

Lewistown, PA

April 4, 2019

The Board of Mifflin County Commissioners met for their Regular Meeting on Thursday, April 4, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. In attendance were Commissioners Kevin Kodish and Robert Postal, Jr; Solicitor Stephen Snook, BMZ Law; Chief Clerk Cathy Romig and Assistant Chief Clerk Angela Shuey. Commissioner Dunkle was absent from the meeting.

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

Guests present: Treasurer Deb Civitts; County Auditor Helen Kirk; Director of Children and Youth Dana Bubb; Grant Writer Lisa Stalnaker; Director of Planning Bill Gomes; Director of Public Safety Phil Lucas; Director of Fiscal Affairs Mike Baker; Children and Youth employees as follows: Rylan Bargo, Daris Ciecierski, Christina Pauly, Nicole Patkalitsky, Cortney Terry, Hannah Wert, Megan McMahon, Cassandra Prince, Lydia Flickinger, Casey O'Dell, Katie Mumper, Charity Larson, Jennifer Hepner, Dillon Harlon and Grace Ward; Jane Neff, Shelter Services; Max Oburn and Steven Gibson, MCTV

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Kodish.

I. Invocation: *The Invocation was given by Commissioner Postal.*

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

Chairman Kodish announced that he would step from chair to second all motions today because Commissioner Dunkle was absent from the meeting.

III. Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 21, 2019. Chairman Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Bills:

1. General Fund, Accounts Payable:

Cks. #123081 to 123247 and EFTs # 25028 to 25042 in the amount of \$799,871.90

2. Payroll Account

Cks. #78601 to 78611 and Direct Deposit Advices # 24551 to 24791 in the amount of \$451,413.77

3. 911 Account:

Ck. # 51716 and EFTs #20570 to 20572 in the amount of \$1,095.10

4. CDBG Account:

Cks. #1450 to 1452 in the amount of \$134,480.63

5. CDBG Home Account:

Ck. #444 in the amount of \$6,075.00

6. Liquid Fuels Act 89 Account

EFT # 8078 in the amount of \$103.90

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

V. Treasurer's Report:

**TREASURER'S REPORT
03/20/2019-04/02/2019**

General Account Starting Balance **\$663,810.47**

DEBITS

Deposits Receipts #96059 – 96279	1,117,569.60
Transfer from 911	200,018.50
Transfer from Capital Reserve	400,000.00
Transfer from LEPC	0.00
Voided Checks	69,688.97
Interest	1,003.29
TOTAL DEBITS	\$1,788,280.36

CREDITS

Bills Paid CK #'S 123081-123247, EFT'S # 25028-25042	799,871.90
Transfer to Payroll CKS 78601-78611, DD 24551-24791	451,413.77
NSF Checks	0.00

TOTAL CREDITS **\$1,251,285.67**

Ending Balance (Interest @ 01.390% as of 04/02/2019) **\$1,200,805.16**

Liquid Fuels

Invested at JV Bank @ 01.390% as of 4/02/2019 **\$296,010.12**

Liquid Fuels - Act 89

Invested at JV Bank @ 01.390% as of 4/02/2019 **\$265,096.94**

911 Telephone Account

Invested at JV Bank @ 01.390% as of 4/02/2019 **\$1,645,760.98**

LEPC

Invested at JV Bank @ 01.390% as of 4/02/2019 **\$22,958.02**

Local Use Fund

Invested at JV Bank @ 01.390% as of 4/02/2019 **\$193,421.70**

Capital Reserve Account

Invested at JV Bank @ 02.62% as of 4/02/2019 **\$2,136,543.58**

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT

Invested at FNB @ 2.55% **\$3,054,389.22**

Report Subject to Audit

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve 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:

- Regional Services Property Committee Meeting*
- Prison Board Meeting*
- CARS Board Meeting*
- Meeting with Kathy Boockvar, Acting Secretary of the Commonwealth*
- Meeting with three representatives from the Governor's Office*
- SEDA-COG Local Development Corporation Board Meeting*
- SEDA-COG Board Meeting*
- Lt. Governor Listening Tour*
- CCAP Deferred Compensation Committee Meeting*
- Salary Board Meeting*
- Meeting with Senator Corman*

Commissioner Dunkle: *Commissioner Dunkle was absent.*

Commissioner Postal:

- Meeting with Senator Corman*
- Salary Board Meeting*
- Meeting with three representatives from the Governor's Office*
- Mifflin County Planning Commission Meeting*
- Meeting with Kathy, Boockvar, Acting Secretary of the Commonwealth*
- Armagh Township Supervisors Meeting*
- Conference call with consultants to discuss Bridge program*
- JVBDS Executive Committee Meeting*
- Prison Board Meeting*

VII. Public Comment:

None to report.

