

April 17, 2025

There was a Commissioners meeting at 2:00 PM in the Commissioners Conference Room at 700 Sawmill Road, Small Conference Room for the regularly scheduled Commissioners meeting. In attendance were Commissioners Brewer, Karschner, Kovach, Solicitor Marinos, David Witchey, Treasurer Creveling, Doyle Shadle, Kaylin Bower, Abbey Frey, and Michelle Frye. Via Zoom were Commissioner Don Coleman, Jeremy Brown, Jodi Cook, Rachael Swartwood, Jenn Long, 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 work session report is as follows, at 10:00 AM there was a work session held. In attendance were Commissioners Brewer, Karschner, Kovach, Solicitor Marinos, David Witchey, Michelle Frye, Treasurer Creveling, Jean Lapinski, Bobby Christensen, Beth Burke, Betsy Rubio, Chris Anderson, Abbey Frey, Terri Campbell, Lisa Meade, and MJ Mahon. Via zoom were Commissioner April Miller, Jodi Cook, Denise LaBuda, Thomas Frace, Tim Murphy, Don Coleman, Rachael Swartwood, and Jeremy Brown. Before the work session started the Commissioners voted to add multiple items to the agenda for the 2PM meeting. The first item was a proclamation for Telecommunicators week, the second was adding the approval of utilizing grant funds from EDECI to pay Catawissa Borough for their work in the amount of \$78,936.77 Betsy and Beth discussed the changes for CDBG and then the new projects that are replacing the others. After reviewing the rest of the agenda including the hires steps increases for both the Commissioners and elected officials Bobby Christensen then gave a n update of the sewer project occurring in South Centre Township. He then spoke about the PFAS water situation which is effecting some of their citizens. He stated that he can only speak about South Centre issues and not for North Centre issues. He discussed the current water line sizes in the area along with the size of the water line pipe. Lisa Meade from DEP also spoke about the issue but stated they are still determining where the issue is and that this issue will take some time to be resolved. Jean then reviewed bills and available cash. After which the work session was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Prothonotary:

Clerk of Orphans Courts – March Report:
Total remitted to the County was \$24,249.75
Total business all sources was \$32,475.98

Clerk of Courts – March Report:
Total remitted to the County was \$66,874.17
Total business all sources was \$123,299.43

Magistrates’ Reports – March Report:

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	308	\$6,480.04
Bloomsburg	459	\$13,239.15
Catawissa	436	\$8,258.25
Millville	455	\$5,821.56

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Proclamation for the Conservation District as the week of April 20th to 26th is Conservation District Week
- B. Proclamation for Public Safety Telecommunications Week for the week of April 13th to 19th is Conservation District Week
- C. Approve the listed changes to the CDBG FFY 2022 modification:
 - Delete Benton Water and Sewer Project \$40,000
 - Add Benton Borough Basketball Court \$40,000

- Delete Housing Rehab, Summer Splash, and Catawissa RAB
- Add Orangeville Manor Fire Escape

Motion by Commissioner Kovach; seconded by Commissioner Brewer; all approved

- D. Approve the agreement with Larson Design to provide engineering services for the Columbia County Prison Elevated Concrete Walkway Repair Project for the amount of \$14,700

Motion by Commissioner Karschner; seconded by Commissioner Kovach; all approved

- E. Approve the use of \$78,936.77 of EDECI Funds for Catawissa Township

Motion by Commissioner Brewer; seconded by Commissioner Kovach; all approved

- F. Approve the exoneration of tax/cos/interest parcels campers moved out of campground with no permit:
- Parcel # 20-06-00401025 \$137.12
 - Parcel # 20-06-00401156 \$113.14

Motion by Commissioner Karschner; seconded by Commissioner Kovach; all approved

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

- Ed Berlin, Park Laborer, Parks, Call-back 4/21/25, \$14.43
- Carly Scranton, Admin Asst, Planning, Hire, 4/21/25

Motion by Commissioner Karschner; seconded by Commissioner Kovach; all approved

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

- Brittani Whitmire, Intake Officer, 6 month step inc, 5/1/25, \$18.23

Motion by Commissioner Brewer; seconded by Commissioner Karschner; all approved

CORRESPONDANCE:

- SEDA COG notified the Commissioners that the Borough of Berwick was announcing its 2025 CDBG program and that they are receiving \$289,750
- SEDA COG notified the Commissioners that the Town of Bloomsburg has completed its 2023 annual Performance and Evaluation Report and it was accepted by HUD
-
- Williams Pipeline sent notification to the Commissioners that they are applying for renewal of Title V for their Compressor Station 517 in Jackson Township
- Penn Dot sent notification that they will have overnight closures at route 80 and route 42 in Hemlock Township for entrance ramp work starting April 15th
- Penn Dot provided the Commissioner a list regarding their 2025 resurfacing schedule for the County
- The Commissioners were notified of a water obstruction permit that was applied for by Nate Kolb for culvert work for a driveway located at 20 Ruckle Lane in Benton.
- The Commissioners were notified that from Phoenix that they are applying for a NPDES Renewal Application for a facility in Millville for the discharge of water.
- The Commissioners were notified that from Phoenix that they are applying for a NPDES Renewal Application for a facility in Bloomsburg for the discharge of water.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Approve the bills dated 4/11/2025 in the amount of \$978,420.21

Motion by Commissioner Brewer; seconded by Commissioner Karschner; all approved

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Doyle Shadle and Kaylin Bower discussed the ongoing issues surrounding the residents of North and South Centre Townships regarding PFAS in their drinking water.

AJOURN:

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

Attest: _____
David J Witchey