December 19, 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, and Treasurer Creveling. Via zoom were the following individuals Jennifer Long, and MJ Mahon.

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 Kovach, seconded by Commissioner Karschner, 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, Jared Whitford, and Bob Christianson. Commissioner Brewer asked Jared to start the conversation and he indicated that the Visitors Bureau and BTE are going to collaborate and have some performances at the theater, he also said that both organizations would like the Commissioners to utilize $3,000 of their funds to help support this program. He stated that the first event will be Knoorwood a musical group would be playing at the theater. Commissioner Brewer asked Bob Christianson if there was any update with water and sewer in South Centre Township. He indicated that the water project done by Vieloa is close to being completed and that the sewer is still progressing and that they started the process of going door to door regarding the project. After that brief discussion 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. Jean then reviewed bills and available cash. After which the work session was adjourned.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Sheriff Screener – November Report:

Courthouse:

Visitors		5,966
Alarms		3,019
Weapons:	Guns	1
	Knives	18
	Misc	6

Annex:

Visitors		4,730
Alarms		2,253
Weapons:	Guns	1
	Knives	22
	Misc	13

Prothonotary:

Clerk of Orphans Courts – November Report:

Total remitted to the County was $18,223.27
Total business all sources was $25,104.25

Clerk of Courts – November Report:

Total remitted to the County was $33,031.68
Total business all sources was $84,099.19

Magistrates' Reports – November Report:

	Cases	Collected
Berwick	236	$4,487.61
Bloomsburg	437	$10,227.67
Catawissa	297	$5,231.33
Millville	253	$4,319.29

OLD BUSINESS: None

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approve the use of $3,000 Hotel Tax Funds to support a collaboration between BTE and the Visitors Bureau

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

B. Approve the opening of the County's 2025 TRAN bids

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

C. Approve First Keystone's proposal for the 2025 TRAN

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

D. Approve the County's 2025 Budget which was presented on the Commissioners agenda on November 21st

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

E. Approve the Savin Maintenance Agreement between the District Attorney's Institute and Columbia County for January 1, 2025 to December 31st, 2025.

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

F. Approve the reappointment of Josh Marks and Ray Tucker, and approve Winston Jarrard to fill the vacant local government representative to the Columbia County Farmland Preservation Board

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

G. Approve Ronnie Rhoads to serve as Chairman of the Farmland Preservation Board for 2025

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

H. Approve the exoneration of tax/cost/interest for campers that moved out of campground with no permit
- Parcel # 21-19-00902270 $ 63.64
- Parcel # 21-19-00902300 $ 75.00

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

I. APPROVE THE FOLLOWING HIRES, STEP INCREASES and/or PROMOTIONS:
- Casey Cooper, Caseworker 2, CYS, Step Increase, 12/5/24
- Jordyn Arnold, Caseworker 1, CYS, Promotion to CW 2, 12/11/24
- Mike Domanski, Sr. Telecommunicator, ECEN, Promotion to Shift Lead, 12/22/24
- Tracey Franconi, Sr. Telecommunicator, ECEN, Promotion to Shift Lead, 12/22/24
- Phil Yoder, Sr. Telecommunicator, ECEN, Promotion to Shift Lead, 12/22/24
- Matthew Yackiel, Telecommunicator Trainee, ECEN, Hire, 12/29/24
- Elyse Goodbred, FT CO, Jail, six (6) month step increase, 10/15/24

J. APPROVE THE DATES OF THE FOLLOWING ELECTED OFFICIALS and COURT EMPLOYEE for their HIRES, STEP INCREASES and/or PROMOTIONS:
- James Dalton, sheriff Deputy, Sheriff, four (4) year step increase, 12/14/24
- Haley Traugh, Reception Clerk, DA, six (6) month step increase, 12/24/24
- Laura Eckenrode, Judicial Secretary, DM Bloomsburg, ten (10) year step increase, 1/2/25
- Brittani Shaffer, Intake Officer, DRO, Promotion, 12/1/24
- Michelle Santor, Intake Administrator, DRO, two (2) year step increase, 1/2/2025
- Julie Klinger, Secretary, DRO, two (2) year step, 1/26/2025
- Michael Tkach, Sheriff Deputy, Sheriff, ten (10) year step increase, 8/4/2024

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

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

- Gunner Treibley, FT CO, Jail, Resignation, 6/27/24
- Richard Tucci, FT CO, Jail, Resignation, 9/18/24
- David McConaghy, Conference Officer, DRO, Resignation, 1/3/25
- Jonah Rees, Adult Probation Officer, APO, Resignation, 12/20/24

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

CORRESPONDANCE:

- DECA Environmental & Associates Inc. notified the Commissioners of Autoneum of North America was informing them of their official notification of applying for their DEP Air permit Renewal.
- Peters Consultants reached out to the Commissioners to provide them with a copy of their 2025 per hour charge for services. Peters performs the Briar Creek Dam inspection through 2026.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Approve the bills dated 12/20/2024 in the amount of $457,894.73

Commissioner Karschner made a motion, Commissioner Kovach seconded; 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; motion passes.

Attest: _____
Marcie Strachko