

March 16, 2023

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 Ridgway, Young, and Kovach, also in attendance were Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Michele Frye, Jean Lapinski, and Treasurer Creveling. Via zoom were the following individuals Alex Karpinski, Don Coleman, Jeremy Brown, MJ Mahon, and Tim Murphy.

Commissioner Ridgway 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 Young; all approved.

Commissioner Ridgway then called for a report of the work session: There was a 10:00 work session held. In attendance were Commissioners Ridgway, Young, and Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Michele Frye, Jean Lapinski, Treasurer Creveling, Ethan Howard, Teri Provost, MJ Mahon, and Bob Christianson. Via zoom were the following individuals Eric Stahley, Jodi Cook, and Don Coleman. Commissioner Ridgway asked Bob Christianson to start the meeting and give an update on both the Water project stating that the project is going according to plan he also stated that the archeological dig did not find anything and they are going to prepare the report indicting what the results are. Ethan provided an update on Penn State Programs. Jean then reviewed bills and available cash. The Commissioners Agenda was reviewed, which included the hires/step/promotions and then the Salary Board agenda was reviewed. After which the meeting was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Prothonotary:

Clerk of Orphans Courts – February Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$17,070.92

Total business all sources was \$24,712.75

Clerk of Courts – February Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$46,999.90

Total business all sources was \$89,410.53

Magistrates – January Report:

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	281	\$6,525.32
Bloomsburg	411	\$9,200.73
Catawissa	298	\$5,831.66
Millville	184	\$3,346.21

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approve the Benton Area Implementation Program

- Approve the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) related to the program, contingent upon grant funding agency (DCED, PA SWS, KCP) approval

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- Approve the tiered price schedule, from Orangeville Surveying Consultants – Elevation Certificates

Motion by Kovach to approve; motion dies due to no second; motion to table by Young seconded by Ridgway; motion to approve Young and Ridgway; opposed by Kovach; motion passes

- Approve the application and authorization to enter form, to be utilized for the elevation certificates

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- B. Approve to submit a FY 2023 Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grant application to Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the amount of \$2,300,000 (Congressional Earmark) with a 75% Federal Funds (\$1,725,000) and 25% State Funds (\$575,000)

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- C. Approve the use of \$2,000 of Hotel Tax dollars for the Columbia County Farm Bureau to have the PA Farms to Family Immersion Lab at the 2023 Bloomsburg Fair

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

- D. Approve the exoneration of \$677.29 of 2023 taxes on property 3313 State Route 487 in Stillwater, the property is being acquired by the Columbia County Redevelopment Authority Flood Buyout Program

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- E. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest for a lease hold trailer which was sold or razed pursuant to ACT-156

- Parcel# 31-02-028-00,039 \$1,166.86

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

- F. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING HIRES, STEP INCREASES, PROMOTIONS:

- James Giles, Lieutenant, Jail, Hire, 3/20/23
- Tami Rhodes, EMT (PT), Jail, Hire, 3/20/23
- Hunter Weaver, FT CO, Jail, 1 yr step increase, 2/17/23
- Kaiden Whitenight, FT CO, Jail, 2 yr step increase, 2/21/23
- Kim O'Brien, FT CO, Jail, 2 yr step increase, 2/21/23
- Lindsey Cashner, FT CO, Jail, 1 yr step increase, 3/13/23
- David Nevel, FT CO, Jail, 2 yr step increase, 3/28/23
- Thomas Moyer, Transfer from Sgt to acting LT, Jail, 2/20/23
- James Higgins, Transfer from CO to Sgt, Jail, 02/20/23
- Holly Breisch, Transfer from Acting LT back to CO, 2/20/23
- Sarah Egrie, Caseworker 2, C&Y, 4yr step increase, 3/11/23

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

- G. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING ELECTED OFFICIALS/COURT EMPLOYEES: HIRES, STEP INCREASES, PROMOTIONS:

- Jane Hoyle Lawton, Judicial Secretary, DM Millville, 10 yr step inc, 3/25/23
- Marrison May, Secretary, Adult Probation, hire, 3/20/23
- Breana Snyder, Judicial Secretary, DM Bloomsburg, 6 month step, 3/6/23
- Mia Brinkman, Secretary, Domestic Relations, hire, 3/27/23

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

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

- Madison Oberdorf, PT CO, Jail, Resignation – No Show, 3/7/23
- Carrie Adams, Caseworker 2, CYS, Resignation (never started), 3/7/23

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach; all approved

CORRESPONDANCE:

- Columbia Property Managers notified the Commissioners that Madison Estates MHP is applying for their NPDES Permit
- JHA Company of Engineers/Surveyors/Environmental and GIS Mapping notified the Commissioners that Millville Borough Municipal Authority is amending the existing Public Water Permit for the

abandonment of an unused drilled well and removal of the water level transducer in the storage tank and designation of optimal water quality parameters.

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- SEDA COG Informed the Commissioners that the Borough of Berwick's Federal Fiscal Year 2021 CDBG performance and Evaluation Report has been accepted the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

- Approve bills thru dated thru 3/17/23 for \$438,820.22

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Young; all approved

- Approve American Paper bills for \$3,547.79

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

AJOURN:

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

Attest: _____
David J. Witchey, Chief Clerk