

MEETING OF THE MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

July 2, 2026

Members Present: Commissioner McGonigle, Commissioner Finley, Commissioner Coleman

Prayer: Pastor Brian Heckman, Bethel Life, Greenville

Pledge of Allegiance: Was held.

Others Present: Peter Acker, Paulette Benegasi, Aliyah Hunt, Jacob Sander, Stephen Sherman, Deb Sicilian, Angela Sorg, DeeDee Zickar, Megan Gahring, Doniele Russell, Jay Russell, Diane Syphert, Laura Paxton, Sydney Balas, Jeanie Croyle, Caleb Stright, Joanie Micsky, Bill McConnell, Roni Shilling

General Discussion Items: Controller Sherman reported there were 16 sealed bids received by him for the Mercer County Agricultural and Conservation Community Learning Center Project. Controller Sherman opened the sealed bids and announced the bids. A bid tabulation sheet is attached to and made part of these Minutes.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

2026-264 RESOLUTION to approve 06/18/2026 Commissioners' Meeting MINUTES:

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

PROCLAMATION

2026-265 RESOLUTION to approve a PROCLAMATION to recognize SYDNEY BALAS for receiving the Girl Scouts Gold Award, the highest honor achieved in Girl Scouting.

Comment: Sydney Balas spoke about the project that resulted in her receiving this honor. This project was on the history of Greenville and why a Greenville museum isn't being visited by many people.

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

CYS

2026-266 RESOLUTION to enter into AGREEMENTS with the following providers for services listed.

EFFECTIVE 07/01/2026 – 06/30/2027

VENDOR	PROGRAM	RATE	TERM
Avanco International, LLC 12730 Verdant Way Reston, VA 20191 07/02/2026	CAPS Version 19 UPGRADE	\$5,023.92	Annual

Parkside Psychological Associates, LLC 435 Chestnut Street Meadville, PA 16335	CART/Trauma Individual/Family Sessions		\$134.50	Hourly
	Court Report, Court Testimony, Team Meeting			
	CART/Trauma Group		\$51.25	Hourly
	Risk Evaluation/Psychosexual Eval		\$1,450.00	Per Eval
	Sexual Offender Polygraph		\$375.00	Per Poly
	ABEL Assessment		\$350.00	Per ABEL
	Trauma Training		\$300.00	Per Hour
	Trauma Informed Care Consultation		\$200.00	Per Hour
Community Specialists Corp. d/b/a New Outlook Academy 900 Agnew Road Pittsburgh, PA 15227	Trauma Debriefing for Mercer CYS Staff		\$150.00	Per Hour
	General Residential Program	SH	\$359.18	Daily
	Drug & Alcohol Program	NM	\$416.09	Daily
	Shelter Program	SP	\$438.10	Daily
	Specialized Settings Program	SP	\$451.18	Daily
	Enhanced Support Program	AC	\$1,267.76	Daily

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

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

HUMAN RESOURCES

2026-267 RESOLUTION to approve the following HUMAN RESOURCES actions:

NAME/POSITION	EFFECTIVE	LEVEL/STEP/GRADE
<u>NEW HIRES</u>		
DISTRICT ATTORNEY		
Jennifer Drda PT Victim Witness Coordinator	07/06/2026	PA05-00-00 (\$19.96/hr.)
E911		
Danetta Johnson PT Telecommunicator	07/07/2026	TCE-00-01 (\$21.10/hr.)
JAIL		
Stephanie Clark PT Corrections Officer	07/13/2026	JCO-00-00 (\$17.76/hr.)
Kristen Kingen FT Corrections Officer	06/29/2026	JCO-00-01 (\$19.73/hr.)
Johnathan Nuhfer FT Corrections Officer	06/29/2026	JCO-00-01 (\$19.73/hr.)
SHERIFF		
George Casey Smith PT Deputy	06/29/2026	SD00-00-00 (\$20.33/hr.)

TRANSFERS**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Jacob Sander	07/26/2026	ELODA-60-00 (\$226,411.12/yr.)
District Attorney		Reimbursed at 65% from the Commonwealth

SEPARATION FROM EMPLOYMENT**CYS**

Melissa Kulp	07/18/2026
Caseworker II	

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Peter Acker	07/25/2026
District Attorney	

Andrew Acker	07/25/2026
Assistant District Attorney	

JAIL

James Williams	06/22/2026
FT Corrections Officer	

Xavier Ganzy	07/04/2026
FT Corrections Officer	

Mackenzie Kocher	06/30/2026
FT Corrections Officer	

Tiffany Griffith	07/09/2026
FT Corrections Officer	

PUBLIC DEFENDER

McKayla McCaslin	07/01/2026
FT Admin Assistant	

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

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

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE	TITLE	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2026-268	N/A	N/A	Effective 07/02/2026

Resolution to approve the advertisement of Ordinance No. 2026-003 of the Board of Commissioners, County of Mercer, amending the Mercer County Subdivision and Land Development (SALDO) Ordinance No. 2025-005 to establish uniform land development standards for Data Center facilities regarding the development, construction, site design, and

decommissioning of Data Centers in Mercer County.

