

Lewistown, PA

May 1, 2025

The Board of Mifflin County Commissioners met for their Regular Meeting on Thursday, May 1, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. In attendance were Commissioners Robert Postal; Kevin Kodish; Noah Wise; Chief Clerk Cathy Romig; Solicitor Steve Snook; and Fiscal Assistant Holly Yeager.

Guests present were Treasurer Diane Griffith, Planning Director James Lettiere, CDBG Grants Liason Madison Price, Steve Peterson, Director Juniata Valley Behavioral Health Kathy Whalen, Mark Baker, Helen Kirk, and Mila Pavlova and Ciara Williams 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 Meeting of April 17, 2025. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Bills:

1. General Fund, Accounts Payable

Ck. #'s 150209-150331 and EFT #'s 603154-603166 in the amount of \$766,083.82

2. Payroll Account

Ck. #'s 80024-80034 and Direct Deposit Advice #'s 61386-61629 in the amount of \$474,189.63

3. 911 Account

Ck. #'s 53002-53004 and EFT #'s 80158-80163 in the amount of \$10,462.28

4. CDBG Account

Ck. #'s 1799-1800 in the amount of \$35,553.59

5. Liquid Fuels Act 89 Account

EFT #8152 in the amount of \$55.92

6. LEPC Account

Ck. # 1751 in the amount of \$2,168.00

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

4/16/2025-4/29/2025

General Account Starting Balance	\$1,019,275.25
DEBITS	
Deposits Receipts #124858-125075	879,737.63
Transfer from CYS	0.00
Transfer from 911	0.00
Interest	0.00
Voided Checks	0.00
TOTAL DEBITS	\$879,737.63
Bills Paid CK #'S 150209-150331 EFT #'S 603154-603166,	766,083.82
Transfer to Payroll CK 80024-80034 DD 61386-61629	474,189.63
Transfer to Coroner	5,000.00
NSF Check	0.00
TOTAL CREDITS	\$1,245,273.45
<u>Ending Balance (Interest @ 4.550% as of 4/29/2025)</u>	<u>\$653,739.43</u>
Capital Reserve Account	
Invested at JV Bank @ 4.550% as of 4/29/2025	\$11,134,417.10
Report Subject to Audit	

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 attended a meeting with The Lewistown Rotary on Tuesday, April 29 and was presented a check to sponsor a bench for the Second Phase of the River Trail. Chairman Postal wanted to acknowledge this gift from The Lewistown Rotary.

<i>Chairman Postal:</i>	<i>JVBDS Board Opioid Trust Dispute Committee Juniata Valley YMCA Pool Grant Meeting Mifflin Juniata Human Services Quarterly Meeting Mifflin County Veteran's Dinner Opioid Trust Workshop Lewistown Borough STP Lewistown Rotary Club Mifflin County Housing Authority re.RA Internal: Tax Services; MCPD; Maintenance; Veteran's Affairs; Sheriff; Public Defender; DHS</i>
<i>Commissioner Kodish:</i>	<i>Meeting with Chief Assessor Bratton JVBDS Board Regional Services Board Workshop Meetings Mifflin Juniata Human Services Quarterly Meeting Juniata Valley YMCA Pool Grant Meeting SEDA-COG Board Juniata River Valley Visitors Bureau Board Meeting with Jenny Landis – Visitors Bureau Regional Services Finance Committee Lewistown Sewage Treatment Plant Tour Regional Services Negotiations Committee Redevelopment Authority Planning Meeting WIC Ribbon Cutting – New Headquarters</i>
<i>Commissioner Wise:</i>	<i>Public Meeting Board of Elections Housing Authority JVBDS Board Mifflin Juniata Human Services Quarterly Meeting Juniata Valley YMCA Pool Grant Meeting Career Link Job Fair at YMCA Interviews for Veteran's Affairs Tour of the Lewistown Sewer Plant Ribbon Cutting HBH Reedsburg WIC Ribbon Cutting – New Headquarters</i>

VII. Public Comment:

None

VIII. New Business:

A. Proclamation – May is Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month

**PROCLAMATION
MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AND AWARENESS MONTH
MAY 2025**

Whereas, the safety of all Pennsylvania motorists is an issue of the highest consequence and all highway users should unite in the safe sharing of roadways throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, motorcycle riding is a popular form of recreation and transportation for thousands of people across the Commonwealth and our nation; and

Whereas, the Commonwealth's licensed motorcyclists are required to keep their vehicles inspected and obey current laws relative to operator safety equipment; and

Whereas, in efforts to reduce the number of motorcycle crashes and fatalities, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation encourages all motorcyclists to take advantage of free training courses through Pennsylvania's Motorcycle Safety Program and pledge to be one less fatality by visiting www.LiveFreeRideAlive.com; and

Whereas, it is especially important that the citizens of our Commonwealth be aware of motorcycles on the streets and highways and recognize the importance of staying alert, practicing safe driving techniques, and promoting motorcycle safety; and

Whereas, during the month of May, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, the Alliance of Bikers Aimed Toward Education of Pennsylvania (ABATE), and the Pennsylvania Motorcycle Dealers Association (PMDA) will continue their advocacy of motorcycle safety.

Therefore, in recognition of motorcycle safety on our Commonwealth's roads and highways, we, the Commissioners of Mifflin County do hereby proclaim May, 2025 as MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AND AWARENESS MONTH. We encourage all motorcyclists to continue their efforts to promote safety and motorcycle awareness and all drivers to share the road and respect the unique safety needs of motorcyclists.

Proclaimed this 1st day of May 2025

Steve Peterson thanked the Commissioner's for the Proclamation and shared information about Operation Save-A-Life.

