

Lewistown, PA

June 6, 2019

The Board of Mifflin County Commissioners met for their Regular Meeting on Thursday, June 6, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. In attendance were Commissioners Kevin Kodish, Stephen Dunkle and Robert Postal, Jr; Solicitor Stephen Snook, BMZ Law; Chief Clerk Cathy Romig and Assistant Chief Clerk Angela Shuey.

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

Guests present: Treasurer Deb Civitts; Housing Rehabilitation Specialist Doug Marks; Grant Writer Lisa Stalnaker; Director of Fiscal Affairs Mike Baker; Director of Children and Youth Dana Bubb; Rylan Bargo; Hannah Wert; Cassandra Prince; Megan McMahon; Nicole Patkalitsky; Brenda Dobson; Barbara Reyes; Mikayla Brumbaugh; Brianna Kibler; Allison Bitner; Lydia Flickinger; Rachel Pastiloff; Katie Mumper; Casey O'Dell; Cynthia Sunderland; Colletta Beeler and Gabby Henry, MCTV

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

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 May 30, 2019. Commissioner Postal seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Bills:

1. General Fund, Accounts Payable:

Cks. #124066 to 124130 and EFTs # 25227 to 25231 in the amount of \$103,762.91

2. Payroll Account:

Cks. #78644 to 78654 and Direct Deposit Advices # 25820 to 26060 in the amount of \$453,279.20

3. 911 Account:

Cks. # 51757 and EFTs #20592 to 20594 in the amount of \$1,069.50

4. CDBG Account:

Cks. #1460 in the amount of \$1,100.00

5. CDBG Home Account:

Ck. #450 in the amount of \$8,156.00

6. Act 137 Account:

Cks. # 3038 in the amount of \$350.00

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

V. *Treasurer's Report:*

TREASURER'S REPORT
05/29/2019-06/04/2019

General Account Starting Balance	\$764,672.71
DEBITS	
Deposits Receipts #97290 – 97389	295,293.68
Transfer from 911	0.00
Transfer from Capital Reserve	0.00
Transfer from LEPC	0.00
Voided Checks	37.90
Interest	1,517.04
TOTAL DEBITS	\$296,848.62
CREDITS	
Bills Paid CK #'S 124066-124130, EFT'S # 25227-25231	103,762.91
Transfer to Payroll CKS 78644-78654, DD 25820-26060	453,279.20
NSF Checks	0.00
TOTAL CREDITS	\$557,042.11
<u>Ending Balance (Interest @ 01.390% as of 06/04/2019)</u>	<u>\$504,479.22</u>

Liquid Fuels

Invested at JV Bank @ 01.390% as of 6/04/2019 \$366,917.92

Liquid Fuels - Act 89

Invested at JV Bank @ 01.390% as of 6/04/2019 \$265,602.19

911 Telephone Account

Invested at JV Bank @ 01.390% as of 6/04/2019 \$2,202,253.88

LEPC

Invested at JV Bank @ 01.390% as of 6/04/2019 \$34,800.68

Local Use Fund

Invested at JV Bank @ 01.390% as of 6/04/2019 \$193,870.06

Capital Reserve Account

Invested at JV Bank @ 02.60% as of 6/04/2019 \$8,564,443.80

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT

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

Report Subject to Audit

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

VI. *Meetings and Events:*

Chairman Kodish: Salary Board Meeting

*CARS Board Meeting
Academy General Advisory Committee Meeting
Senior Games Opening
Black's Hospital Disposition Meeting
Personnel Discussions
Prison Board Meeting*

*Commissioner Dunkle: Salary Board Meeting
Prison Board Meeting
Meeting with Menno and Union Township Supervisors
Meetings with various Department Heads*

*Commissioner Postal: Salary Board Meeting
CCAP Economic Development Committee conference call
Academy General Advisory Committee Meeting
Prison Board Meeting
Black's Hospital Disposition Meeting
SEDA-COG Natural Gas Strategic Session*

VII. Public Comment:

Commissioner Dunkle commended Chairman Kodish for his invocation. He commented that Chairman Kodish referenced President Eisenhower's communication given back on D-Day in 1944. He wanted to mention that President Eisenhower penned an additional communication as well, where he took responsibility for the failure of D-Day operations if that would have occurred. Commissioner Dunkle greatly respects him for that. It seems that, in this day and age, politicians don't want to accept responsibility for their own actions or for actions around them. He feels it is a shining example of what every statesman and elected official should do.