Comment: Executive Director, Doniele Russell of Mercer County Regional Planning Commission advised her office is correcting a technicality with the advertising of legal notices regarding this Ordinance. The Sharon Herald did not publish the advertisements for the Public Hearing or Ordinance so those will be readvertised, and a public hearing will be held.

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

APPOINTMENTS

RESOLUTION

2026-269 Resolution to confirm the following Reappointment to the MERCER COUNTY OPIOID SETTLEMENT ADVISORY BOARD for the term as specified:

Brandin Brooks 07/01/2026 – 07/31/2027

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2026-270	Trails End Conservancy 2535 N. Hermitage Road Hermitage, PA 16148	\$61,000.00	Effective 07/02/2026

Resolution to approve an agreement to issue funds to support the costs involved with the Phoenix Project, a youth substance abuse prevention project. The Project will use equine assisted therapies to reduce identified risk factors and strengthen positive skill sets with youth who are at risk or have been exposed to substance abuse per the Opioid Settlement Fund distribution to the County.

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2026-271	Hill, Barth & King, LLC 3110 Highland Road Hermitage, PA 16148	See below	Effective 07/02/2026

Resolution to approve a proposal with HBK CPAs & Consultants for professional auditing services. HBK will complete audits for Mercer County in coordination with the Controller's Office for the five Magistrate District Courts, the Sheriff's Office, Prothonotary, Recorder of Deeds, Clerk of Courts & Register of Wills, and the Mercer County Jail as listed below. Costs to be paid from the Controller's Office budget.

- Internal Audits – FY 2025 not to exceed \$60,000.00
- Internal Audits – FY 2026 not to exceed \$61,000.00
- Internal Audits – FY 2027 not to exceed \$62,000.00

Moved: Mr. Finley

Seconded: Dr. Coleman

Vote: No-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

JAIL

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2026-272	AEC Group, LLC 3000 Montour Church Road Oakdale, PA 15071-9487	\$4,393.62	Effective 07/02/2026

Resolution to approve purchase of nine (9) Wireless Access Points to replace the nine (9) end-of-life/end-of-support Wireless Access Points at the County Jail. Costs to be paid from the Jail Durable Goods line item.

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

LAWRENCE-MERCER COUNTIES RECYCLING/SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2026-273	N/A	\$27,015.00	Effective 07/02/2026

Resolution to approve the following expenditures for the PA DEP 902 grant and Glass Recycling Program. All expenditures are 100% reimbursable by the grant funds.

- Purchase Reconyx cellular cameras and equipment, including one (1) year subscription plans \$ 2,880.00
- PA One Call annual service fee \$ 125.00
- Purchase of household recycling containers and labels for collecting glass bottles, jugs, and jars \$13,510.00
- Conduct additional public education and outreach with news ads, radio ads, and digital marketing \$10,500.00

Comment: Deputy Director Megan Gahrning said the glass recycling program has been going well. The Hermitage Site bin has been emptied twice, and the Greenville Site bin has been emptied once. The sites have been kept clean and contamination by other materials in the bins has been minimal.

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

MH/ID

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2026-274	Pennsylvania Department of Human Services Bureau of Financial Operations 1 st Floor Forum Place Harrisburg, PA 17105	\$129,187.00 (incoming)	07/01/2026-06/30/2027

Resolution to accept FY 2026-2027 Human Services Development Fund (HSDF) tentative allocation, as developed by the PA Office of Social Programs. Approve preliminary distributions in proportion to the preliminary budget, based on unofficial funding and subject to revision. Advances are receipted quarterly:

- United Way of Mercer County - maximum annual amount of \$7,093.50 for outreach and coordination of access to the 211 information line.
- Mercer County Jail - reimburse up to \$65,000.00 for inmate counseling services.
- Mercer County Area Agency on Aging - maximum annual amount of \$57,093.50 for transportation services.

Comment: Commissioner McGonigle stated he wanted to be sure the County gets these funds distributed quickly to the named agencies, and that he discovered the County was a little delinquent on issuing the funds last year. Commissioner Coleman thanked Paulette Benegasi of MH/ID for her due diligence with ensuring the funds were going to the right places.

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

MIS

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2026-275	ESRI 380 New York Street Redlands, CA 92373-8118	\$36,540.00	06/01/2026-06/31/2027

Resolution to approve the annual renewal of licensing, maintenance, and support for ArcGIS Desktop/Server software. Cost to be paid from Act 13 and 911 Funds.