VIII. New Business:

A. *Proclamation in recognition of Harold Johnson*

PROCLAMATION

RECOGNITION OF HAROLD JOHNSON

WHEREAS, Harold Johnson has served Menno Township for more than 25 years, both as a Township Secretary and a Township Supervisor;

WHEREAS, Harold Johnson played a key role in the purchasing and repurposing the former public school building and former Grange Building in 1995 to become the Menno Township building and the community library that services Menno and Brady Townships;

WHEREAS, Harold Johnson has assisted the township in securing CDBG funding through Mifflin County to purchase playground equipment for Allensville and to reconstruct Schoolhouse Road;

WHEREAS, Harold Johnson worked with Penn State to initiate, plan and execute a three year Arbor Day project on Main Street and selected areas in Allensville;

WHEREAS, Harold Johnson worked with residents of Menno Township to create a small community park in Allensville;

WHEREAS, Harold Johnson worked with the residents of Menno Township to assist in planning a walking trail around the municipal building in Allenville;

WHEREAS, Harold Johnson has been active in community activities including: serving on the Juniata Valley Chamber of Commerce Board, working as an active member of the Rotary and Lions Clubs service organizations, serving on the Board of Directors at Valley View Haven and the Mifflin County Savings Bank and participating in other community programs and events;

WHEREAS, Harold Johnson has diligently worked with the Mifflin County Planning and Development Department and the Mifflin County Planning Commission to insure proper coordination involving subdivision and land development activity in Menno Township;

WHEREAS, Harold Johnson has been an invaluable asset to both Menno Township and Mifflin County and has provided direction, leadership and respect through his dedication to his job, to the Township and to the County.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners would like to recognize Harold Johnson for his efforts to improve the quality of life for residents of Mifflin County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mifflin County Commissioners support the presentation of a joint Planning Excellence Award from the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners and Planning Commission to Harold Johnson for his contributions to planning in Mifflin County.

Proclaimed this fourth day of April 2019.

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the proclamation recognizing Harold Johnson. Chairman Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Chairman Kodish noted that this proclamation would be presented to Mr. Johnson at the Planning Commission Dinner held this evening. The Commissioners wanted to have it formally read into the record and approved this morning.

B. Proclamation – April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation

WHEREAS, children are the future of our community and county; and,

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of every adult who comes into contact with a child to protect that child's right to a safe and nurturing childhood; and,

WHEREAS, in 2018, Mifflin County Children and Youth investigated over 282 cases of suspected child abuse and 39 children were determined to be the victims of abuse; and,

WHEREAS, in 2018, Mifflin County Children and Youth received almost 1,025 reports concerning the welfare of children living in our County; and,

WHEREAS, Mifflin County has dedicated individuals and organizations who work daily to counter the problem of child abuse and maltreatment and to help families obtain the assistance they need; and,

WHEREAS, our communities are stronger when all citizens become aware of child abuse prevention and become involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe and nurturing environment; and,

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among families, social service agencies, schools, religious and civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaim the month of April, 2019, to be

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH,

A special month for Mifflin County residents to celebrate and treasure our children, Mifflin County's greatest resource and the community leaders of tomorrow.

Proclaimed this 4th day of April, 2019

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the proclamation designating April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Chairman Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Bubb thanked the Commissioners for giving her the opportunity to talk about child abuse awareness. Over the next few days, employees will be hanging ribbons throughout the community to represent awareness and acknowledge the victims who have suffered. They are here to represent resources and welcome any questions from the community. They will be placing pinwheels by the Fountain on the Five Points to represent victims from our community. She acknowledged the Children and Youth employees for all of the hard work they do on a regular basis.

Chairman Kodish spoke on behalf of all of the Commissioners and said that they appreciate all of the hard work done by the Children and Youth employees. He added that they have the most difficult job in this county and have to be available 24/7. The Commissioners appreciate everything they do for us and for the children in our community.

The meeting recessed at 9:11 a.m. to take a picture of the Children and Youth staff with their proclamation.

The meeting resumed at 9:17 a.m.

C. Request for exoneration of 2019 county real estate tax bills and to relieve the Tax Collectors from collecting these bills:

- Parcel No. 15,07-0137B-,000 located in Decatur Township – deed for this parcel was processed in error and will be re-billed with the August 2019 billing - \$1,404.48*
- Parcel No. 15,13-000119B located in Decatur Township – parcel deemed exempt by Veterans Affairs - \$276.76*
- Parcel No.'s 17,18-0100 and 17,18-0121A located in Granville Township – parcels approved for exempt status - \$152.18 and \$151.54*

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the requests for exoneration. Chairman Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

D. Purchase of Service Agreements for use, if needed, by Children and Youth:

- Centre County Youth Service Bureau, State College, PA*
- Hide-n-Seek Christian Day Care, Lewistown, PA*
- Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg, Greensburg, PA*

Ms. Bubb explained each provider and the services they offer. These are all renewal contracts.

