

The Board of Mifflin County Commissioners met for their Regular Meeting on Thursday, February 4, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. In attendance were Commissioners Lisa Nancollas, Stephen Dunkle and Kevin P. Kodish; Chief Clerk Cathy Romig, Solicitor Stephen 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; Co. Auditor Helen Kirk; Public Safety Director Phil Lucas; Community Development Administrator James Lettiere; Teresa Hobbs; Tracy Reesman; Jim Smith; Neil Knable; Michelle Knable; Jayson Skylar Sheaffer; Leslie Sheaffer; Charli Jo Henry and Cole Kanagy, Mifflin County High School and Lucas Parkes, EADS Group.

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chairman Nancollas.

I. The Invocation was given by Commissioner Dunkle.

II. 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 January 21, 2016. Commissioner Dunkle seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Bills:

1. General Fund, Accounts Payable:

Ck. #108241 to 108427 and EFTs #21351 to 21364 in the amount of \$799,947.70

2. Payroll Account: Ck.#76931 to 76955 and Direct Deposit Advices #5819 to 6034 in the amount of \$363,570.03

3. 911 Account:

Ck. #51177 and EFTs #20183-20188 - \$5,997.65

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

V. Treasurer's Report: 01/20/2016 to 02/02/2016

General Account Starting Balance	\$ 4,476,468.97
Deposits – Receipts #80210-80339	504,651.55
Transfer from 911	51,323.26
Transfer from 911 Wireless	101,135.55
Interest	2,046.22
Voided Checks	302.00
Total Debits	\$ 659,458.58
Bills Paid – Cks. #108241-108427	
EFTs #21351-21364	\$ 799,947.70
Transfer to Payroll – Cks. #76931-76955	
DD #5819-6034	363,570.03
Total Credits	\$ 1,163,517.73
Ending Balance – Interest @ 0.50%	\$ 3,972,409.82
Liquid Fuels 0.5% @ JVB	454,624.79

<i>Liquid Fuels – Act 89</i>	<i>0.1% @ JVB</i>	<i>152,034.74</i>
<i>911 Telephone Account</i>	<i>0.5% @ JVB</i>	<i>133,178.26</i>
<i>911 Wireless Telephone Account</i>	<i>0.1% @ JVB</i>	<i>409,777.12</i>
<i>Capital Reserve Account</i>	<i>0.34% @ JVB</i>	
	<i>General Account Funds</i>	
	<i>Total Capital Reserve</i>	<i>\$ 31.33</i>

Ms. Hobbs: When you give the payroll amount is that including the Safe Driving payroll or is that separate?

Ms. Civitts: Safe Driving Payroll comes out of Safe Drive. It is not General Fund. It is a whole different account.

Chairman Nancollas: Is that good? You can always go to her office later.

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

VI. Meetings and Events:

Chairman Nancollas:

Emergency Food Shelter: I attended the meeting and they had a speaker from the Department of Education, who spoke on the Summer Food Service Program. They are expanding outreach and this will be to non-profits. Meals will be given to children during the summertime. Also, they need volunteers to help and will be done at churches. They are asking for high school students to be head supervisors. There is a Walk for Warmth Saturday, February 16th in Juniata County and it is indoors. They have a Housing Coalition having a Public Forum with public speakers for education for the community. Now open is free tax service for 59 years old and younger at the Mifflin-Juniata County Area on Aging.

Ms. Fisher: United Way is doing 59 and under, over is done at the Area on Aging.

Local Emergency and Planning Committee: They talked about funding and grants. The Avian Flu (H1,N1) is very severe this year.

Prison Board

Knights of the 21st Century: They had a graduation service for the nine inmates at the jail, which was really nice.

Local Court and Security Meeting

Executive Board Meeting at JVBDS

Commissioner Dunkle:

Mifflin County Planning Commission: The principal item of interest there was the closure of the Lewistown Center by Penn State. Penn State was invited to come to this meeting on multiple occasions. They finally came. They arrived late, but stayed a little bit longer than thirty minutes. There were three representatives, but only one of the representatives spoke. Their plans are at this point to close the Lewistown Center after the Spring Semester of 2017. They cite primarily economics as the reason for closing. They believe that student enrollment has dropped. I think there is an interesting correlation between the dropping of student enrollment on the one hand verses the fact that the University has required more students per each course that is offered in order to continue and offer that course and have also cut the number of courses that are offered, reduced advertising so that people are not aware of it and we find ourselves in situation

of a Catch 22. There is going to be a meeting at the Pennstater to discuss this further on February 12th, but attendance is limited by their decision, not ours. As to who can attend the general public is not invited to attend. I really question the process. We are obviously going to be at this meeting. They have also invited Senator Corman and Representative Benninghoff. I hope they have invited the other State Representatives that represent Mifflin County. For Mifflin County it is going to be a representative group from the Penn State Extension here within the County, the three of us, the Planning Director and two or three select individuals, that's it. One thing that we have done is we have developed an online petition as well as paper petitions so that area residents can express their dissatisfaction with the decision that Penn State has made.

Ms. Hobbs: Is someone from the School Board attending the meeting?

Commissioner Dunkle: I know the Director of the Nursing Program at the Lewistown Academy is attending. I would certainly hope that our Superintendent of Schools will be attending.

Ms. Civitts: When Penn State came in, we were looking into a Community college for this area. Would that be an option if Penn State does not come in?

Commissioner Dunkle: I think we have to explore all options, if they go through with their plans. Once we know what their final decision is, we need to move forward.

