

MEETING OF THE MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 14, 2024

Members Present: Commissioner McGonigle-by phone, Commissioner Finley,
Commissioner Coleman

Prayer: Commissioner Coleman

Pledge of Allegiance: Was held.

The Commissioners are proud to acknowledge Mercer County employees who are military veterans and have chosen to be recognized. These individuals represent various branches of the military and their service to our County and Country deserves recognition, not only just today, but every day. They will be announced by department, along with their branch of service.

Others Present: Peter Acker, Nicki Biles, Tim Callahan, Dave Moyer, Dan Davis, Mary Jo DePreta, Nicole Vaughn, Thad Hall, Jennifer Hamilton, John Logan, Bill McClure, Mac McDuffie, Joe Reichard, Christian McElhaney, Katie Walker, Dee Dee Zickar, Jerry Zona, Aliyah Hunt, Joanie Micsky, Melissa Klaric, Caleb Stright, Martin Wierzba, Brian Skiba, Roni Shilling

General Discussion Items: None

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

2024-501 RESOLUTION to approve 10/31/2024 Commissioners' Meeting MINUTES:

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

PROCLAMATIONS

2024-502 RESOLUTION to approve a PROCLAMATION to recognize U. S. Navy WWII Veteran EMIL CHARLES HOYT for celebrating his 100th Birthday.

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVALS

2024-503 RESOLUTION to approve ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS executed by the Chair on behalf of the Board of Commissioners for the period of 10/01/2024 – 10/31/2024.

- Right of Way Clearance Certification – Hosack Rd Bridge Repair
- Right of Way Clearance Certification – LPS East Gilmore Rd Bridges 2707-2717
- DEP application for renewal of Certificate of Registration for Radiation Producing Machines
- Agreement to allocate costs of appraisal review service – between Sharon City School District/City of Sharon/Mercer County
- Cooperation agreement between Mercer County and Greenville Town-FY 2024 CDBG Program Administration
- Cooperation agreement between Mercer County and Sharpsville Borough-FY 2024 CDBG Program Administration
- Cooperation agreement between Mercer County and Grove City Borough-FY 2024 CDBG Program Administration
- Cooperation agreement between Mercer County and Pine Township-FY 2024 CDBG Program Administration
- Letter to PA DCED-STMP for Phase I project
- Application for reimbursement for Mosquito-Borne Disease Control Grant
- IDENTISYS Contract Proposal – Smartreg Software for Recorder’s Office
- Letter to Wilmington Township Board of Supervisors – Bend Road Bridge Replacement project
- Worker Protection and Investment Certification Form
- Letter to Meredith Biggica -PennDot, regarding Bend Road Bridge Replacement Project
- Glass Recycling Foundation Lawrence Mercer Counties Grant Letter Agreement 2024
- Fair Housing Resolution
- Citizen Participation Plan 2024 CDBG
- Local Task Force Officer Timesheet – Tony Settle OT
- DEP General Permit for Stormwater Discharges-Renewal of Waiver
- Letter to Chester Bealles, McCandless Ford, regarding two new police cruisers

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

CYS

2024-504 RESOLUTION to enter into AGREEMENTS with the following providers for services listed.

EFFECTIVE 07/01/2024 – 06/30/2025

VENDOR	PROGRAM	RATE	TERM
Computer Aid, Inc. 1390 Ridgeview Drive Allentown, PA 18104	Professional Fiscal Consultancy Svcs	\$110.00	Hourly

Diversified Treatment Alternative Centers, LLC 600 Arch Street Sunbury, PA 19801	Residential Treatment–Lewisburg RT	\$581.56	Daily
	Residential Treatment – Danville RT	\$581.56	Daily
The Law Offices of Michael Muha 19 Jefferson Avenue Sharon, PA 16146	Parent Representation	\$75.00	Hourly
	Child Representation		
	Educational Decision Maker		
The Law Offices of Melissa Merchant-Calvert 138 West Market Street Mercer, PA 16137	GAL Child Representation	\$75.00	Hourly
Ted Isoldi, Attorney at Law 106 North Pitt Street P.O. Box 2 Mercer, PA 16137	Parent Representation	\$75.00	Hourly
	Child Representation		
	Educational Decision Maker		
Margaret T. Lucas Attorney at Law 245 West Venango Street Mercer, PA 16137	Parent Representation	\$75.00	Hourly
	Child Representation		
	Educational Decision Maker		
John D. Alfredo Attorney at Law P.O. Box 246 Sharpsville, PA 16150	Parent Representation	\$75.00	Hourly
	Child Representation		
	Educational Decision Maker		
Fruit, Dill, Goodwin, & Scholl Attorneys at Law 32 Shenango Avenue P.O. Box 673 Sharon, PA 16146	Parent Representation	\$75.00	Hourly
	Child Representation		
	Educational Decision Maker		
Evans, Garvey, Lackey, & Ochs Attorneys at Law 19 Jefferson Avenue P.O. Box 949 Sharon, PA 16146	Parent Representation	\$75.00	Hourly
	Child Representation		
	Educational Decision Maker		
David R. Gloss Attorney at Law 6 Plum Street Greenville, PA 16146	Parent Representation	\$75.00	Hourly
	Child Representation		
	Educational Decision Maker		
Autumn L. Johnson Attorney at Law 120 South Diamond Street Mercer, PA 16137 11/14/2024	Parent Representation	\$75.00	Hourly
	Child Representation		
	Educational Decision Maker		