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the Purchase of Service Agreements. Chairman Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

E. Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Application for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 - \$49,955.00

Ms. Stalnaker explained that Mifflin County has requested \$49,955.00 from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) to support secure communication between law enforcement and the emergency communication center. This project will purchase 18 radios and provide the programming and training related to them. The partners in this project are Mifflin County Regional Police Department, Lewistown Police Department, Armagh Township Police Department and Granville Township Police Department. The goal of the project is to improve communication in Mifflin County by providing a secure connection among first responders. We will be notified of award July 1, 2019.

Mr. Lucas added that we are currently in negotiations with Motorola on the overall project. We'll be waiting until we get final confirmation that we're getting the funds. This project will take place in 2019.

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Application for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 - \$49,955.00. Chairman Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

F. Jail-Based Vivitrol Program Grant Application for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021 - \$159,201.00

Ms. Stalnaker discussed that Mifflin County requested these funds from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD). It is for the establishment of a re-entry program that focuses on medication-assisted therapy and evidence-based psychosocial treatment that will begin in the Mifflin County Correctional Facility and end in the Probation Department. The overall goal of this project is to provide substance abuse treatment and support to individuals transitioning from behind the walls and into the community or for those sentenced to intermediate punishment plan sentences. It's expected that 60 inmates per year will be referred to the project with ten or more receiving the Vivitrol part of the program. Based on the research of the use of Vivitrol and evidence-based counseling, it is anticipated that there will be less recidivism and more successful reintegration for inmates into the community. The partners in this project include the Mifflin County Correctional Facility, Juniata Tri-Valley Drug and Alcohol, Mifflin County Probation and Parole, Mifflin-Juniata Human Services Department, Clear Concepts Counseling, Brighter Visions Counseling and Positive Recovery Solutions.

Chairman Kodish added this is a new program for us. He questioned if this program has been used in other states.

Ms. Stalnaker reported that this is an evidence-based program that has been used in other states. She added that the medication assisted therapy reduces cravings for individuals of substance abuse disorders and assists them in maintaining their recovery when they leave the facility.

Commissioner Postal stated that it's complimentary to our overall re-entry program. There are other programs we're running through the Correctional Facility and the Human Service providers. The purpose is to reduce recidivism and lower the jail population and improve public safety.

Ms. Stalnaker pointed out that Vivitrol is being offered in the County through Positive Recovery Solutions, so it's not a new program in the County. After leaving the facility,

individuals will be able to obtain Vivitrol in the community. This program will give them 30 days before they have to make an appointment to continue with the Vivitrol.

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the Jail-Based Vivitrol Program Grant Application for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021 - \$159,201.00. Chairman Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

G. Service Extension Agreement for the Prison Booking and Children and Youth Copiers to extend the current service

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the service extension agreement for the Prison Booking and Children and Youth Copiers to extend the current service. Chairman Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

H. Promissory Note payable to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation in the amount of \$1,589,000.00 with a ten-year repayment term

Commissioner Postal discussed that this item is in reference to our Bridge Rehabilitation Program for the local municipalities. Several years ago, PennDOT offered \$2 Million if the County would pass an ordinance to collect a \$5 Local Use Fee on vehicle registrations. They offered \$2 Million in funding if we could match the \$2 Million. With the \$5 Local Use Fee totaling about \$200,000.00 per year, it would have been difficult to reach the \$2 Million. The County has come up with a strategy that we would borrow through the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank. Together with the local match from the municipalities, the match would exceed the \$2 Million. In essence, we're putting up \$1,589,000.00 and getting \$2 Million, which is over a 100% return. The payment on this will be the \$5 Local Use Fee that is collected and forwarded to Mifflin County. The payment is not coming out of general revenue.

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the promissory note payable to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation in the amount of \$1,589,000.00. Chairman Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

I. Personnel:

- Hiring of Charity Larson for Children and Youth Case Aide effective April 1, 2019*
- Hiring of Peggy Dearing for Tipstaff effective April 1, 2019*
- Resignation of Justin Mattern from Probation Officer effective April 5, 2019*
- Promotion of Megan McMahon from Children and Youth Caseworker III to In-Home Supervisor effective April 8, 2019*
- Promotion of Hannah Wert from Children and Youth Caseworker II to Caseworker III effective April 8, 2019*
- Resignation of Lauren Imler from Corrections Officer effective April 10, 2019*
- Hiring of Justice Wise for part-time Corrections Officer effective April 15, 2019*

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to accept the above personnel items. Chairman Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IX. Adjournment:

With no other business on the agenda, Chairman Kodish adjourned the meeting at 9:27 a.m.

Secretary

ATTEST:

Chief Clerk