attached press release.

There was brief discussion regarding the projects and selection process, and the Commissioners thanked Mr. Strott for his work regarding this program.

Upon Motion by Commissioner Brodie, and seconded by Commissioner Caporale, the Board of County Commissioners approve and awarded 12 grant winners of the Invest Allegany grant program in the amount of \$1,814,271.31, contingent upon the terms and conditions that will be set forth by the County.

CONSENT AGENDA

As recommended by the County Administrator

Upon Motion by Commissioner Caporale, seconded by Commissioner Brodie, and Motion carried, the Board of County Commissioners approved and adopted the Consent Agenda as recommended by the County Administrator.

Item 3 – Resolution 22-16 – Cumberland Area Fiscal Year 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program – Board of County Commissioners, acting in their role as the Cumberland Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, passed Resolution 22-16 and authorized and amended, by Resolution 22-16, the Cumberland Area Fiscal Year 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program.

Item 4 – Labor Management Agreement with Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #144 Allegany County Sheriff's Office – Correctional Division – Board of County Commissioners approved an amendment to the Labor Management Agreement between Allegany County and the Sheriff's Correctional Division, FOP Lodge #144 to update staffing policies.

Item 5 – Allegany County Detention Center Medical Services Annual Renewal – Board of County Commissioners approved the Allegany County Detention Center Medical Services Agreement renewal with Wellpath, LLC, Nashville, Tennessee, to provide medical services at the Detention Center for the term of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$1,402,080.59.

Item 6 – Bid Award for Unleaded Gasoline, Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel – Board of County Commissioners awarded the purchase of Unleaded Gasoline, Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel to Southern States Cumberland, Co-op, Inc., Cumberland, Maryland in the amount of \$1,604,815.89.

Item 7 – Bid Award for Hauling Contracts for Solid Waste and Recycling – Board of County Commissioners awarded the Hauling Contracts for Solid Waste and Recycling for Allegany County to Burgmeier's Hauling, Altoona, Pennsylvania, for Parts A through H, for the period beginning on July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025. Bids were broken down into eight separate parts allowing contractors to bid on individual components.

Item 8 – United States Deputy Sheriff's Association Grant – Board of County Commissioners approved a cash grant of \$5,000 from the United States Deputy Sheriff's Association for the purchase of necessary personal safety equipment and firearms for the two new deputy positions approved by the Board in December 2021.

Item 9 – Allegany County Mental Health Advisory Board Appointment – Board of County Commissioners approved the re-appointment of Ula Slider to the Mental Health Advisory Board. Her term will expire on June 30, 2025.

Item 10 – Resolution 22-18 – Rules & Regulations Governing Employees of Allegany County, Maryland Amendments – Board of County Commissioners approved and passed Resolution 22-18, the amendments to the Rules & Regulations Governing Employees of Allegany County, Maryland.

County Administrator Jason Bennett read a letter into the record. A copy of this letter is attached to and made a part of these Minutes. Mr. Bennett pointed out that this is a support letter for the Allegany Arts Council's Levitt AMP [Your City] Grant Awards application. He explained that this would involve bringing a series of events to Canal Place. Mr. Bennett pointed out that the application has not yet been submitted.

The Commissioners had no objection and all signed the letter.

Assistant County Attorney Ramon Rozas had no further remarks to make at this evening's meeting.

Commissioners' statements, comments, recognition

Commissioner David Caporale encouraged everyone to attend Oldtown Days and added that he would be in the dunking booth at that event.

Commissioner Creade Brodie talked about the recent Wing-Off. He mentioned that the attendance at this event was between 2,500 and 3,000, all local people, and commended Matt Miller of the Cumberland Economic Development Corporation and his staff/committee.

Commissioner Jacob Shade remarked on the Tri-County Council meeting held the previous evening in Garrett County. He mentioned that TCC has bought a building on Lee Street on the West Side of Cumberland, which will become its first permanent home office that is not rented. Commissioner Shade added that the move will take place in the next couple of months.

Commissioner Shade also talked about the increase in gas tax to begin on July 1, 2022 in the State of Maryland.

Constituents – In order of sign-up sheet –

Mrs. Nancy Brant, of Cumberland, again voiced her opinions on the constant yield.

