

July 20, 2023

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 Ridgway, Young, and Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Michele Frye, Jean Lapinski, and Marcie Strachko. Via zoom were the following individuals April Miller, MJ Mahon, Jodi Cook, Don Coleman, and Jennifer Long.

Commissioner Ridgway 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 Young, seconded by Kovach; all approved.

Commissioner Ridgway then called for a report of the work session: There was a 10:00 work session held. In attendance were Commissioners. Ridgway, Young, and Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, Chief Clerk Witchey, Michele Frye, MJ Mahon, Marcie Strachko, Eric Stahley, Randy Karshner, Barbara Gorrell, and Patricia Deleo. Via zoom were the following individuals April Miller, Don Coleman, Jen Long, Sheriff Chamberlain, Geralee Ziegler, and Judy Richardson. Commissioner Ridgway asked CMSU to start the meeting by discussing how they intend to utilize the opioid settlement money that the County is going for forward to them. Patricia stated the funding would be used for program expansion which includes following the patient through the entire process. She also indicated that they were going to lose some grant money which was 500k but that would not affect the service provided to Columbia County residents. The extra funds would go towards more comprehensive services which also would include a Certified Recovery Specialist. Geralee from SEDA-COG also provided an update on the Benton Elevation and M&E Program, she confirmed to date that there are 25 application for elevation of machinery and equipment and 15 elevation certificates requested. She also indicated that if more applications come in we could do a 3<sup>rd</sup> round for consideration. Commissioner Young then discussed the Benton Foundry Metal Caster of Year Award and stated that the Foundry is a “gem” of the area, Commissioner Kovach then stated that there are 1,725 plants in the US and they employ over 490,000 employees and to receive such an award is very prestigious. Jean then reviewed cash and accounts payable and then the rest of the agenda was reviewed which included Marcie reviewing all personnel moves after which the work session was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Magistrates – June Report:

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	241	\$7,423.03
Bloomsburg	403	\$12,706.10
Catawissa	296	\$8,899.86
Millville	211	\$4,405.90

Prothonotary:

Clerk of Orphans Courts – June Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$18,756.52  
Total business all sources was \$24,419.35

Clerk of Courts – June Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$33,749.63  
Total business all sources was \$67,533.48

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Alyssa Wido, DRO, Promotion to Conference Officer, ~~7/7/23~~, 6/26/23

Commissioner Young approved; Commissioner Kovach seconded; all approved

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Acknowledgement Discussion regarding Benton Foundry’s “Metal Caster of the Year Award”

B. Approve the pass through of the two opioid payments of \$114,883.45 and \$172,238.06 to CMSU, any future payments will be approved year by year.

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

C. Approve an additional individual to the Benton Implementation – Elevation of M&E Program

Commissioner Young approved; Commissioner Kovach seconded; all approved

D. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest for lease hold campers and mobile homes that were moved or razed with no permit

- Parcel 07-09-072-00,217 \$4,075.00
- Parcel 06-01-015-00,181 \$9,185.95
- Parcel 06-01-015-00,160 \$124.95

Commissioner Kovach approved; Commissioner Young seconded; all approved

E. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING HIRES, STEP INCREASES, PROMOTIONS:

- Timothy Lutz, Grounds Foreman, Maintenance, Promotion, 7/24/23
- Donald Hilkert, Laborer/Mechanic, Maintenance, Promotion, 7/24/23
- Misty Chapman, Promotion to Fiscal Systems Specialist, Comm, 07/23/23

Commissioner Ridgway approved; Commissioner Kovach seconded; all approved

F. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING ELECTED OFFICIALS/COURT EMPLOYEES: HIRES, STEP INCREASES, PROMOTIONS:

- Brittani Shaffer, Secretary, DRO, Hire, 8/7/23
- Anthony McDonald, PT Asst DA, DA, Transfer from PD, 7/20/23
- David Adams, Records Clerk, Prothonotary, 2 yr step, 7/6/23
- Ryann Cymbala, Judicial Secretary, MDJ Catawissa, 10 yr step inc, 7/9/23

Commissioner Kovach approved; Commissioner Young seconded; all approved

G. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, RETIREMENTS:

- Hasan Abuomar, FT CO, Jail, Resignation, 7/14/23
- Wade Westley, FT CO, Jail, Resignation, 7/17/23
- Brenda Hess, 1<sup>st</sup> Asst, DA, Resignation, 7/18/23

Commissioner Kovach approved; Commissioner Young seconded; all approved

CORRESPONDANCE:

- The United States Bankruptcy Court of the Southern District of New York sent the Commissioners notification of Endo International is the Plaintiff vs the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
- Tetra Tech sent notification in regards to Williams Solar Holdco, LLC that is applicant for a solar farm in Orange Township which is going to be a 11.99-megawatt facility, on 48 acres.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

- Approve bills thru dated thru 7/21/23 for \$1,335,484.60

Motion by Young and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

- Approve American Paper bills for \$2,448.88

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach; 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