

April 21, 2022

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 Young, Ridgway, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Marcie Strachko, Michelle Frye, Treasurer Creveling, Jean Lapinski, Eric Stahley, and MJ Mahon. Via zoom: Alex Karpinski, Don Coleman, Jen Long, and Jeremy Brown.

Commissioner Young 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 Ridgway; all approved.

Commissioner Young then called for a report of the work session: There was a 10:00 work session held. In attendance were Commissioners Young, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Marcie Strachko, Michelle Frye, Bob Christianson, Jean Lapinski, Gina Kapelewski, Rachael Shaffer, Harry Mathias, Matt Hess, Sara Hriko, Michael Ryan, Suann Leighow, Treasurer Creveling and MJ Mahon. Via Zoom were the following individuals: Don Coleman, Alex Karpinski, Geralee Zeigler, Gini Feigles-Kaar Tami Kline, Tara Mondock, Eric Stahley and Jeremy Brown. Commissioner Young called the work session to order and asked Harry Mathias to start the meeting discuss the current round of American Rescue Funds recommendations. Harry discussed the 7 different recommendations they are as follows:

1. \$2,070,987.66 for lost revenue for the County
2. \$100,000 for Scott Township playground upgrades contingent upon a \$50,000 match from the Township
3. \$60,000 to the Orangeville Borough for Sewer and Water upgrades contingent upon \$20,000 match from Orangeville Borough
4. \$112,000 to Catawissa Borough for sewage treatment upgrades/repairs contingent upon a \$112,000 match from the Borough
5. \$200,000 to Orange Township for a new wastewater treatment plant contingent upon a \$200,000 match from the township.
6. \$15,000 to the Millville Little League for improvements
7. \$9,360 to Columbia Montour SWAT for Communication Equipment.

Matt Hess provided an update on the ribbon cutting of the West Street Church and that DCED recommended an extension to September which does require Commissioner sign off. Penn State then discussed Extension Day in the County which is scheduled on May 12<sup>th</sup> at Sawmill in the large Conference room. They were hoping to have County Department Heads also attend the meeting. Penn State then introduced the new horticulture individual, she provided a brief update of what is going on in the County then Suann Leighow from the Master Gardner spoke about ticks and the new deer tick virus. The Historical Society then presented their current situation that is requiring them to move to a new location. They reviewed their history and their need to expand. The Commissioners then said instead of using American Rescue Funds this fits more into the Historic Preservation which allows Visitors Bureau funds to be utilized. Bob Christianson then discussed that the Sewer Project is moving forward and that they will be finalizing the Penn Vest application. Geralee from SEDA-COG then discussed item C on the agenda which is the \$2.3 million in engineering for the levee control system. Jennie reviewed bill s and cash, Marcie reviewed all personnel moves the rest of the agenda was reviewed. Salary and the Retirement Board was reviewed and then the meeting was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Magistrates – March Report:

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	369	\$8,763.34
Bloomsburg	595	\$11,776.52
Catawissa	517	\$7,634.97
Millville	233	\$3,432.96

Prothonotary:

Clerk of Orphans Courts – March Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$17,280.95  
Total business all sources was \$26,739.21

Clerk of Courts – March Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$40,751.56

Total business all sources was \$100,059.50

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approve the recommendations of American Rescue funds as presented below:

- Recommendation #1 - \$2,070,987.66 be transferred into the County's General Fund from the ARP for lost Revenue

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

- Recommendation #2 - \$100,000 to the Scott Township for playground upgrades contingent upon a \$50,000 match from Scott Township.

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- Recommendation #3 - \$60,000 to Orangeville Borough for sewer and water system upgrades contingent upon a \$20,000 match from Orangeville Borough

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- Recommendation #4 - \$112,000 to the Catawissa Borough for sewage treatment upgrades/repairs contingent upon a \$112,000 match from Catawissa Borough

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- Recommendation #5 - \$200,000 to Orange Township for purchase and installation of new wastewater treatment plant and/or decommission /disposal of the existing wastewater treatment plant contingent upon a \$200,000 from Orange Township.

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

- Recommendation #6 - \$15,000 to the Millville Little League for drainage installation and field improvements.

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- Recommendation #7 - \$9,360 to the Columbia Montour SWAT Team to purchase communication equipment.

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

B. Approve the Redevelopment Authority to request an extension by DCED for the West Street Church Project

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

C. Discussion with Penn State Extension

D. Discussion regarding the Columbia County Historical and Genealogical Society with Rachael Shaffer

E. Approve to apply for the Federal Funding Appropriations for the engineering of levee control systems in the amount of \$2.3 million for the flood control projects in Columbia County

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

F. Approve Peters Consultants Inc. to perform Columbia County annual Dam Inspections from 2023-2025 at a fee of \$2,200.00 per year

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach; all approved

G. Approve the LEPC committee recommendation of Christopher Anderson (Columbia County EMA) and Thomas Derby (Health-Medical/EMS) to the LEPC Board

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

H. Approve the exoneration of cost and interest, mobile home that was moved with no permit  
Parcel # 31-02-028-00,118 \$45.00

Approve the exoneration of cost and interest, mobile home that was a lease hold trailer which was sold or razed pursuant to ACT-156

Parcel # 25-02-029-01,172 \$4,399.25

Motion by Young and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

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

- Ed Berlin, Park Laborer, Parks, Seasonal Hire, 4/25/22
- Jerry Moyer, Park Laborer, Parks, Seasonal re-Hire, 4/25/22
- Lauryn Dalrymple, HR Asst, Jail, Promotion, 4/18/22
- Tom Reichenbach, Laborer, Maintenance, re-Hire, 4/25/22
- Zebediah Sellers, Corrections Officer, Jail, Hire, 5/4/22
- Jake Thompson, Corrections Officer, Jail, Hire, 5/4/22
- Pacey Howard, Corrections Officer, Jail, Hire, 5/4/22
- Patrick Rooney, Corrections Officer, Jail, Promotion to FT, 4/17/22
- Riley Balmoos, Corrections Officer, Jail, Promotion to FT, 4/17/22

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach; all approved

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

- None

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

- Tiffany Smith, Probation Officer, AP, Resignation, 4/29/22
- Mark Hine, Corrections Officer, Jail, Resignation, 4/22/22
- Christopher Stock, Corrections Officer, Jail, Termination, 4/8/22
- Bryan Davenport, Corrections Officer, Jail, Resignation, 4/26/22

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

CORRESPONDENCE:

- PennDOT notified the Commissioners that Eric High has taken over as the District 3 executive the area of Columbia County.
- Larson Design Group sent the Commissioners of a notification of request for Water obstruction Permit for a Bridge replacement project on T-396 over the East Branch of Chillisquaque Creek in Montour County Bridge number 12 in Derry Township.
- Cozen O'Conner sent the Commissioners information regarding the Application of Veolia Water Pennsylvania, Inc. for approval of the acquisition of real estate in the Borough of Selinsgrove.
- Jeff Eggleston sent the Commissioners a letter asking them to request appropriate funding for the mental health system that the state funds.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

- Approve bills from 4/15/2022 for \$1,116,704.01

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- Approve the American Paper bill from 4/15/2022 for \$3,041.12

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

AJOURN:

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

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