

Lewistown, PA

April 30, 2020

*The Board of Mifflin County Commissioners met for their Regular Meeting on Thursday, April 30, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. In attendance were Commissioners Mark Sunderland, Robert Postal and Kevin Kodish; Solicitor Stephen Snook, BMZ Law and Chief Clerk Cathy Romig.*

*There were no members present from the news media.*

*Guests present: Treasurer Deb Civitts; Public Safety Director Phil Lucas; Grant Writer Lisa Stalnaker and Roger Herto, MCTV*

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

**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 Postal to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 16, 2020. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

**IV. Approval of Bills:**

**1. General Fund, Accounts Payable:**

*Cks. #128131 to 128248 and EFTs # 26327 to 26349 in the amount of \$799,141.20*

**2. Payroll Account:**

*Cks. # 78868 to 78878 and Direct Deposit Advices # 31419 to 31656 in the amount of \$417,659.32*

**3. 911 Account:**

*Cks. #51958 to 51963 and EFT #20689 to 20692 in the amount of \$3,154.41*

**4. LEPC Account:**

*Ck. # 1489 in the amount of \$84.81*

**5. Liquid Fuels Act 89 Account:**

*EFT #8092 in the amount of \$77.75*

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

**V. Treasurer's Report:**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**04/15/2020-04/28/2020**

**General Account Starting Balance**

**\$636,335.86**

**DEBITS**

|                                  |                       |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Deposits Receipts #101520-101763 | 1,220,870.59          |
| Transfer from 911                | 0.00                  |
| Transfer from Capital Reserve    | 500,000.00            |
| Transfer from LEPC               | 0.00                  |
| Voided Checks                    | 0.00                  |
| Interest                         | 0.00                  |
| <b>TOTAL DEBITS</b>              | <b>\$1,720,870.59</b> |

**CREDITS**

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| Bills Paid CK #'S 128131-128248, EFT'S # 26327-26349 | 799,141.20            |
| Transfer to Payroll CKS 78868-78878, DD 31419-31656  | 417,659.32            |
| NSF CHECKS   | 904.97                |
| <b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>                                 | <b>\$1,217,705.49</b> |

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Ending Balance (Interest @ 0.360% as of 04/28/2020) | <b>\$1,139,500.96</b> |
|---|-----------------------|

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**Liquid Fuels**

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Invested at JV Bank @ 0.360% as of 04/28/2020 | \$388,533.82 |
|---|--------------|

**Liquid Fuels - Act 89**

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Invested at JV Bank @ 0.360% as of 04/28/2020 | \$326,424.30 |
|---|--------------|

**911 Telephone Account**

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Invested at JV Bank @ 0.360% as of 04/28/2020 | \$372,510.95 |
|---|--------------|

**LEPC**

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Invested at JV Bank @ 0.360% as of 04/28/2020 | \$39,519.41 |
|---|-------------|

**Local Use Fund**

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Invested at JV Bank @ 0.360% as of 04/28/2020 | \$427,621.23 |
|---|--------------|

**Capital Reserve Account**

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Invested at JV Bank @ 0.950% as of 04/28/2020 | \$9,786,912.70 |
|---|----------------|

Report Subject to Audit

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

**VI. Meetings and Events:**

*Chairman Sunderland: Election Update Meeting  
 JVBDS Joinder Board  
 County Bridge Program Meeting  
 COVID-19 Meetings  
 Various internal meetings*

*Commissioner Postal: Election Update Meeting  
 JVBDS Joinder Board  
 County Bridge Program Meeting  
 COVID-19 Meetings  
 CCAP Board Meeting*

*NACO Call In  
Meeting regarding PREA Grant  
Mifflin County Planning Commission Meeting  
Meeting with Congressman Keller*

*Commissioner Kodish: Election Update Meeting  
JVBDS Joinder Board  
Lewistown AMTRAK Service Meeting  
Solid Waste Authority Board Meeting  
Juniata River Valley Visitors Bureau Board  
County Bridge Program Meeting  
COVID-19 Meetings  
Meeting regarding PREA Grant*

**VII. Public Comment:**

*Commissioner Postal pointed out that everyone should continue to file their census information either by mail, phone or online. Doing this will minimize the need for field census workers to get out door to door. He pointed out that Menno Township was ranked number 14 out of over 2500 counties to self-respond. Mifflin County is currently at a 52% response rate.*

