

November 21, 2024

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, Michelle Frye, Marcie Strachko, Jean Lapinski, Dave Witchey, Treasurer Creveling, and Isabella Bridy. Via zoom were the following individuals Jennifer Long, Don Coleman, Jodi Cook, and Jeremy Brown.

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 Commissioner Karschner, seconded by Commissioner Kovach, all approved; motion passes.

Commissioner Brewer then called for a report of the work session: The report is as follows, at 10:00 there was a work session held. In attendance were Commissioners Brewer, Karschner, Kovach, Michelle Frye, Marcie Strachko, Jean Lapinski, Dave Witchey, Treasurer Creveling, Linda Hendricks, Ethan Howard, and Bob Christianson. Commissioner Brewer called the meeting to order and asked Commissioner Kovach to start the meeting, Kovach then read aloud a Proclamation for Linda Hendricks 45th year of working for the County. Linda then discussed everything that was going on with 4H for the last couple of months. Ethan then took over and discussed the remaining programs that Penn State offer which includes, Master Gardner, Animal Systems, Agronomy, and Food Families. Bob Christianson then provided updates on both the water and sewer projects within South Centre Township. He informed the Commissioners that the water project is complete, and the sewer project is moving forward with the biggest issue is how to deal with the wetland credits that were purchased and how the township sells them back. Commissioner Brewer then discussed adding the lifting of the County Wide Burn Ban for the County, Commissioner Kovach made the motion to add it to the agenda Commissioner Karschner seconded, all approved, so the item was added to the 2PM agenda. After this the rest of the agenda was reviewed and Marcie reviewed the hires/step increase and promotions for both the Commissioners and Elected Officials and Courts. Jeannie then reviewed bills and available cash. After which the work session was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Sheriff Screener – October Report

Courthouse:		
Visitors		7,498
Alarms		3,626
Weapons:	Guns	1
	Knives	27
	Misc	20
Annex:		
Visitors		7,853
Alarms		3,364
Weapons:	Guns	4
	Knives	64
	Misc	16

Prothonotary:

Clerk of Orphans Courts – October Report:
Total remitted to the County was \$20,789.33
Total business all sources was \$28,084.99

Clerk of Courts – October Report:
Total remitted to the County was \$42,650.10
Total business all sources was \$84,600.82

Magistrates’ Reports – October

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	192	\$6,483.59
Bloomsburg	451	\$11,504.82
Catawissa	241	\$7,728.91
Millville	199	\$5,316.48

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Proclamation for Linda Hendricks 45th year being a 4-H educator

B. Approve the advertisement of the 2025 County Budget

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

C. Approve the Advertising of the County 2025 TRAN in the amount of \$2,500,000

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

D. Approve the Resolution 6-2024 for the Columbia County Historical Society Local Share Grant to update both their sprinkler system and replacement of their existing roof in the amount of \$584,075

Commissioner Karschner made a motion, Commissioner Kovach seconded; all approved

E. Approve the 2025 Commissioner Meeting Dates

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

F. Approve the PPL Right of Way Easement in the amount of \$1,000

Commissioner Karschner made a motion, Commissioner Kovach seconded; all approved

G. Approve eliminating the County wide burn ban

Commissioner Kovach made a motion, Commissioner Brewer seconded; all approved

H. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest for campers that moved out of campground with no permit

• Parcel # 20-04-01703044	\$ 67.97
• Parcel # 32-07-02300069	\$2,732.28
• Parcel # 32-07-02300121	\$ 369.96
• Parcel # 32-07-02300114	\$ 45.00
• Parcel # 21-18-00617045	\$3,998.21
• Parcel # 26-04-02400047	\$ 75.00
• Parcel # 26-04-02400052	\$ 149.20
• Parcel # 26-04-02400031	\$ 414.58
• Parcel # 26-04-02400040	\$ 422.44
• Parcel # 26-04-00501150	\$ 123.43

Commissioner Karschner made a motion, Commissioner Brewer seconded; all approved

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

- Logan Karas, Tax Collector, Tax, Hire, 1/2/2025
- Kirsti Kritzer, Coordinator, ECEN/EMA, Promotion, 10/7/2024
- Jeremy Brown, Director, ECEN, Promotion, 10/7/2024
- Patricia Rogers, CW II, CYS, 6 month step inc, 10/8/2024
- Maverick Ferrara, FT CO, Jail, Hire, 12/9/2024
- Xiomaris Fontanez, FT CO, Jail, Hire, 12/9/2024
- Joselyn Matias, FT CO, Jail, Hire, 12/9/2024
- Trevor Mohr, FT CO, Jail, Hire, 12/9/2024
- Drake Richard, FT CO, Jail, Hire, 12/9/2024

Commissioner Kovach made a motion, Commissioner Brewer seconded; all approved

J. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING ELECTED OFFICIALS/COURT

EMPLOYEE/ HIRES/STEP INCREASES/PROMOTIONS:

- Leonard Branz, Drug & Alcohol Case Manager, AP, Hire, 11/25/2024
- Autumn Kubitsky, Legal Secretary, MDJ Berwick, 7 year step inc, 11/13/2024

Commissioner Karschner made a motion, Commissioner Kovach seconded; all approved

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

- Ed Berlin, Parks, Laborer, Seasonal Lay-off, 11/7/2024
- Jerry Moyer, Parks, Laborer, Seasonal Lay-off, 11/7/2024
- Patricia Rogers, CW II, CYS, Resignation, 11/22/2024
- Laurie Pickle, Asst PD - FT, PD, Resignation, 11/1/2024
- Franklin Kepner III, Asst PD – PT, Resignation, 12/21/2024
- Scarlet Santana, FT CO, Jail, Resignation, 11/9/2024
- Cameryn Evans, FT CO, Jail Resignation, 11/27/2024
- Kenneth Treon, PT CO, Jail, Resignation, 11/1/2024
- Elijah Hernandez, PT CO, Jail, Resignation, 11/27/2024

Commissioner Kovach made a motion, Commissioner Brewer seconded; all approved

CORRESPONDANCE:

- Veolia sent notification to the Commissioners that they are submitting application to DEP for their renewal application for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit.
- Markosky notified the Commissioners that they are submitting application to DEP for waterway obstruction and NPDES Permit for the replacement of a superstructure on SR 1020-006 over Pine Creek in Fishing Creek Township.
- SEDA-COG sent the Commissioners that Berwick Borough intends to submit FFY 2023 CDBG.
- Dewberry Engineers sent notification to the Commissioners that they intend to submit to DEP a Waterway Obstruction Permit for the replacement of the SR 239 bridge superstructure in along Fishing Creek in Benton Township.
- Clyde Bartholomew submitted to DEP an application for a Waterway Obstruction Permit for gravel bar removal, rip rap streambank stabilization at 1853 State Route 487 in Orangeville Pa.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Approve the bills dated 11/22/2024 in the amount of \$422,377.47

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

AJOURN:

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

Attest: _____
Marcie Strachko