

The Board of Mifflin County Commissioners met for their Regular Meeting on Thursday, May 04, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. In attendance were Commissioners Stephen Dunkle and Kevin P. Kodish; Chief Clerk Cathy Romig; Solicitor Steve Snook and Confidential Clerk George Welsh.

Joe Cannon of The Sentinel/County Observer was the only representative present from the news media.

Guests present were Treasurer Debra Civitts; Auditor Helen Kirk; Nicole Patkalitsky, Children and Youth; Human Services Department Head Allison Fisher; Register and Recorder Barbara Stringer; Chief Probation Officer Todd Harpster; Steve Stepanski; Chris Wysocki, Juniata Valley Behavioral and Developmental Services Administrator; Wayne Lukens; Steen Peterson; Mark Mitchell; Jorden Fisher and Celten Faulkner from MCTV.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Kodish. Since there are only two Commissioners, Chairman Kodish will step down and second motions.

I. Invocation: The Invocation was given by Chairman Kodish.

II. Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

III. Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 20, 2017. Chairman Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Bills:

1. General Fund, Accounts Payable:

Cks. #114001 to 114214 and EFTs #22877 to 22896 in the amount of \$678,342.25

2. Payroll Account:

Cks. #77635 to 77660 and Direct Deposit Advices #12846 to 13078 in the amount of \$406,858.67

3. 911 Account:

Cks. # 51339 to 51340 and EFTs # 20337 to 20342 in the amount of \$6,029.45

4. Liquid Fuels Account:

Cks. #1637 to 1638 in the amount of \$5,617.26

5. Liquid Fuels Act 89 Account:

EFT #8054 in the amount of \$72.95

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

V. Treasurer's Report: 04/18/2017 to 05/02/2017

General Account Starting Balance	\$ 5,480,148.80
Deposits – Receipts #86375-86603	1,778,621.57
Interest	5,315.55
Total Debits	\$ 1,783,937.12

Bills Paid – Cks. #114001-114214

	<i>EFTs #22877-22896</i>	\$ 678,342.25
	<i>Transfer to Payroll – Cks. #77635-77660</i>	
	<i>DD #12846-13078</i>	406,858.67
	<i>NSF CKS</i>	3,603.32
	<i>Total Credits</i>	\$ 1,088,804.24
<i>Ending Balance –</i>	<i>Interest @ 1.060%</i>	\$ 6,175,281.68
<i>Liquid Fuels</i>	<i>1.060% @ JVB</i>	439,681.87
<i>Liquid Fuels – Act 89</i>	<i>1.060% @ JVB</i>	227,614.52
<i>LEPC</i>	<i>1.060% @ JVB</i>	25,012.35
<i>911 Telephone Account</i>	<i>0.800% @ JVB</i>	1,903,498.40
<i>Capital Reserve Account</i>	<i>1.080% @ JVB</i>	
	<i>General Account Funds</i>	
	<i>Total Capital Reserve</i>	\$ 4,052,597.44

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to accept the Treasurer's Report as received, subject to audit. Chairman Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

VI. Meetings and Events:

Chairman Kodish & Commissioner Dunkle:

*MCIDC Board – Both
Economic Development – Success Together – Both
Boat Launch Dedication – Both
Planning Commission – Both
Tour of Reservoir – Both
Prison Board – Both
Regional Services Corporation Personnel Committee – Chairman Kodish
CSBG Board – Chairman Kodish
SEDA-COG- Chairman Kodish
Juniata Valley Visitors Bureau Board – Chairman Kodish
Education & Government TV Channel Board – Chairmen Kodish
JVBDS Executive Committee – Chairman Kodish*

VII. Public Comment:

Mr. Stepanski: I was the former Health Services Manager at the Prison from January to April up here. During that short stint there, I brought numerous concerns to Solicitor Snook about safety and also the delay in health care. One of them was we had one inmate we needed to get to the Emergency Room. An email to the Psychiatrist and myself agreed that this individual needed to go to the emergency room immediately. It took 4 hours before he got into the emergency room. What are you doing to correct this? What have you done? What are you doing to get the prompt care that they need? I've worked in prisons before.