**VIII. New Business:**

**A. Update from Phil Lucas, Director of Emergency Management**

*Mr. Lucas began by stating Mifflin County currently has 36 cases of COVID-19. The surrounding counties are steadily increasing but by slow amounts. Centre County is at 95 cases with one death. Huntingdon County has 29 cases, Juniata County has 82 cases with one death and Snyder County has 33 cases and one death. One important factor to note is that nursing homes continue to be locations with the most deaths. Of the 2,195 deaths in Pennsylvania, 1,428 occurred in nursing homes which equates to 65% of the deaths. Centre County has two facilities with one resident each being infected. Mifflin County has two facilities, one with one resident and one with one employee who have COVID-19. The Department of Health will have to investigate how a resident in the facility for the last two months has COVID-19. The concern will be the testing of staff and testing of residents to see if there's any kind of spread or clusters occurring. Overall, the numbers remain very low. With the recognition of the extended risk in long-term care facilities, the Department of Health has changed their priorities. They are no longer delivering personal protective equipment (PPE) to acute care facilities. They will only be making deliveries to long-term care facilities. They scheduled two deliveries, one in May and one in June to long-term care facilities. Unfortunately, it will be very limited quantities of PPE that will be delivered. The expectation is for those who are specifically taking care of patients with a COVID-19 risk or COVID-19 positive. Acute care facilities and home health care agencies will no longer be getting deliveries from the State or Federal Government. If an acute care facility or home health care agency has a crisis level where they do not have enough PPE to provide care, under the governor's order of reallocation, they may move PPE from facilities that have extra to those facilities that have need. As part of that notice, they did not mention PPE for first responders, so we're going on the assumption they will not be delivering anymore PPE at this point. We do have a small stockpile that we're using to distribute to first responders. In contravention to the Department of Health guidelines, we did provide some PPE to home health care agencies who have not gotten anything through any of the programs to date. We did a one-time push and will be monitoring whether we'll need to do a one-time push to other agencies who have not received any at that point. We do expect social distancing and the use of masks to continue through the summer. As a task force region, we're starting plans to identify how we can accommodate the next flu season in the fall. As we go through fall planning, we're expecting the typical seasonal flu outbreak. It's unlikely they'll be able to distinguish that from COVID-19, so he feels it will all happen together.*

*Commissioner Postal added the Director of Public Safety has been having weekly meetings with first responders.*

*Commissioner Kodish asked whether or not the reported Juniata County death was from a nursing home.*

*Mr. Lucas responded that the Department of Health chooses not to provide that information. It is not known if the death was a community member, nursing home worker or nursing home resident.*

*B. Requests for refund of a portion of County real estate taxes:*

- Parcel No. 19,15-0101AA located in Oliver Township – out buildings listed on parcel in error - \$163.68 (2014-2019)*
- Parcel No. 14,05-107B located in Brown Township – value of improvements miscalculated - \$597.12 (2017)*
- Parcel No. 20,02-0102C located in Union Township – dwelling was removed from property in August 2018 - \$137.78 (2018)*
- Parcel No. 12,28-0625 located in Armagh Township – several buildings were removed from the property in April, 2019 - \$163.82 (2019)*

*Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the requests for refund of a portion of County real estate taxes. Commissioner Postal seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

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

- Parcel No. 19,13-0019C-,000 located in Oliver Township – parcel was billed incorrect and will be re-billed with the August supplemental billing - \$76.61 (2018 Supplemental)*
- Parcel No. 21,06-0143--,0000 located in Wayne Township – mobile home was destroyed by fire and will be re-billed with the August supplemental billing - \$441.56 (2020)*

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

*D. Mifflin County Re-Entry Coordination Grant Application - \$84,666.00*

*Ms. Stalnaker stated Mifflin County is requesting \$84,666.00 for funding for the Re-Entry Coordination project, which includes the hiring of a re-entry coordinator under the grant. As work has been done with the Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB), collecting data and completing the re-entry strategic plan last year, a lot of the activities outlined in the goals and objectives are difficult to meet without the appropriate funding and staff support. This position would be responsible for re-entry and would meet with the IDT team to ensure there's appropriate community supervision, treatment plans and services that will aid folks returning to the community from incarceration.*

*Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the Mifflin County Re-Entry Coordination Grant Application - \$84,666.00. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

*E. Mifflin County Co-Responders Program Grant Application - \$117,251.00*

*Ms. Stalnaker mentioned this is a program Juniata Valley Behavioral and Developmental Services (JVBDs) has been discussing for some time at the CJAB and re-entry meetings. There's a model program done in Franklin County that was very successful in reducing*

*the number of individuals with mental health substance abuse and or co-occurring disorders presenting to the criminal justice system. This entails a mental health worker being housed in Lewistown Borough because of the concentration of individuals who meet that criteria in that area. The goal would be to expand into other municipalities in the County in the future. The program would have a designated mental health coordinator who would be available to respond to calls coming into Emergency Services that were identified as being mental health related. This individual would have crisis intervention training and some basic tools to help them assist law enforcement. This person would be housed at the Lewistown Police Department. It is hoped that it would provide a community resource for folks needing information on mental health. Lewistown Borough was part of the team that toured Franklin County and the Chief of Police has been active in the grant process. JVBDS and SAM Inc. were involved in this process as well. Franklin County has seen a significant reduction in the number of voluntary committals and individuals that continue to access the criminal justice system for their behavioral health needs.*

*Motion was made by Commissioner Postal to approve the Mifflin County Co-Responders Program Grant Application - \$117,251.00. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

**F. Personnel:**

- *Resignation of LPN Katy Swartz effective April 20, 2020*
- *Resignation of LPN Tracy Byers effective April 20, 2020*
- *Promotion of Bobbi Jo Price from temporary to permanent LPN effective April 21, 2020*
- *Promotion of Johnna-Kay Bilger-Hoar from part-time to full-time LPN effective April 26, 2020*
- *Hiring of William Stringer and Morgan Baumgardner for part-time Corrections Officers effective May 1, 2020*

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

**IX. Adjournment:**

*With no other business on the agenda, Chairman Sunderland adjourned the meeting at 9:17 a.m.*

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*Secretary*

**ATTEST:**

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*Chief Clerk*