

June 18, 2020

The Columbia County Commissioners met on the above date at 2:00 PM in the Commissioners' Conference Room at 700 Sawmill Small Conference Room for a Commissioners meeting handling the transaction of routine business. In attendance were Commissioners Young, Ridgway, Kovach (via phone), Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Marcie Strachko, Treasurer Creveling, Harry Mathias, and Michelle Frey. All other attendees were online via zoom they are as follows Jean Lapinski, Eric Boughner, Sandy Winhofer, Steve Savage, Jen Long, Don Coleman, and Dan Knorr.

A motion was made by Young and seconded by Ridgway 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 700 Sawmill Small Conference Room for the transaction of routine business. In attendance were Commissioners Young, Ridgway, Kovach (via phone), Chief Clerk Witchey, Marcie Strachko, Michelle Frey, Mike Lester, and Harry Mathias. All other attendees were online via zoom they are as follows Gale Zalar, Eric Stahley, Jen Long, Dan Knorr, Jean Lapinski, Fred Gaffney, and Eric Boughner. Harry reviewed the COVID-19 Cares funding that allows for expenses to be reimbursed that are associated with the pandemic. He read the legislation 131-C and highlighted the 7 areas that qualify for this funding. He also detailed some of the agencies he will be working with on how these funds will be distributed to the community. Harry also reviewed his proposal regarding the administration fee he will receive from this program. He will be taking ½% administration fee from the funds, in the guidance you are allowed 2% or 200K whatever is less. Fred Gaffney spoke about the CSO needs assessment that is currently being performed should provide some additional information on where the funds can be allocated. The Commissioners then discussed the issues surrounding the fact that DCED is handling the funds, and the potential issues that are in the agreement with them. Mike Lester then asked questions regarding is there a cap for small business and what qualifies a small business. Harry stated that small business can recover costs associated with COVID-19 and that small business are defined as having 100 employees or less. Harry also stated that schools and nursing homes do not qualify for these funds. There also was a discussion regarding broadband in rural communities and the issues that it presents not only for students but also small business that are unable to receive it. Gail Zalar discussed the resolution for PHFA which is a grant for rent only for individuals that have experienced a job loss or a loss of income from COVID-19. Jean reviewed bills and current cash position. Treasurer Creveling updated the Commissioners regarding Pirian Sivukumar. The agenda was then reviewed and meeting was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Prothonotary: April Report:

Clerk of Orphans Courts – May Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$8,229.80

Total business all sources was \$16,106.80

Clerk of Courts – May Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$39,083.51

Total business all sources was \$91,785.46

Magistrates - May Report

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	161	\$7,233.60
Bloomsburg	122	\$11,893.41
Catawissa	138	\$7,818.29
Millville	141	\$5,950.23

Sheriff – May Report:

Revenue:

Interest:	\$33.55
Civil:	\$2,614.00
Lic To Carry	\$2,926.00
Lic to Sell Firearms	\$57.00
Lic to Sell Precious Metals	\$0.00
Personal Prop	\$0.00
Real Estate	\$11,446.75
Warrant	\$324.54
Total	\$6,852.88

Courthouse: Total Visitors: 2,309
Total Alarms: 1,692
Confiscated Weapons: 0

Annex: Total Visitors: 1,496
Total Alarms: 1,318
Confiscated Weapons: 0

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Update on Covid-19

B. Update on the Landfill Project

C. Approve the Resolution COVID-19 Cares funding of \$5.86 million

D. Approve the proposal from Harry Mathais to Be the Columbia County's Care Funding Administrator

Motion made by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

E. Approve the opening of the prison camera bids

Motion made by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

F. Approve the renewal of Magistrate Brewer's 5 year lease with Dean Girton in the amount of \$2,058 per month

Motion made by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

G. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest for the following lease hold trailer which was sold or razed pursuant to ACT 156 – Abandoned mobile Home

- Parcel# 25-02-029-01,100 \$289.72
- Parcel# 25-02-029-01,182 \$2,919.54
- Parcel# 25-02-029-01,197 \$972.60

Parcel are campers that were moved with no permit

- Parcel# 27-03-005-01,099 \$66.32
- Parcel# 27-03-005-01,103 \$299.01

Parcel is a camper damaged in 2018 flood

- Parcel# 32-07-023-00,055 \$92.96

Motion made by Young and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

H. Approve the Resolution for PHFA for \$237,000 with the possibility of up to \$710,000 for households experiencing job loss or substantial loss of income as a result of COVID-19 health crisis.

Motion made by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

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

- David Good, Field Assessor, Assessment, Part-time Hire, 7/6/2020
- Deb Alexander, FT Sr. II Telecommunicator, ECEN, 7/12/2020
- Michael Domanski, FT Sr. III Telecommunicator, ECEN, 7/12/2020
- Michelle Mordan, FT Sr. III Telecommunicator, ECEN, 7/12/2020
- Tracy Francioni, FT Sr. III Telecommunicator, ECEN, 7/12/2020

Motion made by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

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

- Barbara Warunek, Programs Director, Courts, Step Inc, 7/1/2020
- Marina Van Sickle, Office Manager, DA, Step Inc, 7/1/2019
- Antonia Brennan, Conference Officer, DRO, Step Inc, 7/8/2020

Motion made by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

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

- Deb Welliver, Conference Officer, DRO, Retirement, 8/17/2020 (started on 4/3/00)
- Christa Seedor, Jury Commissioner, Courts, Position Eliminated, 6/1/2020

Motion made by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Diamondback Signal sent notification to the Commissioners that they applied for approval to PADOT to alter 4 public at grade crossings in Bloomsburg at Market, East, Locust, and Park Streets.
- Williams Transco sent information that they submitted for Air Permit for GP-5 Authorization for Compressor Station 610 located in Orange Township in Columbia County.
- Commissioners received Act 14 notification from Lanny Fetterman for a single residence treatment system.
- The PA Public Utility Commission notified of an application of FirstLight Fiber for approval of a Fiber optics wire line at crossing where Iron Street crosses at SEDACOG Joint Rail Authority operated by North Shore Railroad located in Bloomsburg Borough, Columbia County.
- Bloomsburg Town submitted a NPDES general permit for earth disturbances for two little league baseball fields and new parking lot, sidewalk/pedestrian areas.
- US District Court of Southern New York notified of Chapter 11 filed by Windstream Holdings, Inc
- Frontier notified the Commissioners that they have transitioned into Chapter 11 in the US Bankruptcy Court

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Request to pay bills for period of June 12th totaling \$1,312,250.48

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

Request to pay American Paper for the period of June 12th totaling \$1,391.95

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; abstain by Ridgway; motion passes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Dan Knorr Provided an update regarding the plan Bloomsburg University. The date they are scheduled to come back is August 17th and the end of the semester scheduled to end prior to Thanksgiving. The University has a Task Force that is working with Geisinger regarding testing and tracing at the university for the 8,000 students.

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. Withey, Chief Clerk