November 20, 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, Jeremy Dillard, Misty Chapman, Prothonotary Stroup, Chris Anderson, Treasurer Creveling and Michelle Frey. Via Zoom were Solicitor Marinos, Jeannie Lapinski, Rachel Swartwood, MJ Mahon, Brenda Hess Williams, 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, Jeremy Dillard, Misty Chapman, Prothonotary Stroup, Chris Anderson, Treasurer Creveling and Michelle Frey. Via Zoom were Solicitor Marinos, Jeannie Lapinski, Rachel Swartwood, MJ Mahon, Brenda Hess Williams, and Jenn Long. Commissioner Brewer asked Ethan Howard from Penn State Extension to start off. He started by introducing their newest member, Sara Freidhof the Nutrition Advisor. Sara talked about her role and what she has completed since coming to Penn State. Ethan then talked about all the great things that Penn State has done recently. He discussed the 4-H carnival that happened over the weekend and how it was successful and he talked about the new tool that will be offered to the public once completed which will be an AI tool. Jeannie Lapinski discussed the proposed 2026 budget and the factors as to why the County taxes will need to be increased by 2 mils. There was a great discussion with Jill Carlson, Linda Artley and Sharon Abraczinski regarding the most recent election and how the county can make some changes to help with the voters being able to get their mail in ballots. There was a brief discussion about the resolution/agreement with SEDA COG. After their discussion the rest of the agenda was reviewed and the work session was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Magistrates Reports – October Report:

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	215	$5,881.65
Bloomsburg	346	$12,731.63
Catawissa	221	$7,821.72
Millville	302	$9,690.33

Prothonotary:

Clerk of Orphans Courts – October Report:

Total remitted to the County was $26,429.45
Total business all sources was $28,264.45

Clerk of Courts – October Report:

Total remitted to the County was $44,166.23
Total business all sources was $82,437.45

Sheriff Screener – October Report:

Courthouse:

Visitors		6,978
Alarms		3,231
Weapons:	Guns	2
	Knives	24
	Misc	21

Annex:

Visitors		5,639
Alarms		2,430
Weapons:	Guns	2
	Knives	28
	Misc	6

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approve the advertisement for the 2026 budget

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

B. Discussion with Jill Carlson regarding recent election and mail in ballots

C. Approve the master agreement with Teleosoft for the Prothonotary' s Office

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

D. Approve the resolution agreement with SEDA-COG pending Columbia County's solicitor approval

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

E. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest, parcels are lease hold trailers moved or razed with no permit

- 26-04-02400,037 $1,233.90
- 26-04-02400,046 $67.80
- 26-04-02400,048 $687.43

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

F. Approve the appointment of John Brokenshire to the Planning Board of Directors of Columbia County

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

G. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING HIRES, STEP INCREASES, and PROMOTIONS:
- Philip Beck, Clerk, CYS, fifteen (15) year step inc, 10/25/25

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

H. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING ELECTED OFFICIALS and COURT EMPLOYEE HIRES, STEP INCREASES, and PROMOTIONS:
- Dina Melito, transfer to Adult Probation, Secretary, 11/10/25

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

I. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING RESIGNATIONS, TERMINATIONS, AND RETIREMENTS:
- Gabrielle Brennan, LPN, Jail, Termination, 11/13/25

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

CORRESPONDANCE:
- Design Group – Notice of Change of Expected Termination Date

BILLS:

Approve the bills dated 11/21/2025 in the amount of $3,569,288.95

Motion by Commissioner Karschner; seconded by Commissioner Kovach; 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 Brewer. The motion passes

Attest: _____
Misty M. Chapman