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

B. Proclamation – May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Proclamation

“MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH” May 2025

WHEREAS, Mental Health is an essential part of overall well-being, impacting individuals, families, and communities across Huntingdon, Mifflin and Juniata counties;

WHEREAS, Juniata Valley Behavioral and Developmental Services strives to increase awareness of the importance of mental health and wellness in the lives of Pennsylvanians and to celebrate recovery from mental illness;

WHEREAS, despite its prevalence, mental health remains shrouded in stigma, preventing many from seeking help;

WHEREAS, early intervention and access to quality care are crucial for managing mental health conditions and improving the quality of life;

WHEREAS, Juniata Valley Behavioral and Developmental Services, along with other agencies and organizations across the tri-county region, is applying unique approaches to sharing the valuable opportunity to celebrate the tremendous strides made in central Pennsylvania promoting mental health awareness and increasing the public's knowledge that effective services and support are available.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Counties of Huntingdon, Mifflin and Juniata acting as Juniata Valley Behavioral and Developmental Services, in recognition of the importance of raising awareness, fighting stigma, and promoting mental health resources, do hereby proclaim **May 2025 to be “Mental Health Awareness Month”** in Huntingdon County, Mifflin County and Juniata County urging all citizens to challenge stigma, seek help, support organizations and create safe and supportive environments for open conversations about mental health. Together, we can create a community where everyone feels empowered to prioritize their mental well-being and seek help when needed.

Juniata Valley Behavioral and Development Services Administrator Kathy Whalen thanked the Commissioners for the Proclamation and shared upcoming events in the community.

C. Proclamation – Corrections Employee Week May 4-10, 2025

PROCLAMATION Corrections Employee Week May 4-10, 2025

Whereas, Pennsylvania's correctional system is the oldest in the nation, evolving from the establishment of Philadelphia's Walnut Street Jail in 1773 and the Eastern Penitentiary in 1829; and

Whereas, the “Pennsylvania System,” as it became known, was the leading influence in the development of penology throughout the 19th Century and the forerunner of modern corrections; and

Whereas, in the face of the current public health crisis, correctional employees throughout our county have risen to the challenge of implementing increased health and safety precautions to ensure the well-being of all those in their care; and

Whereas, much is expected from the men and women who supervise offenders in correctional facilities every day, and without whose daily hard work and sacrifices the justice system could not operate; and

Whereas, correctional employees are skilled professionals who must act as counselors, communicators, educators and experts at crisis interventions, and must protect our safety while maintaining their professional demeanor, often in a challenging environment; and

Whereas, we take this week to celebrate the people performing honorable, and sometimes difficult and dangerous work, and we thank them for their outstanding service to the people of Mifflin County.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners proclaim May 4-10, as CORRECTIONS EMPLOYEE WEEK in Mifflin County.

Proclaimed this 1st day of May, 2025

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

D. Jenny Landis – update on America250PA

Juniata River Valley Visitors Bureau Director Jenny Landis shared some of the local events planned for the United States Semiquincentennial (America250PA).

E. Director of Elections, Paula Hoffman, Election update

Director Hoffman shared that the Primary Election is May 20, 7am-8pm. The last day to register to vote or change one's registration is May 6. The last day to request a mail-in ballot is May 13. There have been over 1700 mail-in ballots mailed. There is a ballot drop box at the main entrance of the courthouse.

F. Request for refund of a portion of County real estate taxes:

- a. Parcel No. 15,09-0178A located in Decatur Township – house was demolished - \$608.14 (2025)

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

G. Renewal Agreement with Rochester Midland Corporation for water management services at the Courthouse and Jail for the period June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026 - \$4,750.00

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

H. Annual Web Program Enrollment Agreement with County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania - \$7,248.00

This will continue the existing agreement.

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

I. Subrecipient Agreement and agreement for repayment of funds with Burnham Borough Authority for a \$300,000.00 interest free loan for improvements to the public sewer treatment system

The terms of the loan are from May 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026. A one lump sum payment of \$300,000.00 will be due on or before January 31, 2026. This will act as short-term gap financing for a larger project which is the Burnham Borough Authority Waste Water Treatment Plan Headworks Improvements Project. The total estimated cost of this project is \$7 million dollars. The origination of the \$300,000 is from the County Improvement Program, which was originally funded through the American Rescue Plan Act.

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

J. Ratify the Project Modification Request for the Indigent Defense Grant adding on year 3 - \$118,403.00

This grant is for furnishing the new Public Defender's Office on the third floor and for additional personnel.

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

K. Approve Five-year renewal of the Master Sales Agreement with Guard1, Solon, OH, for the Prison guard tour system which tracks/ensures rounds are done - \$2,995.00 per year

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

L. Payment Application No. 6 from SE Construction Group, LLC in the amount of \$135,986.04 for the Hawstone Water Extension Project

This application is for the water storage tank project.

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

M. Resolution No. 2 of 2025 Authorizing the rescoping of funds awarded under the Redevelopment Capital Assistance Program (RACP) for the Mifflin County Academy Expansion Project and authorize the chairman to sign all necessary documents

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to table the item until a future date. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

N. Purchase of Service Agreement with Isaac W. Suydam, Belleville, PA for Assistant County Detective for the period April 14, 2025 through December 31, 2025

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

O. Personnel:

- Resignation of Eleana Eckley from Children and Youth Caseworker effective May 2, 2025

- Hiring of Morgan Nichols for Children and Youth Caseworker effective May 5, 2025
- Hiring of Jake Cunningham for a Probation intern effective May 12, 2025
- Resignation of Veterans Affairs Director James Conway effective May 30, 2025

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 9:47 a.m.

Secretary

ATTEST:

Chief Clerk