Court Security Meeting: This is a meeting that is held not on a regular basis but when the Court deems it appropriate. The next meeting is scheduled for May. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss things that are relevant as it relates to the Security of the Courts and all offices affiliated with the Courts, whether it be Domestic Relations or Probation or District Magistrates or whatever. It was a good meeting. The Sheriff's office was present as were representatives of the different offices serving the Courts. I think we outlined some very basic concerns. One of those concerns is our very antiquated telephone system that we have in this County, so those in attendance were pleased to know that we have just met the day before for the purposes of discussing getting a new system to run the government.

Prison Board

Commissioner Kodish: Before I list my meetings, on behalf of the three of us, I want to extend a warm welcome to Charli Jo Henry and Cole Kanagy, Mifflin County High School students, who are here today filming our meeting. Our meetings will now be carried on Mifflin County Television which can be seen on Comcast and Nittany Media Cable. If you don't have those you can go to mc.tvonline .com and the meetings will be broadcast there too. Welcome Charli Jo and Cole.

Regional Services Corporation Board: They are the umbrella agency for the Area Agency on Aging, Cars and Food Services for the old folks.

Juniata River Valley Chamber of Commerce: They are working on building up membership for their chamber.

MCIDC Board: All three of us attended that meeting. They are upgrading their website and obviously coming up with some strategies for attracting new businesses to the area.

SEDA COG in Lewisburg: That was highly reorganizational at this time. It is a coalition of counties that we have that give small businesses loans.

Juniata River Valley Visitors Bureau: They reviewed the Festival of Ice program that happened in December that was very successful. They are also strategizing for some other events that the County can put on to draw tourists to our area.

CARS Board: The CARS Board is going to be purchasing some new busses. They also will have busses that they are going to put up for bid.

Prison Board: All three of us attended that meeting as well.

VII. Old Business: None

VIII. New Business:

A. 2016 Central Counties Youth Center Agreement

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the 2016 Central Counties Youth Center Agreement. Seconded by Commissioner Dunkle. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Purchase of Service Agreement with Ms. Michelle Baker for cleaning service at Magisterial District Judge 58-3-03 from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 at a rate of \$180.00 per month

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve Purchase of Service Agreement with Ms. Michelle Baker. Seconded by Commissioner Dunkle. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of Mifflin, District Attorney Christopher Torquato and the Mifflin County Domestic Relations Office for the District Attorney to provide legal services in all appropriate IV-D cases.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of Mifflin, District Attorney Christopher Torquato and the Mifflin County Domestic Relations Office. Motion was made by Seconded by Commissioner Dunkle. The motion was unanimously approved.

D. Resolution No. 20 of 2016 changing the bank signatures on the Rural Business Enterprise and the Mifflin County Planning Commission accounts

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve Resolution No. 20 of 2016. Seconded by Commissioner Dunkle. The motion was unanimously approved.

E. Purchase of Service Agreement with BMZ Law, PC for County Solicitor and Counsel for Children and Youth Services for the period January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 in the amount of \$72,762.04 annually to be paid in monthly increments.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the Purchase of Service Agreement with BMZ Law, PC for County Solicitor and Counsel for Children and Youth Services. Seconded by Commissioner Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

F. Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) Sub Recipient Contract between the Union-Snyder Community Action Agency and Mifflin County for the period January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016

Ms. Fisher: Dollars that we receive through the State Department of Community Development. We receive that money to provide services to agencies for poverty or below and the recipients are Shelter Services, United Way, Mifflin-Juniata Special Needs Center and our office. In order to receive those funds, you have to have a certain population base. Mifflin County does not have the population so we combine with Juniata and Snyder Counties.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the Community Service Block Grant Sub Recipient Contract. Seconded by Commissioner Dunkle. The motion was unanimously approved.

G. Hiring of Jan Headings as Tipstaff in the Court Office effective February 2, 2016

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the hiring of Jan Heading as Tipstaff in the Court Office. Seconded by Commissioner Kodish. The motion was unanimously approved.

H. Budget to go on display Friday, February 5, 2016.

Chairman Nancollas: In the Commissioner's office, you may see that and if you have any questions you may come to us and we will answer them. I do have some changes in the budget but I do want so say the total budget did not change \$25,853,887.00. We decreased the debt \$150,000.00 due to refinancing a Bond, increased \$15,000.00 to the Library, increased the Accounting Services by \$10,000.00, increased Capital Purchases \$100,000.00 for the new phone system, increased Tax Claim Legal fees by \$1,000.00. The balance is due to adjusted salaries like Financial/Fiscal Manager Assistant, Voter Registration Clerk and Veterans Clerk.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to put the 2016 Budget on display. Seconded by Commissioner Dunkle. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Public Comment:

Mr. Smith: Steve, on the Penn State issue, if they leave is there any time frame in the development of a Community College?

Commissioner Dunkle: If in fact we are looking at a Community College, the establishment of a Community College, I think you are looking at a very substantial amount of time. Discussions held before were talking about a Huntingdon County, Mifflin County, Juniata County type of Community College. I think an alternative that we will have to explore is to look at other institutions of learning, community colleges, four-year colleges, universities that may have an interest in coming here and working in our community. That would probably be a shorter time frame than developing our own Community College which would require a large commitment of public dollars.

Commissioner Kodish: I believe institutions like Shippensburg, Lock Haven, Millersville and Bloomsburg might be interested in doing a collaborative program like this in other parts of the State to accept each other's credits. I think that is worth perusing also.

Commissioner Dunkle: Even private colleges such as Bucknell or Juniata College.

Mr. Clark: I would suggest that Mr. Snook review with you three the Establishment Rights on the Constitution because there is something that happened at the beginning of the meeting that should not have happened. The way it happened.

Chairman Nancollas: OK, we will have a discussion about that.

C. Adjournment

With no other business on the agenda, Chairman Nancollas adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Secretary

ATTEST:

Chief Clerk