

February 6, 2025

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, Chief Clerk Witchey, Solicitor McDonald, Alica Marinos, Marcie Strachko, Treasurer Creveling, Jean Lapinski, and Eric Boughner. Via Zoom were Allen Breach, Denise LaBuda, Don Coleman, Jeremy Brown, Jodi Cook, Matt Repasky, 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 Kovach seconded by Karschner; all approved.

Commissioner Brewer then called for a report of the work session: The report is as follows, at 10:00 AM there was a work session held. In attendance were Commissioners Brewer, Karschner, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Marcie Strachko, Dave Witchey, Treasurer Creveling, Eric Boughner, Sheriff Chamberlain, Jean Lapinski, and Rich Kisner. Via zoom were April Miller, Denise LaBuda, Jenn Long, Jeremy Brown, Tom Frace, Jodi Cook, and MJ Mahon. Commissioner Brewer asked that Rich Kisner start the meeting and discuss the agenda item that he is there for. Rich stated that DCED has guidelines regarding income guidelines but have not asked that each Redevelopment Authority have an official policy regarding Income verification for their programs. He also then discussed a potential issue where there was an upgrade occurring and the home owner suddenly passed away, DCED then placed a lien against the home due to the policy they have in place. The next item discussed was setting the elected officials salaries and yearly cost of living increase, the initial proposal discussed was that whatever the Commissioners decided to give the non-union employees is what would be given to the elected officials. All the elected officials that were present at the meeting agreed that the agenda item is a fair way to give the elected officials their annual cost of living increase. After that discussion the rest of the agenda was reviewed and Marcie reviewed the hires/step increase and promotions for both the Commissioners and Elected Officials and Courts. Jean reviewed bills and available cash. After which the work session was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Register & Recorder – January Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$28,873.04
Total business all sources was \$550,961.48

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

Sheriff Revenue – January Report

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

Treasurer – January Report:

County Commission \$2,665.00

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Approve the Proclamation declaring April 2025 as Safe Digging Month for PA 811
- B. Approve utilizing the non-union cost of living increase for the annual elected officials salary increase

Motion by Brewer seconded by Karschner; all approved

- C. Approve the new income guiding policies for the Columbia County Redevelopment Authority

Motion by Karschner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- D. Approve the Certification of County Funds in the amount of \$17,252 for Farmland Preservation for fiscal year 2025

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Brewer; all approved

- E. Approve the RAD Equipment Calibration Agreement with Geisinger for 2025, this is a no cost service

Motion by Karschner and seconded by Brewer; all approved

- F. Approve the North Central Task Force Agreement with the US Department of Homeland Security Grant Program for Federal Fiscal Year 2024-2027 in the amount \$459,736

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Brewer; all approved

- G. Approve both Amy Yastishock and Jen Hunsinger to the Columbia County Traveling Library Board for the five year term of 2025-2030

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

- H. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest for a camper moved with no permit

- Parcel # 03-06-00802144 \$47.84

Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest for a parcel that was sold at the 2019 Tax Sale

- Parcel # 22-05-03600000 \$397.82

Motion by Karschner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

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

- Allen Breech, Risk Management and Planner, EMA, Hire, 2/10/2025
- Austin McCormick, FT CO, Jail, 4 year step increase, 10/25/24
- Roxanne Beers, Caseworker 2, CYS, two year step increase, 1/3/2025
- Jason Kauffman, APCO Instructor, ECEN, Increase, 2/6/25
- Juwan Petties-Jackson, FT CO, Jail, Hire, 2/17/25
- Kaitlin Mathias, FT CO, Jail, Hire, 2/17/25
- Miranda Wells, FT CO, Jail, Hire, 2/17/25
- Tayler Kile, FT CO, Jail, Hire, 2/17/25
- Robyn Conrath, FT CO, Jail, Hire, 2/17/25
- Joseph Miller, FT CO, Jail, Hire, 2/17/25
- Joseph Clegg, FT CO, Jail, Hire, 2/17/25

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Brewer; all approved

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

- Tristan Cicio, Probation Officer, JP, 2 year step increase, 2/21/2025
- Paula Seritti, Office Manager, DA, Promotion, 2/13/25 (may be delayed).
- Marina Smith, Legal Secretary, Courts, Transfer from DA, 2/13/25 (may be delayed)

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

- K. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, and RETIREMENTS:

- James Brown, Mechanic, Maintenance, Retirement, 2/28/2025
- Kansas Snyder, PT CO, Jail, Resignation, 1/20/2025
- Keyonna Cuttino, FT CO, Jail, Termination (no show), 1/20/2025
- Kendyl Wright, Clerk, Treasurer, Termination, 1/21/25

- Rebecca Cospers, Caseworker I, CYD, Resignation, 1/15/25
- Marina Smith, Office Manager, DA, Transfer to Courts, 2/12/25 (may be delayed)

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Brewer; all approved

CORRESPONDANCE:

- JHA Companies notified the Commissioners that Millville Borough is filing their NPDES renewal for their Waste Water Treatment Plant which is required to do every 5 year.
- Keith Bissinger notified the Commissioners that he has submitted an application to DEP for a General Permit under Act 14, for construction of a wall to prevent erosion at 502 Mt. Pleasant Road, Bloomsburg PA.
- Larson Design Group notified the Commissioners of Catawissa Borough’s Dry Hydrant Project
- Larson Design Group notified the Commissioners of a Bridge Replacement Project located in Derry Township, Montour County over the East Branch Chillisquaque Creek.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Approve the bills dated 1/31/2025 in the amount of \$752,077.03.

Motion by Commissioner Karschner and seconded by Commissioner Kovach; 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. Witchey, Chief Clerk