

June 18, 2026

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 Karschner, Kovach, Solicitor Marinos, David Withey, Michelle Frye, Jean Lapinski, Angie Kemberling, Marcie Strachko, Chris Anderson, Ell Adams, and MJ Mahon. Via Zoom: Karla Alexander, Denise LaBuda and Jeremy Brown.

Commissioner Karschner 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 and seconded by Karschner; all approved

Commissioner Karschner called for a report of the work session: In attendance was Commissioners Karschner, Kovach, Solicitor Marinos, David Withey, Michelle Frye, MJ Mahon, Betsy Rubio, Jean Lapinski, Ethan Howard, Marcie Strachko, and Chris Anderson. Via Zoom: Tim Murphy, April Miller, Tom Frace, Ell Adams, and Jeremy Brown. The work session started with Betsy and Beth explaining their two items on the agenda, after which Ethan explained all the programs and scheduled meetings that Penn State is currently and going to do in the near future. The remaining agenda was reviewed along with all personnel moves; Jean then provided the Commissioners updates on both available cash and bills. After which the work session as adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Magistrates Reports – May Report:

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	291	\$ 6,216.20
Bloomsburg	395	\$10,099.73
Catawissa	546	\$ 9,07444
Millville	515	\$ 6,157.14

Sheriff Screener – May Report:

Courthouse:		
Visitors		6,893
Alarms		2,497
Weapons:	Guns	0
	Knives	18
	Misc	19
Annex:		
Visitors		4,938
Alarms		2,695
Weapons:	Guns	3
	Knives	23
	Misc	3

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Proclamation for Amateur Radio Week – June 22 – 29, 2026

B. Penn State Extension Report from Ethan Howard

C. Approve the advertisement for bids for the Bell Tower Improvement Project

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

D. Approve Betsy Rubio as the 504 Officer for the County

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

E. Approve Elizabeth Burke as Fair Housing Officer for the County

Motion by Karchner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

F. Approve the Parking License Agreement with Rosemont Cemetery Co. pending their approval at their next meeting

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

G. Approve resolution 7-2026 for acquisition of real estate for the flood mitigation and flood control project, pending the County Solicitor approval

Motion by Karchner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

H. Approve KLT Appraisers as the for their appraisals for the West End Mitigation Project

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

I. Approve two (2) bills from Larson Design to be paid by the Columbia Montour Visitors Bureau for the Columbia County Bell Support in the amounts of:

- Invoice # 144881           \$9,815.00
- Invoice #145600         \$6,567.36

Motion by Karchner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

J. Approve the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement (CRISI) grant, submitted by SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority.

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

K. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest for the following tax parcels:

- Parcel# 22-01-007031,58         \$722.68

Motion by Karchner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

L. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING HIRES, STEP INCREASES, and PROMOTIONS:

- Casey Cooper, CW 2, CYS, two (2) year step, 6/5/26
- Tylar Coulter, CW1, CYS, promotion to CW2, 6/2/26
- Tobi Garrity, CW1, CYS, promotion to CW2, 6/2/26

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

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

- Ryan Zarnich, Conference Officer, DRO, six (6) year step, 7/20/26

Motion by Karchner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

N. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, AND RETIREMENT

- Vincent Schultz, Help Desk, IT, Resignation, 2/27/26

Motion by Karchner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

CORRESPONDANCE:

- The Commissioners received notification from the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission about the PPL application for approval to alter the public crossing where Iron Street in Bloomsburg crosses at grade track of SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority
- The Commissioners received notification from the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission about they are performing final inspections of eight different local roadways that cross tracks of SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority, with three that are located in Columbia County
- The Commissioners received notification of a water obstruction permit for John Heary with the project location being 909 Central Road, Benton. Project is for a gabion wall for streambank stabilization.

BILLS:

- Approve the bills for 6/19/26 totaling for \$868,906.25

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Ell Adams asked about the last three meetings minutes are not posted.

AJOURN:

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

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
David J. Withey