Annette L. Dohanics
107 Castle Brook Drive
Cranberry Township, PA 16066

Parent Representation
Child Representation
Educational Decision Maker

\$75.00 Hourly

Moved: Mr. McGonigle
Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley
Yes-Mr. Finley Yes-Dr. Coleman

HUMAN RESOURCES

2024-505 RESOLUTION to approve the following HUMAN RESOURCES actions:

NAME/POSITION

EFFECTIVE

LEVEL/STEP/GRADE

NEW HIRES

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Sherry Grey 11/18/2024 TCC02-00-00 (\$14.77/hr.)
PT Custodian

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Paige Loutzenhiser 11/25/2024 P&A 06-00-01 (\$23.21/hr.)
Social Service Advocate

TRANSFERS

TAX ASSESSMENT

Alesha Adams 11/18/2024 TCC07-04-01 (\$20.70/hr.)
Lead Mapper Transfer from Mapper

SHERIFF

Kelly Knight 11/25/2024 PA05-08-01 (\$24.12/hr.)
Administrative Assistant Transfer from Second Deputy

Jail

Justin Angus 11/12/2024 JCO 00-01 (\$18.78/hr.)
Corrections Officer Transfer from Temp. Caseworker I

SEPARATION FROM EMPLOYMENT

SHERIFF

Heidi Kizak 01/21/2025
Administrative Assistant

JAIL

Aleiah Keys 11/04/2024
Corrections Officer

Amanda Crans 11/13/2024
Corrections Officer

Kliah Fisher 11/21/2024
Corrections Officer

CYS

Gregory Walp 01/31/2025
Caseworker II

Jeffrey Garrett 10/31/2024
Caseworker II

Moved: Mr. McGonigle **Seconded:** Mr. Finley
Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle Yes-Mr. Finley Yes-Dr. Coleman

COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION VENDOR AMOUNT DATE RANGE
2024-506 N/A N/A Effective 11/14/2024

Resolution to present the Mercer County proposed budget for the year 2025 for public viewing on 11/15/2024. The budget will be adopted at the Commissioners’ Meeting on 12/12/2024.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner McGonigle advised it would be irresponsible to oppose this proposed budget, that this is the best workable budget, and it is important to keep the Operating Capital Reserves healthy considering the County does not receive the tax revenues dollars until next spring. It is important to note the budget is a plan, that throughout the coming year we will continue to control and trim costs in all the County Departments.

Moved: Mr. McGonigle **Seconded:** Mr. Finley
Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle Yes-Mr. Finley Yes-Dr. Coleman

BRIDGE

RESOLUTION VENDOR AMOUNT DATE RANGE
2024-507 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and Mercer County \$30,000.00 Effective 11/14/2024

Resolution to Amend Resolution 2020-430, Resolution 2023-248 and Resolution 2023-379 for the Old Mercer Road Bridge 2606 related to Reimbursement Agreement No. R20010010 using 80% federal funds, 15% state funds and 5% local funds. This is to reimburse Mercer County for project costs via the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The total reimbursement agreement is now \$2,195,000.00.

Moved: Mr. McGonigle **Seconded:** Mr. Finley
Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle Yes-Mr. Finley Yes-Dr. Coleman

Elected Official/Department Head Reports:

- Warden Mac McDuffie reported the jail staffing levels have improved. Current staff levels are short by seven positions instead of the previous eighteen positions. He is expecting to have all positions filled by the end of the year.
- Elections Director Thad Hall thanked all the people who made the election day possible, from County employees to volunteers helping during the election process. He advised there is going to be a recount of 100% of the ballots in Mercer County. This will start next Wednesday and is expected to be completed by next Friday. The ballots will be rerun on different machines with political party watchers attending the process.

Recess to Salary Board – Postponed until next week

Public Comment:

- Martin Wierzba asked questions regarding vacant County properties and the possibility of having these properties valued by a real estate professional. Information on the County properties was provided by Commissioner Coleman and Commissioner Finley.

Questions of the Media:

- Caleb Stright of the Record Argus inquired if the milage increase proposed in the budget was in place of the bond the County was considering a week ago, and if there has been any thought of holding off on an increase until after the Reassessment Project was completed. Commissioner Coleman and Commission Finley provided information on the bond issue, advising the bond will be reconsidered after next year and is for Capital Projects. The real estate value has been decreasing yearly causing a loss in tax revenue, and the milage increase is prudent due to the difference in expenditures versus revenue, along with using Capital Reserve monies to balance the County Budget. Commissioner McGonigle added that going through the budget with each department of the County has proved effective in knowing what is occurring in each department with the budget.

Motion to Adjourn

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Attest:

Chief Clerk

Mercer County Board of Commissioners