Reminders/Upcoming Meetings –

Next Public Business Meeting – Thursday, July 7, 2022, 5:00 p.m.
(This meeting will be held at the Allegany County Sheriff's Office, 695 Kelly Road, Cumberland, Maryland)

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come to the attention of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Jacob C. Shade, President

True Copy
Attest:

Cynthia A. Young
Recording Secretary

RESOLUTION NO. 22-17

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners are the recipient of 5.5% of Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) proceeds in the form of a local impact grant from the State of Maryland as the result of the slots operation at Rocky Gap Lodge and Casino

WHEREAS, the Board, intends to formally allocate set percentages of the proceeds from this grant to programs within the County

WHEREAS, the Board established an Allegany County Local Development Council to make spending recommendations for the local impact grant, and the Local Development Councils recommendations are listed below:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND, THAT:

1. The Commissioners request the proceeds be allocated in the following percentages, based upon recommendations of the Local Development Council to be effective July 1, 2022, and through June 30, 2023:
 - a. The initial \$10,000 received will be allocated to fire companies in the immediate vicinity of Rocky Gap Casino and distributed quarterly based upon calls responded to at the Casino and reported by Emergency Services.
 - b. After the initial \$10,000 allocation, funds will be allocated as follows:
 - I. 20% to be allocated to Municipalities and Non-Profit Organizations located in Allegany County for capital projects and to be awarded based upon recommendations from the Allegany County Local Development Council
 - II. 17% to be allocated to the Allegany College of Maryland Foundation to be used as a scholarship program for Allegany County residents attending Allegany College and meeting the eligibility requirements as designed by the ACM Foundation. The amount distributed is not to exceed \$360,000 per fiscal year.
 - III. 9.25% to be allocated to the Frostburg State University Foundation to be used as a scholarship program for Allegany County residents attending Frostburg State University and meeting the eligibility requirements as set forth by the FSU Foundation. The amount distributed is not to exceed \$200,000 per fiscal year.
 - IV. 4% to be allocated to the Allegany County PAYGO fund to reduce the amount of future debt issues. The amount distributed is not to exceed \$80,000 per fiscal year.
 - V. 4% to be allocated to capital projects at the Board of Education that will be paid on a project-by-project basis after approval from the Commissioners. The amount distributed is not to exceed \$80,000 per fiscal year.
 - VI. 39.5% to be allocated to the Allegany County Fire & Rescue Companies with the oversight of the Allegany County Fire & Rescue Board. The amount distributed is not to exceed the fiscal year 17 amount of \$865,939.
 - VII. 2.25% to be allocated to local law enforcement agencies for the purchase of ballistic vests or tasers upon approval from the Allegany County Local Development Council. The amount distributed is not to exceed \$50,000 per fiscal year
 - VIII. 4% to go towards Allegany County's EMS program operation, plus the excess from the capped amounts on items II. Through VII. The amount distributed is not to exceed \$250,000
 - IX. \$100,000 to be allocated to the Rocky Gap Casino Resort to be utilized for a transit service between Rocky Gap Casino Resort and Canal Place in Cumberland.
 - X. Any excess funding over and above the limits of items II. Through IX. will be reserved and awarded in the form of grants at the discretion and approval of the Local Development Council at the end of the fiscal year.
2. The above allocations are based upon estimated proceeds of \$2,700,000. For items I, II & III, a full accounting is to be made to the Commissioners on an annual basis regarding the use of the funds that have been supplied to each entity. This will be required prior to receiving additional disbursements from the fund.
3. These funds will be disbursed on a quarterly basis for items I through III and on a reimbursement basis for item VII.
4. The Finance Office will make a full accounting of this fund available to the Commissioners on no less than an annual basis.

Adopted this 23rd day of June, 2022

County Commissioners of Allegany County, Maryland

Jacob C. Shade, President

Creade V. Brodie, Jr. Commissioner

David J. Caporale, Commissioner

Posted on: June 27, 2022

ALLEGANY COUNTY GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES NEARLY \$2 MILLION IN INVEST ALLEGANY GRANTS

Allegheny County Government Announces Nearly \$2 Million in Invest Allegheny Grants

Grant program designed to accelerate the county's business community recovery and support redevelopment

June 27, 2022 - CUMBERLAND, MD - Allegheny County Government is pleased to announce \$1,814,271.31 in grant funding to 12 area projects through the Invest Allegheny grant program. Invest Allegheny was an investment program that launched in February of 2022 utilizing funds from the American Rescue Plan to help accelerate Allegheny County's business community recovery and support redevelopment of the downtown cores of Cumberland and Frostburg as well as main streets across Allegheny County.

Jake Shade, President of the Board of County Commissioners, explains that "Invest Allegheny will prove to be a lasting success and will be a model for years to come. We designed this program from scratch to spur investment in buildings that needed attention. It has worked spectacularly. I only wish we had more funding to assist with more of these great projects." Commissioner Shade added, "Instead of telling building owners what to do, we relied on their expertise and will fund a broad array of projects. Every single one of them will improve an older building and expand our tax base."

