

March 19, 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, Michelle Frye, Marcie Strachko, Ethan Howard, Linda Hendricks, Ell Adams, Donna Bankus, Sandy Robbins, Khaidy Davenport, Emily Dickert, Joey Bankus, Linda Artley Dale Hendricks, Keith Davenport, and Prothonotary Stroup. Via Zoom: Don Coleman, Jean Lapinski, Denise LaBuda, Thomas Frace, Allen Mausteller, and MJ Mahon, Kirsti Kritzer, and Chris Anderson.

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 and seconded by Karschner; 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, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Michelle Frye, Marcie Strachko, Doyle Shadle, MJ Mahon, Shelly Crawford, Prothonotary Stroup, Via Zoom: Don Coleman, Tim Murphy, Allen Mausteller, Kirsti Kritzer, Jean Lapinski, Jodi Cook, Chris Anderson, and Jeremy Brown. Commissioner Brewer asked Shelly to start the meeting and she stated that she was there to ask why the minutes after the January 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting were not posted to the website. Since that time the minutes are now posted to the website. Prothonotary Stroup reviewed her report for the month end February 2026. The remaining agenda items 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

Magistrates Reports – February Report:

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	233	\$5,093.76
Bloomsburg	227	\$6,345.15
Catawissa	296	\$6,414.67
Millville	301	\$6,526.23

Prothonotary:

Clerk of Orphans Courts – February Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$23,929.31

Total business all sources was \$29,632.81

Clerk of Courts – February Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$36,724.29

Total business all sources was \$71,208.74

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Proclamation for 4-H Week which is March 15<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>

B. Approve Chris Anderson to SEDA-COG MPO Board

Motion by Karchner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

C. Approve Matt Bower to serve on the DRIVE Board this is a 3 year term ending 2029

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Brewer; all approved

D. Approve the use of \$2,500 of Hotel Tax Funds for the Stuart Tank 2026 WWII weekend from July 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>

Motion by Karchner and seconded by Brewer; abstain by Kovach motion passes

- E. Approve the use of the Courthouse Flagpole for a ceremony for the “Light to Unite” which is a national movement to fly the American flag and to light buildings in red, white and blue, the event will occur on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at noon

Motion by Brewer and seconded by Karschner; all approved

- F. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest for a lease hold trailers that were moved or razed pursuant to ACT-156 Abandoned with no permit
- Parcel 03-12-00600-079 \$67.36

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Brewer; all approved

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

- Brittany Swilley, Supervisor, CYS, six (6) month step, 1/26/2025
- Ashley Pelton, Aide, CYS, Hire, 3/23/26
- Levi Yoder, Caseworker II, CYS, two (2) year step, 2/27/26
- Andrea Pulizzi, APD, Public Defender, adjustment increase, 3/15/26
- Franklin Kepner III, APD, Public Defender, adjustment increase, 3/15/26
- RyLee Sortman, FT CO, Jail, six (6) month step, 3/28/26

Motion by Karchner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

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

- Denise Boston, Deputy, Treasurer, ten (10) year step, 1/1/26
- Heidi Knorr, Promotion to 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy, Treasurer, 2/24/26

Motion by Brewer and seconded by Kovach; all approved

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

- Christopher Moser, FT CO, Jail, Retirement, 3/18/26

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

CORRESPONDANCE:

- Peters Consultants sent a letter seeking Columbia County Commissioners to reappoint them as the professional consulting and inspection services of the Briar Creek Dry Dam.

BILLS:

- Approve the bills for 3/13/26 for \$400,241.63

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Brewer; all approved

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

AJOURN:

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

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