Chairman Kodish: New policies and procedures are being developed. We are having conversations to avoid any type of incident like this in the future.

Mr. Stepanski: It is serious. It is with the Warden. He does not want it coming out because it costs money. It is an emergency violation. The inmate was in my office and did not get help until 4 hours later. And there are other things too. There's PCD's at the Prison, the requirement in isolation is 48 hours before sending inmates up to the Annex. If someone broke out, it would wipe this County out. I hope you confirm that I asked because you are going to get sued.

Commissioner Dunkle: We have had continuing conversations with the Warden about this and I think he is very much aware of those issues and those concerns. A replacement has been hired for you and so hopefully we will make improvements along the way.

Mr. Stepanski: The Nurse Practitioner is one of the best I have worked with. He was looking out for the County.

Chairman Kodish: Thank you.

VIII. New Business:

A. Resignation of Lisa Nancollas

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to accept the Resignation of Lisa Nancollas. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

Chairman Kodish: Though we did not agree on everything, I respect the effort put forth by Lisa Nancollas. She was here, she was fully engaged and she cared about the people in Mifflin County. We definitely wish her the best in her future endeavors. We hope she enjoys the added time with her husband, Paul, her mother and her dogs and cats.

B. May, 2017 is Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month Proclamation

PROCLAMATION MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AND AWARENESS MONTH MAY 2017

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. The Commonwealth's 825,000 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, 2017 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 4th day of May 2017

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the Proclamation May 2017 is Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

Comments were made by Steen Peterson, Wayne Lukens and Mark Mitchell from ABATE

C. Juniata Valley Behavioral and Developmental Services Administrator Chris Wysocki – Quarterly Report

Mr. Wysocki: Regarding our current fiscal year, things are coming down to the line on the mental side. We will have enough money to pay all our bills. Our concern is about next fiscal year, particularly the mental health. It is getting to the point that we are going to have to cut some services, if we get flat funded. We are facing a potential cut next year. We are working internally about ideas where we can pull in our belts a little tighter. We will do the best. We will have a better sense of that in January. People are talking down in Harrisburg this year. We will see where things go. Intellectual disability services in Mifflin County, there are 267 individuals, mental health services there are 581, early intervention there are 67. Since I last reported the numbers have gone up by 7 children and the other two have dropped this month. Some individuals moved into a group home outside the County. Mental Health Services always fluctuates by 10 to 15.

D. Request for exoneration of 2017 county real estate tax bill and relieve the Tax Collector from collecting this bill:

- *Parcel No. 17,12-0400C-,003, located in Granville Township – mobile home has been destroyed – County portion \$25.60*

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the exoneration of 2017 county real estate tax bill. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

E. Application for the Mifflin County Crisis Intervention Training Grant for the period March 1, 2017 through June 30, 2017 - \$28,273.00

Mr. Harpster: This is a grant that we use to train first responders and police officers about mental health issues whenever we go out on cases. They all need to be treated differently.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the Mifflin County Crisis Intervention Training Grant. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

F. Application for County Aid – 2017 Allocation

- *Bratton Township - \$2,248.55*

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the Application for County Aid. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

G. Signature changes on Mifflin County Clerk of Orphans', Register of Wills and Recorder of Deeds removing Margaret E. Bulick and adding Ellen L. Amspacker

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the signature changes. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Dunkle: Margaret did a very admirable job while she was here. I know that Barbara could depend on her and her dedication and service was second to none. I am sure Ellen will fill her shoes adequately, but I just want to acknowledge the work of Margaret and publicly thank her for what she did.

Chairman Kodish: I agree with those remarks as well.

