

February 5, 2026

There was a Commissioners meeting at 2:00 PM in the Commissioners Conference Room at 700 Sawmill Road, Small Conference Room for the regular scheduled Commissioners meeting. In attendance were Commissioners Brewer, Karschner, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Jean Lapinski, Michele Frye, Marcie Strachko, Treasurer Creveling, and Brigid Pugh. Via Zoom: Doyle Shadle, Don Coleman, Eric Boughner, Salvador Harvey, Brenda Hess Williams, Jeremy Brown, Kristi Kritzer, Jenn Long, and MJ Mahon.

Commissioner Brewer called the meeting to order and asked that we stand and pledge the flag, he then called for the approval of the minutes of the prior meeting.

Motion by Karschner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

Commissioner Brewer then called for a report of the work session: The work session report is as follows, at 10:00 AM there was a work session held in attendance were Commissioners Brewer, Karschner, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Jean Lapinski, Michele Frye, Marcie Strachko, Bob Stout, Otto Kurecian, Bobby Christianson, MJ Mahon, Treasurer Creveling, Jill Carlson, and Brigid Pugh. Via Zoom: Denise LaBuda, Jeremy Brown, Jenn Long, Kirsti Kritzer, Thomas Frace, Chris Anderson, Jessica Brittan, Rachael Swartwood, Beth Gilbert, and Tim Murphy. Commissioner Brewer asked Bob Stout to begin the meeting in which he discussed the MARC MOU with the Commissioners and the projects slated for the remainder of 2026. The Commissioners then asked Jill Carlson to speak and she then asked if the Commissioners have decided to change vendors for the mail in ballots. The Commissioners stated that the Elections Director has yet to make a recommendation to them and when he does they will notify both party chairs of their decision and also approve it at a public meeting. The remaining items on the agenda were reviewed with Marcie going over the personnel moves, and Jeannie providing updates on both available cash and bills. After which the work session was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: None

Sheriff Revenue – January Report

Interest:	\$ 1,786.25
Civil	\$ 3,192.00
Lic To Carry	\$ 2,698.00
Lic to Sell Firearms	\$ 0.00
Lic to Sell Precious Metals	\$ 50.00
Personal Prop	\$ 2,216.00
Real Estate	\$ 5,541.26
Transports	\$ 0.00
Warrant	\$ 1,585.50
Total	\$17,069.01

Register & Recorder – January Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$47,504.58
Total business all sources was \$1,444,154.94

Number of Deeds recorded for January was 121
Number of Mortgages recorded for January was 103

Treasurer – January Report:

County Commission \$2,888.00

Sheriff Screener – January Report:

Courthouse:	
Visitors	6,820
Alarms	3,396
Weapons:	
Guns	2
Knives	35
Misc	36

Annex:
Visitors 4,456

Alarms		2,427
Weapons:	Guns	0
	Knives	21
	Misc	7

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Approve the Traveling Library Board recommendations of Krunal Thakore and Jessica Lehman to the open Board positions that began 2026-2030

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

- B. Approve the request for the renewal of the MARC/Columbia County Tourism-Related Recreation Development Project Management MOU

Motion by Karchner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- C. Approve the technical and price proposal from Larson Design for the Briar Creek Dry Dam Road Repairs which include Design and Bidding and Construction Services with the total amount being \$104,800 (\$24,800 estimated for construction services)

Motion by Brewer and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- D. Approve MCM Consulting Group for Project Management representing the North Central Region (Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga, and Union) for 2026

Motion by Karchner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- E. Approve the Bomb Threat Policy to the employee handbook

Motion by Brewer and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- F. Approve the use of the Main Street Annex Building for clearing training by the probation officers

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Brewer; all approved

- G. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING HIRES, STEP INCREASES, and PROMOTIONS:

- Lukas Reynolds, Telecommunicator, ECEN, six (6) month step, 2/10/26
- Liliann Valerio, Promoted to FT CO, Jail, 1/18/26
- Hunter Weaver, FT CO, Jail, four (4) year step, 2/13/26
- Tyler Rice, FT CO, Jail, six (6) month step, 1/21/26
- Seth Moyer, transfer to IT Support Specialist, IT, 2/17/26

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Brewer; all approved

- H. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING ELECTED OFFICIALS and COURT EMPLOYEE HIRES, STEP INCREASES, and PROMOTIONS:

- Mattea Dunn, Probation Officer, Juvenile, Hire, 2/17/26

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

- I. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, AND RETIREMENTS:

- James Daulton, Deputy, Sheriff, Resignation, 12/22/25
- Richard Kauffman, CO, Jail, Resignation, 1/14/26
- Deb Hower, Retirement, Tax Clerk, 1/31/26
- Jennifer Long, EMA Director, Retirement, 2/27/26

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Brewer; all approved

CORRESPONDANCE:

- PPL informed the Commissioners that they intend to perform a rebuild of their electrical transmission line on parcel #25 01 00700. Work will begin around March 1, 2026 and is scheduled to end by June 1, 2026.

BILLS:

- Approve the bills for 1/30/26 for \$257,922.83

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

AJOURN:

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Karschner and seconded by Kovach. The motion passed.

Attest: _____
David J. Withey, Chief Clerk