

July 16, 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, 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 Mike Lester, Jeremy Brown, Eric Boughner, and Jen Long.

A motion was made by Kovach 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, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Register & Recorder Lupini, Marcie Strachko, Michelle Frey, Harry Mathias and Eric Boughner. All other attendees were online via zoom they are as follows Jeremy Brown, Mike Lester, Jen Long, Tami Kline, Wade Mays, Weston Brehm and Don Coleman. Harry Mathias provided the Commissioners his report regarding the first round of distribution of the Cares Funding. The first recommendation was for Community Strategies Group to receive \$160,000. This would allow CSO to install home accommodations to keep residents in their homes to prevent them to moving to care facilities. Recommendation two is to authorize DRIVE to proceed with the RFP for the installation of the County-Wide Broadband not to exceed \$800,000. Recommendation three is to approve \$3,000,000 for small business and tourism. Recommendation #4 is in the amount of \$300,000 for non-profit agencies and will administered by Central Susquehanna Community Foundation. Harry then reviewed the process of how to apply and some of the qualifications of those grants. After these four recommendations it leaves the County with about \$1,500,000 left to distribute. Marcie then reviewed personnel moves, Chief Clerk Witchey reviewed bills and available cash. Wade updated the Commissioners on the County Landfill Project change orders regarding CS1 & CS2 collection sites, and the trenching around the landfill. The new estimate for the landfill is around \$1,500,000 to \$1,600,000.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Prothonotary:

Clerk of Orphans Courts – June Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$12,701.81

Total business all sources was \$19,949.87

Clerk of Courts – June Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$51,069.58

Total business all sources was \$127,636.97

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Update on Covid-19

B. Update on the Landfill Project

C. Approve COVID-19 Cares Funding recommendations as presented:

- i. Approve \$160,000 for home accommodations to keep residents in their homes to prevent them moving to long term care facilities.
- ii. Approve \$800,000 to proceed with the RFP and installation for a county wide broadband project
- iii. Approve \$3,000,000 to provide qualifying small business/tourism a grant equal to 5 months business fixed costs
- iv. Approve \$300,000 grant to be distributed to non-profit organization located in and serving Columbia County residents

Motion made by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

D. Approve the Memorandum of understanding between Columbia County and the Central Susquehanna Community Foundation for the use of their financial software for managing the application approval and distribution of the Cares Funding in the amount of \$20,000

Motion made by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

- E. Approve Columbia County's cancellation of participation in the 2020 SSES Federal Exercise Evaluation due to the COVID-19 pandemic

Motion made by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- F. Approve the resolution approving the amended and restated articles for DRIVE due to the addition of Snyder, Union, and Northumberland Counties

Motion made by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

- G. Approve Fair Housing Resolution and Lori Gordner as the Fair Housing Officer for Columbia County

Motion made by Young and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- H. Approve Weston Brehm as the Section 504 Officer for Columbia County, which includes the 504 Grievance Procedure.

Motion made by Kovach and seconded by Young; all approved

- I. Approve Jean Lapinski as a recommended member to the LEPC

Motion made by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

- J. Approve round 3 of the EDECI funds for the following projects (dollar amounts are not to exceed figures):

- Main Township – Cole's Creek Cleanup \$5,500
- Town of Bloomsburg – Boone's Dam Cleanup \$6,500
- Montour Township – Tower Drive Streambank \$74,291
- Montour Township – Valley Road & Quarry Drive \$80,000
- Sugarloaf Township – Sandbar removal \$30,000

Motion made by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- K. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING HIRES/STEP INCREASES/PROMOTIONS:

- Nicholas Snyder, PT CO <30, Prison, Hire, 7/27/2020
- Jerry Harner, PT CO <30, Prison, Hire, 7/27/2020
- Brett Ososkie, PT CO <30, Prison, Hire, 7/27/2020
- Janelle Ackerman, Inmate Programs Coordinator, Jail, Promotion, 7/12/2020

Motion made by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

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

- Amber Kocher-Stackhouse, Jud. Secretary, DMJ Millville, 6 month step, 7/3/2020
- Nadine Valiquette, Jud. Secretary, DMJ Bloomsburg, 6 month step, 8/3/2020

Motion made by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

- M. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS/RETIREMENTS:

- Ricky Brown, CO, Prison, Retirement, 7/10/2020
- Michael Rhone, PT CO, Prison, Resignation, 7/7/2020
- Drew Lerch, PT CO, Prison, Resignation, 7/5/2020
- Joseph Folk, PT CO, Prison, Resignation, 7/5/2020

Motion made by Young and seconded by Kovach; all approved

CORRESPONDENCE:

- McTish Kunkel notified the Commissioners that the Town of Bloomsburg is applying for permit for mass grading for Little League baseball fields and construction of new pervious parking lot and sidewalk.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Request to pay bills for period of June 26th totaling \$1,163,416.22

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

Request to pay American Paper for the period of June 26th totaling \$606.30

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Ridgway to proceed into Executive Session to discuss the Opioid and Trump Lawsuits.

Motion by Kovach seconded by Ridgway to move out of Executive Session

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

Attest: _____
David J. Witchey, Chief Clerk