

July 7, 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, Michele Frye, John Manetta, Tom Austin, and Nancy Manetta. Via zoom: Alex Karpinski, Eric Boughner, Jean Lapinski, Gina Fiegles-Kaar, Jen Long, and Don Coleman.

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, Ridgway, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Marcie Strachko, Bob Christianson, Treasurer Creveling, Eric Stahley, Dean Brewer, Sheriff Chamberlain, Teri Provost, Geralee Ziegler, Michelle Frye, Tara Mondock, Ethan Howard, Suann Leighow, and MJ Mahon. Via Zoom were the following individuals: April Miller, Alex Karpinski, Don Coleman, Jen Long, April Miller, Jean Lapinski, and Fred Gaffney. Commissioner Young called the work session to order and asked Tara from Penn State to start the discussion. Tara introduced Ethan Howard, Columbia County's new Client Relationship Manager. Ethan provided both his professional and personal background and then turned it over to Suann. She discussed what is currently going on at Penn State which included gardening, watershed, and then discussed the spotted lantern fly. Tara then discussed Penn State's annual report. Geralee then discussed agenda item C which is approving the allocation of the remaining Pa Small Water and Sewer & Keystone Communities Program for Resiliency in Benton Borough. Bob Christianson then spoke regarding South Centre's water project which was just approved, he then stated that on July 20<sup>th</sup> Penn Vest will make their decision on how much funding they will provide South Centre regarding their sewer project. The Treasurer then requested that the Commissioners revisit her open position in her office and that she would like the position to be considered. After a brief discussion the rest of the agenda was reviewed and then both the Salary and Retirement Board agenda were reviewed and the work session was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Treasurer – June Report  
\$2,229.00 County Commission

Register & Recorder – June Report:  
\$31,198.34 was collected and remitted to the County  
\$1,923.00 was collected in Recorder Improvement Fund  
\$1,282.00 was collected in County Improvement Fund  
\$8,464.67 was collected in Affordable Housing Fund  
\$1,994.78 was collected in Remote Access Fee

Sheriff Screeners – June Report

Courthouse:	
Visitors	6,267
Alarms	2,844
Weapons:	
Guns	13
Knives	47
Misc	12
Annex:	
Visitors	4,293
Alarms	1,461
Weapons:	
Guns	5
Knives	80
Misc	16

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Proclamation for John P. Manetta Sr. Hall of Fame Recipient
- B. Discussion with Penn State and the introduction of Ethan Howard the new Client Relationship Manager for Extension
- C. Approve the allocation of the remaining PA Small Water and Sewer and Keystone Communities Program funding to create and administer a non-structural flood mitigation program to promote resiliency in the Benton area, with the caveat that these funds must be expended no later than June 30, 2023.

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

- D. Approve the letter of support for Catawissa Township's request to the State to reconstruct McIntyre Road which sees heavy traffic due to the "three points" intersection of where SR42 and SR 487 meet.

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- E. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest the parcels are lease hold mobile homes that was moved or razed with no permit

Parcel# 15-18-007-00,030	\$7,615.44
Parcel# 04A-03-115-00,036	\$82.48

Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest the parcel listed is a camper that was moved out of the campground with no permit

Parcel# 32-07-023-00,111	\$184.96
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Motion by Young and seconded by Ridgeway; all approved

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

- Cameryn Evans, CO, Jail, Promotion to FT, 5/23/22
- Zachary Kazcurkin-Quiggle, CO, Jail, Promotion to FT, 4/17/22
- Lynn Reed, Promotion, Jail, Sergeant, 5/31/22
- Payton Aucker, Promotion, Jail, Sergeant, 6/6/22
- Hannah Anderson, FT CO, Jail, Hire, 6/24/22
- Alex Karpinski, Deputy, ECEN, 6 month step increase, 7/6/22
- Kristin Wright, Telecommunicator Trainee, ECEN, Hire, 7/11/22
- Blake Keefer, CO, Jail, 1 yr step increase, 7/4/22
- Nicholas Snyder, CO, Jail, 1 yr step increase, 7/4/22
- Evan Cochran, CO, Jail, 1 yr step increase, 7/4/22
- Blake Hartzel, CO, Jail, 1 yr step increase, 7/4/22
- Joseph Meyers, CO, Jail, 1 yr step increase, 7/4/22
- Blake Delia, CO, Jail, 1 yr step increase, 7/4/22
- Keith Wittig, CO, Jail, 1 yr step increase, 7/4/22
- Brandy Walton, CO, Jail, 6 yr step increase, 7/17/22
- Connie Barker, CO, Jail, 25 yr step increase, 7/08/22
- Sara Steich, Casework Aide, CYS, 6 month step increase, 6/6/22
- Roxanne Beers, Caseworker 1, CYS, 6 month step increase, 7/3/22
- Dawn Hess, Clerk, CYS, 6 month step increase, 6/27/22

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

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

- Brooke Sudol, Conference Officer, DRO, One year Step increase, 6/7/22
- Sarah Gembic, Court Reporter, Courts, six month step increase, 7/3/22
- Brian Barrett, Officer, Adult Probation, Hire, 7/11/22

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

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

- Kathleen Harvey, Judicial Secretary, DMJ Bloomsburg, Resignation, 7/1/22
- Zebedian Sellers, CO, Jail, Resignation, 7/9/22
- Ikenna Odimebgo, CO, Jail, Resignation, 7/1/22
- Pacey Howard, CO, Jail, Resignation, 7/1/22
- Alicia Lewis, Secretary, AP, Resignation, 7/15/22

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The Columbia Montour Coalition for Source Water Protection sent a request for permission to utilize Briar Creek Lake September 14, 2022.
- The Hemlock Municipal Sewer Cooperative notified the Commissioners that they are filing an application for their Act 14 NPDES Permit.
- The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation notified the Commissioners of their response regarding a request made by Sue Shafner regarding a drainage of an 18 inch cross pipe on SR 487 at Segment 530 near Zion Church Road. It was determined that there is no erosion at the cross pipe therefore does not require rock replacement.
- The Columbia County Conservation District notified the Commissioners of six different Water Obstruction Permits They are as follows:
  - Growing Greener 2548 –Hartzel Stream Project
  - Karns Road Streambank Stabilization
  - Rodriguez/Knopp Streambank Stabilization #1
  - Rodriguez/Knopp Streambank Stabilization #2
  - Barton Hough Streambank Stabilization
  - Bloomsburg Skeet Club Streambank Stabilization

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

- Approve bills from 6/24/2022 & 7/8/2022 for \$494,393.19 and \$738,567.58

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- Approve the American Paper bill from 6/24/2022 & 7/8/2022 for \$4,223.36 & 1,945.66

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

AJOURN:

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

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