October 16, 2025

There was a Commissioners meeting at 2:00 PM in the Commissioners Conference Room at 700 Sawmill Road, Small Conference Room for the regularly scheduled Commissioners meeting. In attendance were Commissioners Brewer, Karschner, Kovach, Solicitor Marinos, Treasurer Creveling, David Witchey, Sandy Oros, John Oros, and Michelle Frey. Via Zoom were Denise LaBuda, MJ Mahon, Jeremy Reese, and Jenn Long.

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, seconded by Karschner; all approved.

Commissioner Brewer then called for a report of the work session: The work session report is as follows, at 10:00 AM there was a work session held. In attendance were Commissioners Brewer, Karschner, Kovach, Solicitor Marinos, David Witchey, Treasurer Creveling, Sheriff Chamberlain, Harold Wheeler, Brian Morris, MJ Mahon, Betsy Rubio, Beth Burke, Harold Wheeler, Damien Marlcen, Angela Grieco and Michelle Frye. Via zoom was April Miller, Tom Frace, Jodi Cook, Jeremy Brown, Jeannie Lapinski, and Kirsti Kritzer. Chairman Brewer asked Harold Wheeler to start the meeting and he was there to discuss the issues he felt surrounded the Apple Run project which is the expansion of the existing townhouses. Both Harold and Damien discussed the issues, but since Scott Township has their own planning the County only has review and comment on the project. The Commissioners stated that they should focus on attending the Scott Township's meetings to discuss their concerns. Brian Morris then discussed Wreath's Across America which is an annual event that they place wreaths on over 4,300graves at 5 cemeteries on December 13th. Their event starts at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds at 8:15 and proceeds then to cemeteries to place the wreaths. Angela from SEDA-COG discussed the schedule for the West-End floodwall project and the project cash flow. Betsy then discussed their 2025 CDBG application. After their discussion the rest of the agenda was reviewed. The Commissioner reviewed the hires steps and increases, then the available cash and bills. After which the work session was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Magistrates Reports – September Report:

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	219	$5,914.84
Bloomsburg	382	$10,839.28
Catawissa	401	$10,668.98
Millville	313	$8,003.85

Prothonotary:

Clerk of Orphans Courts – September Report:

Total remitted to the County was $21,713.12
Total business all sources was $29,940.31

Clerk of Courts – September Report:

Total remitted to the County was $45,190.04
Total business all sources was $92,545.60

Sheriff Revenue –September Report

Interest:	$ 2,484.06
Civil	$ 4,109.00
Lic To Carry	$ 3,154.00
Lic to Sell Firearms	$ 57.00
Lic to Sell Precious Metals	$ 0.00
Personal Prop	$ 1,148.00
Real Estate	$ 550.00
Transports	$ 0.00
Warrant	$ 1,518.00
Total	$13,020.06

Sheriff Screener – September Report:

Courthouse:	
Visitors	7,247

Alarms		3,003
Weapons:	Guns	4
	Knives	24
	Misc	21

Annex:		
Visitors		5,635
Alarms		1,761
Weapons:	Guns	4
	Knives	16
	Misc	2

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approve the CDBG 2025 Application for the following:
- Homeless Housing Rehab $104,873
- Blight $ 51,990
- Homes Liaison $ 31,100 (County Match $20K)
- CSG Senior Housing Security $ 20,000
- Administration $ 45,650

Motion by Commissioner Karschner; seconded by Commissioner Kovach; all approved

B. Approve the rebidding of debris removal for the three Columbia County bridges

Motion by Commissioner Kovach; seconded by Commissioner Brewer; all approved

C. Approve Ordinance 2025-3 for County to seek a $3,500,000 loan once DCED approves the funding

Motion by Commissioner Kovach; seconded by Commissioner Karschner; all approved

D. Approve the lowest bidder for the $3,500,000loan at 3.95% being Journey Bank

Motion by Commissioner Brewer; seconded by Commissioner Kovach; all approved

E. Approve the opening of Columbia County's external audit bids

Motion by Commissioner Karschner; seconded by Commissioner Kovach; all approved

F. Approve the lowest bidder for the external audit being Baker Tilley; Year 1 - $55,000; Year 2 - $57,200; Year 3 - $59,500

G. Approve the Settlement Agreement between the SEIU 668 for Joesph Rogutski and Columbia County and the Columbia County Prison in the amount of $30,000

Motion by Commissioner Karschner; seconded by Commissioner Brewer; all approved

H. Approve the DRIVE Board Appointment of Anthony Reed to a 3 year term beginning December 1, 2025

Motion by Commissioner Kovach; seconded by Commissioner Brewer; all approved

I. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING HIRES, STEP INCREASES, and PROMOTIONS:
- Michael Vezendy, PT CO, Jail, one (1) year step, 9/22/25
- Carly Scranton, Admin Asst, Planning, six (6) month step, 10/21/25

Motion by Commissioner Kovach; seconded by Commissioner Brewer; all approved

J. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING ELECTED OFFICIALS and COURT EMPLOYEE HIRES, STEP INCREASES, and PROMOTIONS:
- Tara Quinn-Hoffman, Secretary, AP, six (6) month step, 10/14/25

- Tara Quinn-Hoffman, Jury Clerk, Courts, transfer from AP, 11/3/25

Motion by Commissioner Karschner; seconded by Commissioner Kovach; all approved

K. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, AND RETIREMENTS:
   - Klae Hunter, VW/DA, Resignation, 11/14/25

Motion by Commissioner Kovach; seconded by Commissioner Brewer; all approved

CORRESPONDANCE:

- Post & Schell sent notification regarding PPL Utilities Corp notification of the line upgrade that I going to occur in Columbia County

BILLS:

Approve the bills dated 10/10/2025 in the amount of $260,896.70

Motion by Commissioner Kovach; seconded by Commissioner Karschner; all approved

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

AJOURN:

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner Karschner seconded by Commissioner Kovach. The motion passes

Attest: _____
David J. Witchey