VIII. New Business:

A. Proclamation Recognizing the Staff of Mifflin County Children and Youth

Proclamation Recognizing the Staff of Mifflin County Children and Youth

WHEREAS, the week of June 3-7, 2019 has been proclaimed as Child Welfare Professionals Appreciation Week by Governor Wolf, recognizing the efforts of child welfare professionals serving the children of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, every day in Mifflin County, local children are at risk of child abuse and neglect. Some have been removed from their homes due to such abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, we, the Commissioners of Mifflin County recognize the risks and need to intervene to protect the children of this County; and

WHEREAS, the challenging work of investigating child abuse and providing services to families services to assure that the children of Mifflin County are provided with healthy, nurturing care, support as they transition into adulthood, and needed services in the family to be able to reunify falls to Children and Youth; and

WHEREAS, the work of these dedicated professionals requires them to enter into situations in which their personal safety may be put at risk; and

WHEREAS, our committed professionals work with children who have been victimized by physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and other forms of maltreatment; and

WHEREAS, the professionals of Children and Youth must develop great skill in working with families who are in crisis situations, struggling with mental health challenges, suffering from drug and alcohol afflictions, poverty, and other difficult issues; and

WHEREAS, the professionals of Children and Youth must possess substantial knowledge and skills in a myriad of areas to effectively serve the families of Mifflin County; and

WHEREAS, the staff of Children and Youth endeavor to protect the children of Mifflin County, often with long hours, tremendous demands, little appreciation and great criticism; and

WHEREAS, many injuries and possibly deaths of children in Mifflin County have been averted due to the efforts of Children and Youth;

Therefore, in special recognition of the efforts of Children and Youth, We, the Commissioners of Mifflin County, do hereby issue this Proclamation recognizing the staff of Children and Youth for their dedicated efforts in protection of the children of Mifflin County.

Proclaimed this 6th day of June, 2019

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the Proclamation Recognizing the Staff of Mifflin County Children and Youth. Commissioner Dunkle seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Bubb thanked the Commissioners and Mifflin County for appreciating this group. She thanked her staff for their work ethic, flexibility and time commitment. She is proud to work with them.

Chairman Kodish thanked the Children and Youth staff for their hard work and all they do for Mifflin County.

Commissioner Dunkle added that these employees are the front-line warriors against child abuse and neglect and he thanked them for that.

B. Request for exoneration of 2019 county portion per capita taxes:

- *Derry Township Tax Collector Bret Treaster - 144*

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve the request for exoneration. Commissioner Postal seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. Program Modification Request for the Mifflin County Juvenile Treatment Court Grant to extend the grant three months with a new end date of September 30, 2019

Ms. Stalnaker mentioned that the Juvenile Treatment Court Grant is through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD). Mifflin County received two awards from PCCD that overlapped, so we knew we wouldn't spend down the grant in the normal manner. This extension allows for continued services and goals of the juvenile treatment court to be met. These grants usually have a duration of one year unless an extension is requested.

