

August 6, 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 Brewer, Karschner, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, David Witchey, Michelle Frye, Jean Lapinski, Misty Chapman, April Miller, and Leon Bogdan. Via Zoom: Stacy Knoebel, Kirsti Kritzer, G Malen, Denise LaBuda and Nate Eaches.

Commissioner Brewer 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 Brewer called for a report of the work session: In attendance was Commissioners Brewer, Karschner, Kovach, Solicitor McDonald, David Witchey, Marcie Strachko, Michelle Frye, Leon Bogdan, Dave Kurecian, Holly Johnston, Don Coleman, Jean Lapinski, Treasurer Creveling, April Miller, Misty Chapman, Shelly Crawford, and Bob Stout. Via Zoom: April Miller, Denise LaBuda, Jeremy Brown, and Kirsti Kritzer. The work session started with Bob Stout providing an update regarding Hoffman Park. He provided an update on the meeting and discussion that were held and that Penn Dot indicated that the only item that can be updated is the signage on the bridge that indicated no jumping or diving off the bridge and that fencing would cause other issues at the bridge. Bob also provided an update regarding on the quote he received for constables to monitor the park and the cost is \$100 an hour. Children & Youth then discussed their Needs Based Plan and Budget for 2027/2028. April Miller the C&Y Director provided an update on the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year and indicated that they exceeded their budget slightly. This was due to the ever-increasing cost associated with the placement for both C&Y and Juvenile Probation children. After some further discussion and question from the press the discussion was ended. The remaining part of the 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:

Sheriff Revenue – July Report

Interest:	\$ 926.85
Civil	\$ 4,447.00
Lic To Carry	\$ 3,230.00
Lic to Sell Firearms	\$ 0.00
Lic to Sell Precious Metals	\$ 50.00
Personal Prop	\$ 1,133.00
Real Estate	\$13,690.50
Transports	\$ 0.00
Warrant	\$ 1,822.68
Total	\$25,300.03

Register & Recorder – July Report:

Total remitted to the County was \$41,874.26
Total business all sources was \$9,968,171.40

Number of Deeds recorded for July was 195
Number of Mortgages recorded for July was 204

Treasurer – July Report:

County Commission \$2,762.00

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Public meeting for Columbia County’s Children & Youth Needs Based Plan and Budget for 2027/2028

B. Approve Hotel Tax Funds to pay the Larson Design bill #146875 for 6,300.00 for the Columbia County Bell Tower Project

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Brewer; all approved

C. Approve the contract with Spartan LTC to provide Psych services to the Prison, this will be an addendum to the existing medical services provided to the county

Motion by Karschner and seconded by Kovach; all approved

D. Approve the use of the Courthouse Plaza for the Bloomsburg Family Resource Network on September 12th for their starting line for a scavenger hunt.

Motion by Brewer and seconded by Kovach; all approved

E. Approve the support letter for the SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority for a Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement Grant for the North Shore Railroad Capital Asset Improvement Project in the amount of 13.1 million

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Brewer; all approved

F. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest for a lease hold trailer razed or moved with no permit:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| • Parcel# 07-03-033-07,142 | \$2,183.77 |
| • Parcel# 26-04-024-00,041 | \$ 599.00 |

Motion by Karschner and seconded by Brewer; all approved

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

- Ryan Gajkowski, FT CO, Jail, eight (8) year step, 11/13/2024
- Kyra Nevel, FT CO, Jail, two (2) year step, 9/17/25
- Caden Hagerman, FT CO, Jail, two (2) year step, 9/17/25
- Nikolas Breisch, Promotion to FT CO, Jail, 8/16/26
- Alyssa Farver, PT EMT, Jail, Hire, 8/17/26
- David Hernandez, Aide, CYS, six (6) month step, 6/15/26
- Cody Hess, Caseworker I, CYS, six (6) month step, 7/20/26
- Brittany Swilley, CYS Supervisor, two (2) year step, 7/1/26
- Angela Bastian-Witter, CYS Supervisor, six (6) month step, 6/15/26
- Kirsten Yoder, Caseworker I, CYS, six (6) month step, 7/20/26
- Corrinia Williams, Caseworker II, CYS, six (6) month step, 7/21/26
- Janae Bergey, Caseworker 1, CYS, Hire, 8/10/26
- George Shearer, Caseworker I, CYS, Hire, 8/31/26
- Steven Orlando, Tax Clerk, Tax, six (6) month step, 6/8/26
- Harry Masker, Laborer, Parks, Hire, 7/27/26
- Megan Moro, PT Asst PD, PD, Rehire, 8/10/26

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

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

- Bridget Taylor, Clerk, Treasurer, four (4) year step, 7/17/26
- Camden Scoggins, Probation Officer, Juvenile, Hire, 8/10/26
- Joshua Hartman, Deputy, Sheriff, Promoted to FT, 8/10/26

- Motion by Karschner and seconded by Brewer; all approved

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

- Jacob Short, FT CO, Jail, No show, 7/6/26
- Ed Berlin, Laborer, Parks, Resignation, 7/22/26
- Corrinia Williams, CW 2, CYS, Resignation, 8/7/26
- Morgan Mungo, Paralegal, PD, Resignation, 8/7/26
- Cindy Creveling, Elected Treasurer, Retirement, 1/8/27

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Brewer; all approved

CORRESPONDANCE:

- Penn Dot notified the Commissioners that reconstruction on route 80 will continue in Montour and Northumberland Counties
- UMH Properties Inc. provided notification that Brookside Village plans on renewing their NPDES Sewage Plant Renewal
- Post Brands notified the Commissioners that 2 more positions will be eliminated that were associated with their wet food production
- Salem Township notified the Commissioners that they are conducting a public hearing regarding their proposed Zoning Ordinance since the land owned by the Commissioners is within 200 ft. of the proposed change
- Benton Foundry notified the Commissioners that are going to renew their NPDES Permit
- Penn Dot notified the Commissioners that micro surfacing continues on route 487 & route 42 in Catawissa Township
- Penn Dot notified the Commissioners that micro surfacing continues on route 11 in Columbia County
- Commonwealth of PA PUC notified the Commissioners that there has been application to alter the public crossing where Tenny Street crosses at grade a single track of SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority located in Scott Township

BILLS:

- Approve the bills for 7/31/26 totaling for \$534,678.24

Motion by Kovach and seconded by Karschner; all approved

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

AJOURN:

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

Attest: _____
David J. Witchey