Awards ranged from \$20,000 to \$250,000 and will go towards capital improvements of existing structures as well as qualifying capital goods totaling no more than 10% of total project cost. A 1:1 grant match was required by applicants and the awards represent over \$3.6 million in community revitalization, directly benefiting small, local businesses.

- Au Petit Paris Building; Frostburg
- McMullen Building; Cumberland
- 107 Polk St.; Cumberland
- Hill Street School; Frostburg
- 206 N. Centre St.; Cumberland
- 64 North Centre St.; Cumberland
- 42-48 Main St.; Lonaconing
- M&T Bank Building (AKA Rosenbaum Building); Cumberland
- Fore Axes Garage Bar; Cumberland
- Geatz's Restaurant Building; Cumberland
- 134 N Mechanic St; Cumberland
- JJ's Pizza and Wings; Cumberland

Over 40 projects applied for the Invest Allegheny grant program. A review committee ranked each of the applicants using criteria that focused on the project's soundness of business plan, impact on local placemaking, and potential for positive job creation and/or multifamily market-rate housing.

The Allegheny County Commissioners have requested that the remaining \$185,728.69 in allocated grant funding be used for a second round of funding for those that have already applied. Additional details will be determined by the established review committee before the end of the month.

STAFF REPORT

TO: Jason M. Bennett, County Administrator
FROM: Adam D. Strott, Economic Development *AS*
DATE: June 16, 2022
RE: Invest Allegany Grant Winners

For the Agenda of: June 23, 2022

BACKGROUND: Invest Allegany was announced at the January 27, 2022, public meeting as a two-year, \$2,000,000 grant program aimed at revitalizing neglected or underutilized buildings in Allegany County's downtowns and main streets. Applications opened on February 21, 2022, and the due date was subsequently extended to May 6, 2022, as interest in the program grew.

ISSUES: A committee was formed to score the applications, pertinent to the program details, and a group of 12 winners were selected from an overall pool of 41 applicants. The 12 winners represent \$1,814,271.31 of funding for projects.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The county will award 12 grant winners \$1,814,271.31, contingent on the terms and conditions that will be set forth by the county.

ALTERNATIVES: None

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS: There will be an available surplus of \$185,728.69 from the original budget of \$2,000,000. As per instruction from the County Commissioners, the Committee will conduct a second round of reviews using the existing applications, the details of which will be defined at a later date.

CONFORMITY TO COUNTY POLICY: The winners were selected by the Committee based on the criteria set forth in the grant program guidelines.

RECOMMENDATION: To approve the motion awarding the 12 applicants grant monies from the Invest Allegany grant program, totaling \$1,814,271.31, contingent on the terms and conditions that will be set forth by the county.



ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND

The Board of County Commissioners

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Jacob C. Shade, *President*
Creade V. Brodie, Jr.
David J. Caporale

Jason M. Bennett, CPA, *County Administrator*
T. Lee Beeman, Jr., *County Attorney*

June 23, 2022

Levitt Foundation
Levitt AMP [Your City] Grant Awards
106 Quarry Rd
Hamburg, NJ 07419

Dear Grant Review Committee:

Allegany County Government is pleased to express full support for the Allegany Arts Council's Levitt AMP [Your City] Grant Awards application. This letter serves as Allegany County Government's commitment to \$20,000 annually, over three years, towards the grant match requirement.

One of Allegany County, Maryland's best asset is our vibrant, thriving arts community. With two successful Arts & Entertainment districts in historic Downtown Cumberland and the westernmost city, Frostburg, our region has gained a well-deserved reputation as a regional arts destination. Our region has garnered incredible press and destination awareness through the success of DelFest, one of the nation's premier bluegrass, roots, and Americana music festivals, as well as been fortunate to reap the benefits of the international and national programming at Frostburg State University, a four-year institution part of the University of Maryland college system. Being a community that embraces the arts and understands the role the arts play in the success of community development; we also see the potential our region has to explore, grow, and expand our programming and reach.


The Levitt AMP Music Series in Cumberland, MD, presented by the Allegany Arts Council, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting awareness of and access to the arts with a mission to cultivate the arts to enrich quality of life in Allegany County, Maryland, has the opportunity to reenergize and transform an expansive, yet underutilized 57,000 square foot festival ground at the Canal Place Heritage Park, in downtown Cumberland, MD. This grant would open the door for community collaboration, create inclusive community entertainment, generate economic impact, and create true sense of placemaking in the core of downtown.

While this letter serves as the grantee's cash match need, our intent is to also request that you show favor to the Allegany Arts Council's application for the Levitt AMP [Your City] Grant Awards.

Thank you for your consideration and support of this project.

Sincerely,

The Board of County Commissioners



Jacob C. Shade, President



Creade V. Brodie, Jr., Commissioner



David J. Caporale, Commissioner