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the Program Modification Request for the Mifflin County Juvenile Treatment Court Grant. Commissioner Dunkle seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

D. 2019 Liquid Fuels Distributions - \$62,429.57

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the 2019 Liquid Fuels Distributions - \$62,429.57. Commissioner Dunkle seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

E. Resolution No. 9 of 2019 Opposing Changes to the Medical Assistance Transportation Program

RESOLUTION NO. 9 of 2019

**RESOLUTION BY THE MIFFLIN COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OPPOSING CHANGES TO THE MEDICAL
ASSISTANCE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 mandates that in any area where fixed-bus route service is offered, door-to-door service to the elderly, the disabled and other people who cannot use or access the regular bus service must also be offered; and

WHEREAS, most counties in Pennsylvania are responsible for the coordination of these paratransit services, which they either provide directly, as the Call A Ride Service, Inc. does, or through a subcontractor; and

WHEREAS, MATP provides needed transportation to the most vulnerable members of our community which includes free trips to non-emergency medical appointments for individuals who qualify for Medical Transportation Assistance, seniors and persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Call A Ride Service, Inc. conducts over 17406 MATP related transports a year and MATP funding represents over 46% of the overall funding for the transit authority; and

WHEREAS, on June 22, 2018, the State Legislature, in the final hours of the passage of the state budget, adopted language into the Human Services Fiscal Code (HB 1677) directing the Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) through a statewide or regional full-risk brokerage system and the measure was approved by the Governor the same day; and

WHEREAS, the original incentive for implementing a full-risk brokerage was the promise of additional federal funding for DHS of \$15 million statewide, however, additional analysis now shows the estimated cost to the Commonwealth will be significantly higher, resulting in zero savings realized, and significant additional financial burden placed on PA taxpayers through other funding mechanisms that are already oversubscribed, and adding additional layers to the delivery of MATP services; and

WHEREAS, across the state, MATP funding exceeds 30% of the shared ride/paratransit programs.; and

WHEREAS, currently, Pennsylvania functions under a “coordinated system” which is a national model of efficiency and is illustrated in a recent Transportation Research Board report which shows our state’s shared ride model is the third-lowest MATP cost nationally; and

WHEREAS, brokering MATP service will result in many MATP trips being removed from that coordinated system which will increase costs overall, reduce coordination which will result in a significant loss in service productivity and reduce the geographic service area and hours of service, meaning seniors and persons with disabilities will see a reduction in available service; and

WHEREAS, in Pennsylvania, DHS primarily contracts with counties who are responsible for managing MATP and delivering service to eligible persons either directly or

through subcontractors; and most Counties use Pennsylvania's public shared-ride transportation systems to manage and deliver this service.; and

WHEREAS, *the move to a brokered MATP service would take away local management over MATP and transfer jobs and funding to agencies outside of the Counties where the services are being provided thereby potentially turning the funding over to large statewide or even international corporations which have little interest in local concerns: and*

WHEREAS, *the Call A Ride Service, Inc. is anticipating a loss of local management over MATP services, constituents will experience a loss of continuity in who they work with to arrange for these critical and often life sustaining transportation services, a loss of efficiency as agencies outside the region will be managing customer calls, and overall cuts to funding and services (including local jobs) as the result of a move to a statewide or regional full-risk brokerage system,*

WHEREAS, *independent research indicates that removing MATP from the coordinated model will very likely result in the need to increase revenue from the remaining funding sources, including the MATP program, by increasing the Cost to The Commonwealth by an estimated 23% or \$31.5 Million, and under the worst-case scenario where local transit providers would lose all MATP trips, the Commonwealth would experience a \$63.8 million increase in costs; and*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED *that the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners do hereby oppose the changes being made to the Medical Assistance Transportation Program involving a transition to a statewide or regional full-risk brokerage system by the State Legislature and the Department of Human Services;*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED *that the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners will submit this resolution and accompanying letter of disapproval to the regional legislative Representatives and State Senators, and provide copies to the state Department of Humans Services and the Governor office as well as regional Commissioners in an effort to respectfully request the Administration and General Assembly take steps to suspend the award of the RFA and consider taking action to study this issue further before initiating any changes.*

Ms. Sunderland thanked the Commissioners for their support on this critical issue. In reviewing the proposed changes, she felt it would bring confusion to the local clients, since there would no longer be a local contact for them. Clients would need to contact a regional office in another county to schedule a ride thereby losing the personal connection they're used to. Additionally, the cost to the shared ride program would be tremendous. There is concern that people will get frustrated and not want to make the trips they currently do. She hopes this process will be delayed at the state level with more time spent on ways to improve the current system. She added that an additional 15% of Federal funding is anticipated by the MATP if they offer the brokerage.