H. Purchase of Service Agreement for use, if needed, by Children and Youth

- *Attorney Michael Kipphan, Huntingdon, PA*
- *Families United Network, Inc., Muncy, PA*

Ms. Patkalitsky: Described service agreements.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve Purchase of Service Agreements. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

- I. *Memorandum of Understanding naming Mifflin County Human Services to be the Local Lead Agency for the Section 811 Program*

Ms. Fisher: I would like to thank Bob Henry for providing the County with this opportunity. Bob and I are the ones that have to sign the agreement. This opportunity will allow us to set-up a referral network. We are going to use the existing Housing Coalition in operation now. Currently we have no 811 projects in our County but if a developer came into our community and wanted to do an 811, we could work with them to get the customers we serve.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the Memorandum of Understanding. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

- J. *Project Modification Request for the Crisis Intervention Training Grant decreasing the grant amount by \$510.00 to allow different training*

Mr. Harpster: The issues that you have when you put that type of training together takes a great deal of time. This grant the money has to be spent by the end of June. It requires a week long training for the officers and first responders. Because of the limited time we had, we had to link this to PCCD, so we are just modifying this a little bit.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the Project Modification Request. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

- K. *Transfer of Suzanne Kochenderfer from fiscal secretary in the Children and Youth Department to Second Deputy Treasurer effective May 1, 2017*

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to Transfer of Suzanne Kochenderfer. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

- L. *Retirement of Margaret E. Bulick from First Deputy Register of Will, Recorder of Deeds and Clerk of Orphans' Court effective April 30, 2017*

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the Retirement of Margaret E. Bulick. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

- M. *Hiring of Cody Knable for janitor effective May 1, 2017*

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the Hiring Cody Knable. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

- N. *Hiring of Zane Swanger for the Director of Elections effective May 15, 2017*

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the Hiring of Zane Swanger. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved

- O. *Hiring of Tracy Byers for part-time Corrections Officer at the Mifflin County Corrections Facility effective May 3, 2017*

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the Hiring of Tracy Byers. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

- P. *Promotion of Brittany Stoner from Eligibility Clerk to Fiscal Assistant in the Children and Youth Department effective May 8, 2017.*

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the Promotion of Brittany Stoner. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Q. *Promotion of Denise Coldren from Second Deputy to First Deputy in the Register of Wills, Recorder of Deeds and Clerk of the Orphans' Court Office effective May 15, 2017*

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the Promotion of Denise Coldren. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

- R. *Hiring of Racheal Steinbach for Second Deputy in the Register of Wills, Recorder of Deeds and Clerk of the Orphans' Court Office effective May 15, 2017*

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the Hiring of Racheal Steinbach. Seconded by Chairman Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Q. *Addition: We received a communication from the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania. They encourage us and any community members to please call or email members of the Senate by Monday, May 8, 2017. Ask them to restore the cuts to counties in House Bill 218. While legislators passed Bill 218, it was just a starting point for the Budget that the Counties can't afford. The proposal eliminates funding for several criminal justice and administrative programs the counties perform on the Commonwealth's behalf. Eliminating funds and fund reductions do not come with relief of any mandates, counties will be forced to continue these services using County tax dollars, all regulated and controlled by state policy. It is characterized as a No-Tax Increase Budget. Without local funding from the Commonwealth, it will mean higher property tax for this budget. Any vote for this budget is a Vote for Property Tax Increase. The proposal represents a continuing pattern of the state to fail to meet its full responsibility of service delivery partners compounding the effects, these fall in the middle of the fiscal year with service interruptions*

Commissioner Dunkle: The State Legislature and Congress both enjoy a lot of opportunities that County government are not afforded. They can pass legislation, they can require mandates, but they do not have to fund them. That all comes back to us. That all comes back to local government and I really believe that our Democracy was set up as a true partnership between local, state and federal government and what we are seeing is the federal and state government both simply, to hold the line on spending, shoving everything down to the local level. That makes it very difficult because our opportunities to raise revenue are very, very limited. And it mostly falls back on the property owner by property taxes. I would encourage everyone to lobby Senator Corman and make calls to other State Senators.

XI. Adjournment

With no other business on the agenda, Chairman Kodish adjourned the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

Secretary

ATTEST:

Chief Clerk