

The Board of Mifflin County Commissioners met for their Regular Meeting on Thursday, October 1, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. In attendance were Commissioners Robert Postal; Kevin Kodish; Noah Wise; Chief Clerk Cathy Romig; and Solicitor Steve Snook. Chief Clerk in Training Charity Larson was absent

Guests present were, Treasurer Diane Griffith, Director of Tax Services Merry Bratton, Grants Liaison Madison Price, Carol Kearney-High from SEDA COG, Planning Director James Lettiere, Chief Probation Officer Nick Wolfkiel, Human Services Director Melissa Stewart, JVBDS Administrator Kathy Whalen, Joshua Pennepacker, Helen Kirk and Jacob Traxler and Kolstin Diven from MCTV.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Commissioner Postal.

- I. **Invocation:** The Invocation was given by Commissioner Kodish.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.
- III. **Approval of Minutes:**

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to accept the minutes of the Regular Meetings of September 17, 2026. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. **Approval of Bills:**

- 1. General Fund, Accounts Payable
Ck. #'s 155721-155851 and EFT #'s 605736-605746 in the amount of \$805,918.72
- 2. Payroll Account
Ck. #'s 80296-80306 and Direct Deposit Advice #'s 81172-81393 in the amount of \$519,157.70
- 3. 911 Account
Ck. #'s 53411-53420 and EFT #'s 80320-80322 in the amount of \$24,916.13
- 4. LEPC Account
EFT # 1641 in the amount of \$591.65
- 5. Liquid Fuels Act 89 Account
EFT # 8169 in the amount of \$45.25
- 6. Liquid Fuels
Ck. #'s 1773 in the amount of \$12,150.01
- 7. CYS Account
Ck. #'s 1245-1257in the amount of \$126,398.49
- 8. MCCAP Account
Ck. #'s 2001-2002 in the amount of \$613,358.00

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve payment of bills as listed above. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

v. **Treasurer’s Report:**

TREASURER'S REPORT	
9/16/2026-9/29/2026	
General Account Starting Balance	\$883,928.69
DEBITS	
Deposits Receipts #131439-131554	3,875,643.49
Transfer from Reserve	0.00
Transfer from LEPC	0.00
Transfer from Children and Youth	0.00
Interest	0.00
Voided Checks	0.00
TOTAL DEBITS	\$3,875,643.49
Bills Paid CK #S 155721-155851 EFT #S 605736-605746	805,918.72
Transfer to Payroll CK#80296-80306 DD#81172-81393	519,157.70
Transfer to CYS	0.00
NSF checks	500.00
TOTAL CREDITS	\$1,325,576.42
Ending Balance (Interest @ 3.650% as of 9/29/2026)	\$3,433,995.76
Reserve Account	
Invested at JV Bank @ 3.650% as of 9/29/2026	\$10,000,112.86

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the Treasurer’s Report as received, subject to audit. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

VI. Meetings and Events:

Chairman Postal:	Joint Rail Authority MC Conservation Board Pa Opioid Trust Public Meeting Meeting with Senator Bob Casey Goose Day Parade Workshop Meetings 2027 Budget meetings (Airport Authority; Sheriff; 911/EMS; CYS; MIS; DA; Courts, Domestic Relations, Probation, Maintenance) Internal (projects; maintenance; MCCF; Tax Services; Elections; 911)
Commissioner Kodish:	Airport Authority 2027 Budget Meeting Sheriff 2027 Budget Meeting 911/EMS 2027 Budget Meeting Regional Services Corporation Board Meeting with county Projects Manager Workshop Meetings Goose Day Parade Planning Meeting CYS 2027 Budget Meeting MIS 2027 Budget Meeting Downtown Lewistown Board SEDA-COG Board District Attorney 2027 Budget Meeting Meeting with Senator Bob Casey Courts, Domestic Relations, Probation Budget Meeting Goose Day Parade Maintenance 2027 Budget Meeting
Commissioner Wise:	Housing Authority Workshop Meetings Airport Authority 2027 Budget Meeting Sheriff 2027 Budget Meeting 911/EMS 2027 Budget Meeting Tax Services 2027 Budget Meeting CYS 2027 Budget Meeting MIS 2027 Budget Meeting JVBDS Advisory Board Courts, Domestic Relations, Probation Budget Meeting Meeting with Senator Bob Casey MC HSDS Meeting Goose Day Parade Maintenance 2027 Budget Meeting

VII. Public Comment:

None

VIII. New Business:

A. Proclamation – National Disability Employment Awareness Month

“NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH”
October 2026

WHEREAS, October 2026 marks the 81st anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of National Disability Employment Awareness Month is to raise awareness of disability employment and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America’s workers with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, The history of NDEAM traces back to 1945, when it began as a weeklong recognition of people with physical disabilities.

WHEREAS, Later, NDEAM was expanded to a full month and evolved to include all people with disabilities, including those with mental health conditions and other nonobvious disabilities, acknowledging the importance of increasing their access to employment.

