

April 18, 2019

The Columbia County Commissioners met on the above date at 2:00 PM in the Commissioners' Conference Room at the First Street Annex for a reorganizational meeting and following that meeting would be having their normal Commissioners meeting handling the transaction of routine business. In attendance were Commissioners Young, Ridgway, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Withey, Jean Lapinski, Treasurer Creveling, Marcie Strachko, Jen Long, Eric Stahley, and Kurt Sanno.

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

There was a work session at 10:00 AM in the Commissioners Conference Room at the First Street Annex for the transaction of routine business. In attendance were Commissioner Young, Ridgway, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Withey, Treasurer Creveling, Marcie Strachko, Jean Lapinski, Rachael Swartwood, Wade Mays, Jen Long, Eric Stahley, David Heim, and Renae Newhart. Renae discussed the catastrophic loss that occurred in the Millville, Benton, Madison, and Greenwood areas and asked the Commissioners if they would want to be proactive and go out and adjust the 2019 Tax Bills for the individuals that suffered more than a 50% loss, the Commissioners agreed that this would be the best process. The Commissioners also discussed Autoneum's assessment appeal. Marcie reviewed all of the personnel moves within the County, Jean updated the Commissioners on taxes collected and available cash and bills being paid for the period. Wade discussed the situation regarding the dirt and that DEP still had not approved the staging area. He also discussed two tree projects at Briar Creek Lake Park, the first is cutting down 3 trees along the property line and the low bid was \$1,600, and the second project was a large Hemlock in the Park and the low bid was \$1,200. Eric discussed that even though it was Easter weekend Autoneum would be able to staff the floodwall in case there is going to be any flooding on the weekend.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Prothonotary Clerk of Orphans Courts – March Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$24,095.30

Total business all sources was \$30,898.90

Prothonotary Clerk of Courts – March Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$62,830.44

Total business all sources was \$149,844.00

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Approve DCED grant, Contract #C000070979 in the amount of \$500,000 for Economic Development & Community Development Initiative Program

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway all approved

- B. Approve the agreement between the County and the Redevelopment Authority regarding the Berwick Area YMCA

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young all approved

- C. Approve the 2019 SAVIN agreement, the program is designed to provide confidential and automated service to keep victims, law enforcement and community member's current on the status of an offender housed within the Commonwealth. For 2019 there is no cost to the County.

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway all approved

- D. Approve the Bloomsburg Renaissance Jamboree Committee use of the lots behind the Courthouse and Annex along with the use of the County's electrical outlets outside the Courthouse

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach all approved

- E. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest for the following properties:

Parcels was sold at Sheriff Sale

- Parcel # 05E-09-002-00,000 \$136.86
- Parcel# 17-03A-042-00,000 \$86.50

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway all approved

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

Jeni Hassel, Parent Educator, Family Center, Promotion to grade 12, 4/16/19
Jessica Tloczynski, Parent Educator, Family Center, 2 yr step increase, 5/9/19
Katie Knight, Parent Educator, Family Center, 6 mo step increase, 5/19/19

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach all approved

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

None

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

Andrew Ruzicka, PT Deputy, Sheriff, Resignation, 4/12/19
Elijah Cassiel, Caseworker 2, CYS, Resignation, 4/25/19

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Young all approved

CORRESPONDENCE:

Tracie Witter from PPL notified the Commissioners of a summary of work being performed by PPL as the result of the recent storms that passed through Columbia County.

SEDA COG notified the Commissioners that Berwick Borough is receiving CDBG funds and is having a Public Hearing on May 6th at 7:00PM.

SEDA COG notified the Commissioners that Bloomsburg Town Council is receiving CDBG funds and is having a Public Hearing on May 8th at 3:15PM.

The Commissioners were notified that Windstream Holdings Inc. that has filed Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Commissioner Jeff Eggleston sent a letter to the Commissioners regarding the potential upcoming changes being made to MATP, he sent a resolution opposing the potential changes.

DEP sent a letter to the Commissioners regarding Blaschak Coal Corp Surface Mining permit No. 19950101C16 that there was a change to update the reclamation plan and maps.

The Commissioners received a letter regarding providing assistance in identifying sites in Columbia County that are near the Natural Gas Transmission Pipeline

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Warrant requests for April 19th totaling \$1,658,837.78 with the exception of American Paper and Supply

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach all approved

Warrant requests to pay American Paper Supply \$3,589.55

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young abstain by Ridgway motion passed

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. Witchey, Chief Clerk