

February 18, 2021

There was a Commissioners meeting at 2:00 AM in the Commissioners Conference Room at 700 Sawmill Road Small Conference Room for the regular scheduled Commissioners meeting. In attendance were Commissioners Young, Ridgeway and Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Jean Lapinski, Eric Stahley, Treasurer Creveling, and Eric Boughner. Via Zoom: Kurt Brungard, Phil Yoder and Jen Long.

A motion was made by Kovach and seconded by Ridgeway to approve the minutes of the prior meeting. The motion unanimously passed.

There was a 10:00 work session held in attendance were Commissioners Ridgeway, and Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Marcie Strachko, Treasurer Creveling, Jean Lapinski and Eric Boughner. Via Zoom: Dan Knorr, Matt Williamson, Mike Lester, Kurt Brungard, Jen Long, Eric Stahley, Tim Murphy, and Sheriff Chamberlain.

Jen Long started the meeting by providing the COVID-19 testing site statistics, 322 were tested during the 5 days with 11.49% positivity rate. Dan Knorr also provided an update of Bloomsburg University's testing of incoming students he stated they had 17 positive cases and that 9 are out and 8 are in quarantine. In comparison to August 2020 BU had 167 COVID-19 cases. BU will continue to have random testing throughout the entire semester. Commissioner Ridgeway cited his frustration that for the last two weeks he was trying to have an additional vaccination site within the Columbia County, he stated that he was frustrated with the lack of communication from the Department of Health and what appears to be poor planning regarding the distribution of the vaccine. As an example he cited the fact that people received the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose vaccine when they were supposed to be receiving the first dose vaccine. Commissioner Ridgeway also discussed the Hospitality Grant that Columbia County will be receiving, citing that it need to be administered by a Certified Economic Development Agency which is SEDA-COG. Wade mays discussed the underground electrical service and the issues surrounding the closure of the Main Street Annex. It was determined a breaker needs to be replaced and that the breaker had been in service since 1975 and is no longer manufactured, the vendor will devise a multiple solutions and will present a project to the Commissioners. It will require a complete shutdown of the building for at least a day. Solicitor McDonald discussed Pirian Sivakumar's Mifflinville hotel was placed into receivership and he needed to pay his back Hotel Tax bill which was done prior to him selling the Hotel. Mike Lester asked questions regarding the RFP for the Flood Mitigation projects for the West End of Bloomsburg and the Fishing Creek Watershed, Commissioner Ridgeway then explained what the RFP entailed.

Ridgeway adjourned the work session.

#### DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

##### Sheriff Revenue – January Report:

###### Revenue:

Interest:	\$30.89
Civil	\$3,047.00
Lic To Carry	\$5,168.00
Lic to Sell Firearms	\$228.00
Lic to Sell Precious Metals	\$0.00
Personal Prop	\$190.00
Real Estate	\$1,007.45
Warrant	\$511.00
Total	\$10,182.34

##### Magistrates – January Report:

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	295	\$4,531.26
Bloomsburg	235	\$8,889.11
Catawissa	267	\$3,991.14
Millville	356	\$5,744.07

##### Prothonotary:

###### Clerk of Orphans Courts – January Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$14,743.64

Total business all sources was \$26,271.22

Clerk of Courts – January Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$38,799.83

Total business all sources was \$93,744.81

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Covid-19 update

B. Discussion regarding the County’s COVID-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program Grant for \$735,806

C. Approve Larson Design’s Engineering cost estimates for the Prison Sally Port \$57,100 and the Courthouse Bathroom upgrade for \$31,500

Motion by Kovach seconded by Young; all approved

D. Approve the advertising contract with the Press Enterprise with the County receiving a 15% volume discount based upon the prior year usage.

Motion by Kovach seconded by Ridgway; all approved

E. Approve the agreement to participate in the Unemployment Compensation Program of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania UC Trust

Motion by Ridgway seconded by Kovach; all approved

F. Approve the exoneration of the lien cost of \$15 parcel for 10 parcels, payments for 2020 tax bills postmarked before 12/31/20 but received after 1/15/2021.

- Total Lien Cost           \$150.00

Motion by Young seconded by Kovach; all approved

G. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING HIRES/STEP INCREASES/PROMOTIONS:

- Terrance Shelhart, FT CO, Jail, 1 yr step, 2/23/21
- Phillip Shultz, FT CO, Jail, 2 yr step, 2/11/21
- Jacqueline Lorson, FT CO, Jail, 6 month step, 2/2/21
- James Wright, FT CO, Jail, 6 month step, 2/28/21
- Sarah Perkowski, LPN, Jail, 6 month step, 2/28/21
- Kimberly O’Brien, Promotion to FT CO, Jail, 2/8/21
- Britney Zumerling, Promotion to FT CO, Jail, 2/8/21
- Johnny Burd, FT CO, Jail, 10 yr Step, 1/2/21
- Christina Collins, FT CO, Jail, 6 yr step, 1/4/21
- Megan Woolcock, Caseworker 2, CYS, 6 mo step, 2/12/21

Motion by Ridgway seconded by Kovach; all approved

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

- None

I. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS/RETIREMENTS:

- Johnnie Horne, Caseworker I, CYS, Resignation, 2/10/21
- Candance Hoppy, FT CO, Jail, Resignation, 2/20/21
- Clyde Fetzer, FT CO, Jail, Retirement, 2/9/21
- Alan Moore, DT CO, Jail, Resignation, 2/7/21
- Kayla Green, LPN, Jail, Resignation, 1/27/21
- William Boston, Lieutenant, Jail, Retirement, 2/22/21 (started on 7/19/95)

Motion by Kovach seconded by Ridgway; all approved

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The Commissioners received a letter regarding the opioid litigation that Rochester Drug Co-Operative, Inc is seeking approval for their Chapter 11 Bankruptcy plan.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

- Approve bills from 2-19-21 totaling \$634,906.52

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- Approve American Paper bills from 2-19-21 totaling \$396.64

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; abstain by Ridgway Motion passes

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

AJOURN:

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

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
David J. Withey, Chief Clerk