WHEREAS, Workplaces welcoming of the talents of all people, including people with disabilities, including those with mental health conditions and other nonobvious disabilities, are a critical part of our efforts to build a strong economy; and

WHEREAS, Activities during this month will reinforce the value and talent people with disabilities, including those with mental health conditions and other nonobvious disabilities, add to our workplaces and communities and affirm Huntingdon, Mifflin and Juniata Counties’ commitment to ensuring that all people, including disabled workers, have the opportunity to find meaningful work.

Therefore, be it RESOLVED, That the Counties of Huntingdon, Mifflin and Juniata recognize and commemorate the 81st anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the U.S. Department of Labor’s Office of Disability Employment Policy and Huntingdon, Mifflin and Juniata Counties call upon employers, schools, and other community organizations in our three-county region to participate in the observance with appropriate programs and activities in October to help ensure that disabled workers have the opportunity to find meaningful work every month of every year; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the counties of Huntingdon, Mifflin and Juniata pledge to continue to take steps throughout the year to recruit, hire, retain, and advance individuals with disabilities and work to pursue the goals of opportunity, full participation, economic self-sufficiency, and independent living for people with disabilities, including those with mental health conditions and other nonobvious disabilities,

JVBDS Administrator Kathy Whalen stated that this year they are recognizing 45 employers and 68 employees who participate in employment for those with disabilities. The program continues to grow with an increase of four employers and eight employees from last year. This year they also received the Employer Engagement Champion Award at the State Central Region Employment Symposium. JVBDS will be hosting a recognition event on Thursday October 22nd from 4:00-6:00 in the lobby of 152 East Market Street in Lewistown. There is also a Shattering the Silence walk Sunday October 4th at Kish Park from noon until 2:00.

- B. Recognition of Joshua Pennepacker for having earned the APCO Registered Public-Safety Leader (RPL) designation through the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials

Mr. Pennepacker explained the award is a year long course work and includes 15 hours a month of documented work, research, etc. He is one of only thirteen in the state to have achieved the award.

- C. Proclamation – Honoring Merry Bratton for her years of service and dedication to Mifflin County

**Proclamation Honoring Merry Bratton
In Recognition of Her Retirement from Mifflin County**

WHEREAS, Merry Bratton began her dedicated career with Mifflin County on December 17, 1990, when she was hired as a Planning Secretary; and

WHEREAS, throughout more than 35 years of service, Merry demonstrated exceptional dedication, loyalty, professionalism, and commitment to the residents and government of Mifflin County; and

WHEREAS, through her hard work, knowledge, and leadership, Merry advanced through several positions of increasing responsibility, including Assistant Chief Assessor in April 1997 and Chief Assessor in May 2002; and

WHEREAS, in January 2019, Merry was appointed Director of Tax Services, a position in which she continued to provide outstanding leadership and faithfully served the taxpayers of Mifflin County; and

WHEREAS, Merry's career has been marked by a strong work ethic, integrity, professionalism, and a willingness to serve others, earning the respect and appreciation of her colleagues, coworkers, and friends throughout County government; and

WHEREAS, after more than three decades of dedicated service, Merry is retiring from Mifflin County, leaving behind a legacy of commitment and excellence that will be remembered and appreciated for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, the Mifflin County Commissioners, together with Merry's many coworkers and friends, wish to express their sincere gratitude for her years of faithful service and extend their heartfelt wishes for a healthy, happy, and prosperous retirement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners hereby recognizes and honors Merry Bratton upon her retirement as Director of Tax Services, and extends its deepest appreciation for her more than 35 years of dedicated service to Mifflin County.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that we wish Merry many fulfilling years ahead, filled with good health, happiness, cherished time with family and friends, and all the opportunities that retirement brings.

- D. Request for exoneration of 2026 county portion per capita taxes:

- Burnham Borough Tax Collector Christine Wolfkiel – 6
- Menno Township Tax Collector Cheyna Lyter – 31

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the item. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- E. Request for exoneration of the 2024-2025 delinquent real estate taxes and relieve Kathy Whitsel, Assistant Director of Tax Services, from collecting these taxes:

- Parcel No. 13 05-0130--,001 – building was removed from the property

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the item. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- F. Offer for Parcel No. 06,02-0130--,00 located in Lewistown Borough that is currently in repository for unsold properties - \$2,100.00

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to reject the offer for the parcel. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion to reject the offer was unanimously approved.

