

April 15, 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, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Treasurer Creveling, Jean Lapinski, Marcie Strachko, and Eric Stahley, Michele Frye, Nancy Corbin. Via Zoom: April Miller, Don Coleman, Eric Boughner, Eric Stahley, Mike Lester, Teri Provost, Jen long, Jon White-Spunner, and Diane Cizewski.

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 Young, Ridgeway, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Treasurer Creveling, Jean Lapinski, Marcie Strachko, Michelle Frye, and Nancy Corbin. Via Zoom: April Miller, Don Coleman, Eric Boughner, Eric Stahley, Mike Lester, Teri Provost, Jen long, Jon White-Spunner, and Diane Cizewski. Nancy Corbin started the work session discussing the Proclamation for Conservation Week. She highlighted some of the upcoming programs that the Conservation District is running such as Environmental Education Week, Earth Week, and some of the programs associated with each such as the sunset hike at Johnson Flats, and the Earth Day Poster. Commissioner Young mentioned about an invasive species plan to control barberry and knotweed he also stated that he would like to be aggressive with new ideas within the district to showcase that Columbia County Conservation is willing to try new ideas. Jen Long discussed the COVID-19 case counts increasing and that the calls to schedule an appointment have gone from 50-60 per day down to 5. She is thinking that the Johnson & Johnson scare has slowed the pace for requesting a vaccine. Jen also discussed that the Berwick Hospital is scheduled to receive 1,500 this week and another 1,500 next week. John White-Spunner discussed the BTE's plan to a free summer show at the Bloomsburg Town Park, called The Girl Who Swallowed a Cactus. He stated that there will be 15 performances and is a celebration of the return to social gatherings. Teri provost informed the Commissioners that the contractors that were awarded the studies have been notified and that both agencies qualify for grant funding.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Sheriff Revenue – March Report:

Interest:	\$37.89
Civil	\$4,765.84
Lic To Carry	\$6,004.00
Lic to Sell Firearms	\$0.00
Lic to Sell Precious Metals	\$50.00
Personal Prop	\$1,619.00
Real Estate	\$353.00
Transports	\$25.00
Warrant	\$968.00
Total	\$13,823.23

Register & Recorder – March Report:

\$38,748.59 was collected and remitted to the County
\$2,580.00 was collected in Recorder Improvement Fund
\$1,720.00 was collected in County Improvement Fund
\$10,540.06 was collected in Affordable Housing Fund
\$1,946.73 was collected in Remote Access Fee

Magistrates – March Report:

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	286	\$7,149.35
Bloomsburg	547	\$11,881.57
Catawissa	675	\$9,177.19
Millville	400	\$7,680.40

Prothonotary:

Clerk of Orphans Courts – March Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$24,938.52

Total business all sources was \$30,751.99

Clerk of Courts – March Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$53,272.68

Total business all sources was \$106,702.25

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Covid-19 update

B. Approve the Executive Director of the Columbia County Redevelopment Authority to act in the capacity as Certifying Officer for Environmental review processes to satisfy the responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities.

Motion by Kovach seconded by Ridgway; all approved

C. Approve the designation of the Executive Director of the Columbia County Housing Authority to act as the Fair Housing Officer.

Motion by Young seconded by Kovach; all approved

D. Approve the use of \$12,500 Hotel Tax Dollars to sponsor BTE's Free Summer Show in the Park "The Girl Who Swallowed a Cactus" to be held at Bloomsburg Town Park from July 14th – July 30th

Motion by Kovach seconded by Ridgway; all approved

E. Approve Round 1 of the CHIRP grantees in the amount of \$365,000 per the attached list

Motion by Kovach seconded by Ridgway; all approved

F. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest of a lease hold trailer that was razed with no permit

- Parcel # 12-03-009-07,410 Cost \$64.70

Motion by Young seconded by Kovach; all approved

G. Approve the updated Children & Youth Services Adoption Subsidies Children birth-12 from \$300 to \$500 per month for a child with moderate mental health/medical needs, and \$450 to \$650 for a child with severe mental health/medical needs. Children 13-17 subsidies from \$350 to \$550 per month for a child with moderate mental health/medical needs, and \$500 to \$700 for a child with severe mental health/medical needs.

Motion by Kovach seconded by Young; all approved

H. Proclamation for Conservation District week, April 18th – 24th

I. Approve Troy Prutzman, Elected Official and David Mosteller, RACES, Amateur Radio Operator to the LEPC Committee

Motion by Kovach seconded by Ridgway; all approved

J. Approve the additional work to be performed for the County Jail project as follows:

- Reset loose stone units, grout wall cavity voids, mechanically pin stone pieces at chimney:
Cost: Not To Exceed \$10,000.00, we will track labor and material with shop tickets.

- Replace window perimeter sealant joints at block masonry walls:
Cost: \$6,150.00

- Replace vertical control joint sealants and joint backing, includes roof top rising walls:
Cost: \$10,450.00

- Additional access equipment rental:
Cost: \$1,000.00

Motion by Kovach seconded by Ridgway; all approved

APPROVE THE FOLLOWING HIRES/STEP INCREASES/PROMOTIONS:

- Gabriella Gaughan, Caseworker 1, CYS, Hire, 5/3/21
- Micaela Riley, Caseworker 1, CYS, Hire, 4/26/21
- Blake Delia, PT CO, Jail, Hire, 4/6/21
- Nina Galyaveyeva, PT CO, Jail, Hire, 4/6/21
- Andru Druckenmiller, PT CO, Jail, Hire, 4/6/21
- Joe Meyers, PT CO, Jail, Hire, 4/6/21
- Chad Chamberlain, Sgt, Jail, Promotion, 2/16/21
- Thomas Moyer, Sgt, Jail, Promotion, 2/16/21
- Veronica Ziegler, PT CO, Jail, 6 month step, 3/20/21
- Cooper Watkins, PT CO, Jail, 6 month step, 3/20/21
- Brandon Delia, PT CO, Jail, 6 month step, 3/20/21
- Blake Keefer, PT CO, Jail, 6 month step, 3/20/21
- David Nevel, FT CO, Jail, Promotion, 3/28/21
- Sarah Egrie, Caseworker 2, CYS, 2 yr step, 3/11/21

Motion by Ridgway seconded by Kovach; all approved

K. 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:

- None

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The Commissioners again received multiple letters from local GOA (Gun owners of America). They are asking the Commissioners to pass a 2nd amendment sanctuary ordinance. The Commissioners made the decision not to declare Columbia County a Second Amendment Sanctuary Ordinance (SASO) County.
- Woodland Design Associates, Inc. notified the Commissioners that they have applied for a NPDES permit for the Beacon Power 69kV Line Retirement Project
- The North Center Township Supervisors notified the Commissioners that they intend to make an application to DEP for their Wastewater Treatment plant.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

- Approve bills from 4-15-21 totaling \$1,157,297.67

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- Approve American Paper bills from 4-2-21 totaling \$1,115.29

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 Kovach and seconded by Young. The motion passed.

Attest: _____
David J. Witchey, Chief Clerk