

November 4, 2021

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, Treasurer Creveling, Marcie Strachko, Michelle Frye, Jean Lapinski, Matt Hess, and Julye Wemple. Via Zoom: Don Coleman, Jen Long and Eric Stahley, and Eric Stahley.

Approval of the minutes of the past meeting

Motion by Kovach, seconded by Ridgway; all approved.

There was a 10:00 work session held. In attendance were Commissioners Young, Ridgway Kovach, Chief Clerk Witchey, Bob Christianson, Dale Sneiderman, Marcie Strachko, Jean Lapinski, Matt Hess, Michelle Frye, Eric Stahley, Ashley Mensch, and Julye Wemple. Via Zoom Jen Long, and Don Coleman. Young called the meeting to order and asked to start the meeting with the Proclamation for Parents as Teachers and then asked Ashley to speak a little about the Parents as Teachers program that the Family Center handles. She informed the Commissioners that they serve over 120 families within the Columbia and Montour Counties and specifically deal with families that have children from prenatal to kindergarten. Commissioner Young pointed out that the Family Center which handles this program has been recognized both by the state and nationally for their administration of the program. Matt Hess then spoke about the Blight Program within the County and informed the Commissioners of the second property identified for blight removal. He also spoke of the CDBG-CV application which they are going to request funds for transitional housing, the Columbia County Redevelopment Authority is working with the Gatehouse on this project and are looking for a 6,000 square foot facility that will have a 10-15 bedrooms that Gatehouse would manage. This is a competitive grant that is handled by DCED. Jen Long then provided a COVID-19 update and stated that the number of cases are flat but continue to run high. Commissioner Kovach invited everyone to the 4H Carnival that will be held on November 20th and will run from 3-8PM and is going to be at the industrial arts building at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds. Marcie then reviewed all of the hires/steps/promotions that are occurring within the County. Jean then reviewed cash and bills. After reviewing the agenda the meeting was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Register & Recorder – October Report:

- \$36,659.48 was collected and remitted to the County
- \$2,385.00 was collected in Recorder Improvement Fund
- \$1,590.00 was collected in County Improvement Fund
- \$10,604.10 was collected in Affordable Housing Fund
- \$2,286.77 was collected in Remote Access Fee

Treasurer - October Report:

Commissions \$1,706.00

Sheriff Revenue – October Report:

Interest:	\$56.51
Civil	\$3,605.00
Lic To Carry	\$2,793.00
Lic to Sell Firearms	\$57.00
Lic to Sell Precious Metals	\$0.00
Personal Prop	\$425.00
Real Estate	\$0.00
Transports	\$0.00
Warrant	\$974.00
Total	\$7,910.51

Magistrates – October Report:

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	215	\$4,499.87
Bloomsburg	591	\$11,850.60
Catawissa	303	\$4,624.92
Millville	209	\$4,145.03

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. COVID-19 update

B. Approve the opening of the bids for the Courthouse bathroom project

Motion by Kovach, seconded by Ridgway; all approved

C. Motion to table the lowest bidder of Bognet pending review by the County Engineer

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

D. Approve the letter to exonerate the taxes/interest/penalty for the property located at 6510 Second Street, Bloomsburg, PA 17815.

- Parcel # 12-03C-077-00,000 Cost \$5,498.88

Motion by Kovach, seconded by Young, opposed by Ridgway; motion passes

E. Approve the Columbia County Redevelopment Authority to submit a CDBG-CV application for transitional Housing and Shelter Facility barring any conflicts

Motion by Kovach, seconded by Ridgway; all approved

F. Approve the Proclamation for Pennsylvania Parents as Teachers

G. Approve Commissioner Kovach to the CCWMA for a five year term starting on 1/1/22 ending 12/31/26

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

H. Approve the motion to accept the Wyoming Valley Mitigation Grant in the amount of \$369,466.02 to be utilized for the engineering of phase 3 of the floodwall

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

I. Approve the Adult/Prole Grant in Aide in the amount of \$44,424.00 for the period 7/1/21 to 6/30/22.

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

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

- Bonnie Kreiser, RN, Jail, Hire, 11/8/21
- Sara Trump, LPN, Jail, Hire, 11/13/21
- Lottie Neiswender, LPN, Jail, Rehire, 10/26/21
- Lewis Bennett, PT CO<30, Jail, Hire, 11/9/21
- Justin Kern, PT CO<30, Jail, Hire, 11/9/21
- Jesse Derby, PT CO<30, Jail, Hire, 11/9/21
- Nicholas Straub, FT CO, Jail, Promotion, 11/7/21
- Krystal Leitzel, FT CO, Jail, Promotion, 11/7/21
- Darrell Hawk, FT CO, Jail, Promotion, 11/7/21
- Daniel Ramirez, FT CO, Jail, Promotion, 11/7/21
- Carlos Speedwell, FT CO, Jail, Promotion, 11/7/21
- Ismael Cenexant, FT CO, Jail, Promotion, 11/7/21
- Hugh Vastine, FT CO, Jail, Promotion, 10/17/21
- James Wright, FT CO, Jail, Step Increase, 8/28/21
- David Nevel, FT CO, Jail, Step Increase, 9/28/21
- Shawn Gates, Caseworker 1, CYS, Hire, 11/15/21
- Bessie Ashburn, FT Telecommunicator Active – Certified, ECEN, Promotion, 11/1/21

Motion by Young and seconded by Ridgway; all approved

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

- Kevin Katch, FT Sheriff Deputy, Sheriff, Promotion, 1/3/22
- Klæe Hunter, VW Coordinator, VW/DA, Promotion, 1/1/22

Motion by Young and seconded by Kovach; all approved

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

- Bridget Fruit, LPN, Jail, Resignation, 11/7/21
- Charles Miller, Laborer, Parks, Resignation, 11/4/21
- Sam Kranzel, Hearing Admin, Jail, Resignation, 11/5/21
- Ryan Rasmussen, PT CO, Jail, Termination, 10/5/21 (No Show)

Motion by Kovach, seconded by Ridgway; all approved

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Commissioners received notification from Arconic regarding Kawneer applying for a State Operating Permit Modification for their powder Coating Spray Booth Operation.
- The Department of Environmental Protection notified the Commissioners that the Continental Mine Operation located in Columbia County has a renewed mining permit that includes the Bond Review for 2021.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

- Approve bills from 10-29-21 totaling \$703,724.35

Motion by Ridgway and seconded by Kovach; all approved

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commissioner Ridgway brought up the lack of information provided by DRVIE regarding the Commissioners Broadband project. Since the Commissioners paid for 100% of the infrastructure and engineering of the project they want all information regarding the project.

AJOURN:

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

Attest: _____
David J. Witchev, Chief Clerk