- G. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania FY 2026-2027 Hazardous Material Response Fund Grant Agreement for the period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 - \$5,895.00

Commissioner Postal stated this grant is to continue training for first responders.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the item. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- H. Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, County Adult Probation Grant-in Aid (State GIA) - \$51,601.00

Chief Probation Officer Nick Wolfkiel explained this is an annual grant. This year it is up about \$10,000.00 from last year. The funds are used for officers salaries.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- I. Amendment No. 1 to the Inmate Housing Agreement between Huntingdon County and Mifflin County - \$80.00 per day

This agreement is for the daily cost to Huntingdon County for housing Huntingdon County inmates in the Mifflin County Correctional Facility and is effective for the period of January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- J. Memorandum of Understanding Agreement with Center for Community Resources for employment of CIT Coordinator to provide services to target populations - \$129,397.00

Human Services Director Melissa Stewart stated these funds will utilized to help first responders to deal with crisis responses.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- K. Memorandum of Understanding Agreement with The Neat Nest for apartment cleaning services – up to \$600.00 for current year and up to \$6,000.00 for year two

Human Services Director Melissa Stewart asked that this be approved pending proof of liability insurance from The Neat Nest. This is in conjunction with the Substance Abuse Disorders grant and is being used to clean apartments between residents.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- L. Agreement with Tri-County Drug and Alcohol for year 9 of the State Opioid Response housing grant - \$47,730.00

Human Services Director Melissa Stewart stated these funds are used for case management and housing for those with substance abuse disorder and is an annual agreement.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- M. Ratify Amendment No.1 to program management agreement for the emergency food assistance program to expire on September 30, 2027

Human Services Director Melissa Stewart explained this is an amendment to expand the current five-year agreement by one year.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- N. Ratify contract for Medication Assisted Substance Use Treatment (MAT) grant - \$102,968.00

Human Services Director Melissa Stewart said this is for any inmate already on a treatment program and allows them to continue treatment while incarcerated. This is a two-year agreement.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- O. Contracts for State Food Purchase program

CFPB Admin	\$2,335.00
MJHS Admin	\$5,489.20
Hand of Grace	\$24,030.83
Abuse Network	\$4,030.83
Bible Baptist/New Life Church	
Pantry	\$9,030.83
Bible Baptist/Lew Life Soup	
Kitchen	\$2,793.35
Calvary Bible Church	\$34,030.86
Lewistown VFW #7011 (MS)	\$8,030.83
Salvation Army	\$8,030.83
Total	\$97,802.56

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- P. Change order MS001 for a seven-day extension to the pool ceiling renovation and environmental control system improvements at the Juniata Valley YMCA

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Q. Change order PA001 to change the substantial completion date of the pool ceiling renovation and environmental control system improvements at the Juniata Valley YMCA from September 28, 2026 to October 5, 2026

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- R. Change order PA002 to add an engineer-requested ground bonding wire for the new PoolPak system at the Juniata Valley YMCA - \$385.00 increase to be paid by the YMCA

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- S. Agreement between Mifflin County and Mifflin County Youth Park Association to use Act 13 Marcellus Shale Legacy Fund for restroom upgrades at the Mifflin County Youth Park - \$10,000.00

This agreement is to approve the purchase of fixtures to be used in the restorations of the restrooms at the Mifflin County Youth Park.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Recess Public Meeting

- FFY 2026 CDBG Mifflin County Final Public Hearing

Carol Kearney-High from SEDA COG provided the following agenda items for review as single projects within Mifflin County

AGENDA	
Review of FFY 2026	Total Allocation \$ 782,357
Projects Selected for Funding:	
MIFFLIN COUNTY	Total Allocation \$ 222,086
1. Newton Hamilton Bridge Replacement	\$ 182,116
2. SEDA-COG Administration	\$ 33,750
3. Mifflin County Administration	\$ 6,220
ARMAGH TOWNSHIP	Total Allocation \$ 93,666
1. Barefoot Road Reconstruction	\$ 76,816
2. SEDA-COG Administration	\$ 15,000
3. Mifflin County Administration	\$ 1,850
BROWN TOWNSHIP	Total Allocation \$ 94,688
1. Reedsville Park Parking Lot	\$ 77,663
2. SEDA-COG Administration	\$ 15,000
3. Mifflin County Administration	\$ 2,025
DERRY TOWNSHIP	Total Allocation \$ 128,377
1. Yeagertown Area Road Reconstruction Phase 2	\$ 105,312
2. SEDA-COG Administration	\$ 19,150
3. Mifflin County Administration	\$ 3,915
GRANVILLE TOWNSHIP	Total Allocation \$ 100,306
1. Single Family Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation	\$ 82,281
2. SEDA-COG Administration	\$ 14,750
3. Mifflin County Administration	\$ 3,275
LEWISTOWN BOROUGH	Total Allocation \$ 143,234
1. Lewistown Fire Safety Equipment Phase 2	\$ 117,484
2. SEDA-COG Administration	\$ 22,000
3. Mifflin County Administration	\$ 3,750

Reconvene Public Meeting

- T. Resolution No. 7 of 2026 to submit FFY 2026 CDBG application

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

U. Resolution No. 8 of 2026 to re-adopt the Fair Housing policy

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

V. Minority Business Enterprise and Women Business Enterprise statement of goals

Carol Kearney-High explained these funds flow through PA DCED so the statement is a required document for funding.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

W. Personnel:

- Resignation of Aiden Arnold from part-time corrections officer effective October 1, 2026

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the personnel items. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IX. Adjournment:

With no other business on the agenda, Commissioner Postal adjourned the meeting at 9:46 a.m.

Secretary

ATTEST:

Chief Clerk