Chairman Kodish discussed that this brokerage idea had been inserted into last year's budget at the very last minute. It was not discussed prior to the adoption of the budget. He feels the brokerage would adversely affect Mifflin County citizens since there are currently good regional services offered.

Ms. Sunderland explained the recent expansion in service that added an additional two hours every day, Monday through Friday. Additionally, there are now Saturday and holiday hours, mainly to accommodate dialysis clients.

Commissioner Postal pointed out that the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) supports this resolution delaying the implementation of the brokerage system.

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunkle to approve Resolution No. 9 of 2019 Opposing Changes to the Medical Assistance Transportation Program. Commissioner Postal seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

- *Children of the Ark Day Care Center, Lewistown, PA*
- *David G. Ray, M.Ed., Lewistown, PA*
- *Wellspring Counseling Center, Lewistown, PA*
- *Brighter Visions Counseling, Lewistown, PA*
- *Tuscarora Intermediate Unit, McVeytown, PA*
- *Special Education Advocacy Services of Luzerne, LLC., Conyngham, PA*
- *Attorney Michael Kipphan, Huntingdon, PA*
- *New Passages, Inc., Harrisburg, PA*

Ms. Bubb stated that these are all renewal agreements. She then gave an overview of each provider and the services they offer.

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

G. *Provider Agreement and Consulting Services with Avanco International, Inc., Clifton, VA, for the Child Accounting and Profile System (CAPS) for the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 for a fee of \$26,712.42*

Ms. Bubb discussed that this is the statewide case management system that caseworkers utilize for reporting and communicating data to the State. Each county pays a fee based on their class. This year's fee is comparable to last year's.

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the Provider Agreement and Consulting Services with Avanco International, Inc. Commissioner Dunkle seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

H. *Award bid for the CDBG Derry Township, Hamilton Terrace/Lewistown Heights Stormwater Improvements and Road Reconstruction project:*

- *Mid-State Paving, LLC. - \$190,037.50*

Mr. Marks stated this project has been ongoing for several years. The project will utilize 2015, 2016, 2017 and a portion of 2018 Derry Township CDBG funds. A budget revision will be required for the 2018 funds in the amount of \$16,946.33. The total bid from Mid-State Paving, LLC was \$190,037.50. Two other bids were received as follows: Glenn O. Hawbaker - \$229,775.00 and Jay Fulkroad & Sons - \$247,593.87. This project encompasses Roosevelt Avenue, Fox Avenue and Lincoln Avenue. The Water Authority has already completed water line improvements in the area. This approval is contingent upon the award and approval of the 2018 budget revision. Mr. Marks doesn't foresee a problem with the revision being approved, but if it isn't, he believes the township will contribute either liquid fuels or other funds. This project will be completed in late summer 2019.

Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to award the bid for the CDBG Derry Township, Hamilton Terrace/Lewistown Heights Stormwater Improvements and Road Reconstruction project. Commissioner Dunkle seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

I. *Personnel:*

- *Promotion of Chastity Fultz from Planning Office Manager to CDBG Fiscal Manager effective May 20, 2019*
- *Resignation of Nichole A. Campbell from Deputy Coroner effective June 1, 2019*

- *Promotion of Cody Romanoskie from part-time to full-time Corrections Officer effective June 9, 2019*
- *Hiring of Kevin Ryan for part-time Corrections Officer effective June 17, 2019*

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

Chairman Kodish closed the meeting with the end of FDR's prayer given on D-Day.

IX. Adjournment:

With no other business on the agenda, Chairman Kodish adjourned the meeting at 9:37 a.m.

Secretary

ATTEST:

Chief Clerk