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

PUBLIC SAFETY/9-1-1

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2026-276	Thomas Shelby & Co., Inc. 309 South Park Drive St. Mary's, OH 45885	\$22,932.08	08/01/2026-08/01/2029

Resolution to approve a three (3) year lease for eight (8) dispatcher chairs in the 24/7 Chair Fleet Program. Lease payment (paid in full) includes a 2% discount and a \$200.00 Choice Plan fee. Lease includes maintenance, repair, and replacement every 12 months. Cost to be paid from Fund 244. Comment: Commissioner McGonigle asked everyone to contact their State Legislators to ask for an affirmative vote on the increase for the 911 fee that is added to your phone bill. The Legislators did not act upon it because they had not heard from their constituents and therefore did not feel a need for it. Commissioner McGonigle advised the equipment needed in a 911 Center is very expensive, and it is used 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Commissioner Finley advised if the increase is not generated through the fees, then the increase becomes a tax on your property. It would be better to have the option to pay a fee on a cell phoneline than being forced to pay that through their property taxes.

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

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

VOTER REGISTRATION/ELECTION

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2026-277	U.S. Digital Response (USDR) 490 43 rd Street, Unit 230 Oakland, CA 94609-2138	\$5,532.00	07/01/2026-06/30/2027

Resolution to approve the service agreement with USDR for election management software services. The previous agreement amount was \$9,360.00 over 18 months. The change in costs represents changes in the term of the contract and a reduction in cost to reflect our actual system usage. Cost to be paid from the Election Integrity Grant.

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

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

VOTER REGISTRATION/ELECTION

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2026-278	Election Systems & Software LLC 11208 John Gait Blvd. Omaha, NE 68137	\$2,625.00	Effective 07/02/2026

Resolution to approve the purchase of a standalone election management workstation. This laptop will provide the office with the ability to conduct all critical election management activities off-site. Cost to be paid from the Election Integrity Grant.

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

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

GRANTS

RESOLUTION	GRANTOR	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2026-279	Pennsylvania DEP Rachel Carlson Building 400 Market Street Harrisburg, PA 17101	\$17,324.00	Effective 07/02/2026

Resolution to make application for an Act 101 Section 901b grant from the PA DEP for Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Education. The total project cost is \$17,324.00 with a reimbursement from DEP in the amount of \$13,859.00. The County agrees to provide \$3,465.00 in a combination of cash and in-kind matching funds. Funding will be used to advertise the 2026 and 2027 Special Collection recycling events in local news media.

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

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

GRANTS

RESOLUTION	GRANTOR	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2026-280	PCoRP P.O. Box 60769 Harrisburg, PA 17106-0769	Up to \$25,000.00	Effective 07/02/2026

Resolution to approve an application for the PCoRP Loss Prevention Grant to offset the costs of:

- Fire Alarm System and Extinguisher testing at the Jail and County facilities
- The purchase of a new walk-thru metal detector
- Repairs to the automatic door opener at the Courthouse entrance
- Purchase of ice melt and snow plow melts for winter maintenance
- Purchase of CyberIQ Essentials for cybersecurity awareness training

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

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

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Commissioner's Reports:

- Commissioner Finley reminded everyone to be careful with explosive devices this weekend while celebrating America's 250th Birthday.
- Commissioner Coleman advised there is a concert being held on the Courthouse grounds Friday evening, followed by pizza from Pizza Joes and beverages in front of J. Hick's and

fireworks after dark at Brandy Springs Park. The fireworks are being sponsored by the America250 Mercer County Committee. On Saturday morning there will be parade at 10:00am with approximately 60 units. Popsicles will be handed out during the parade. Commissioner Coleman thanked Recorder Dee Dee Zickar for all of the beautiful flowers around the Courthouse Square.

- Commissioner McGonigle informed everyone that two years ago Commissioner Coleman started organizing the America250 celebrations, spending countless hours with creating the events that have been occurring in the County for this celebration.
- Recorder of Deeds, Dee Dee Zickar advised her office offers a service called PropertyCheck. This service is free and is a 24/7 service that better protects residents from property and mortgage fraud. Information is available in her office and on the Mercer County website, Recorder of Deeds page. Recorder Zickar is also adding an additional electronic vendor, HopDox, for E recording through her office for those who submit documents to her office in electronic format.
- District Attorney Acker discussed highlights to his past 7 ½ years as DA, his 24/7 schedule, and late night calls from the Coroner and Police Chiefs. First Assistant DA Jacob Sander informed everyone that the office will miss DA Acker's legal experience and his sense of humor. ADA Sander advised as the incoming District Attorney, he is humbled by the opportunity and that he can't wait to start working with law enforcement.

Recess to Salary Board

Public Comment: Diane Syphrit expressed her concerns regarding the outsourcing of audits and the choice of auditors. The Commissioners provided information to Diane Syphrit regarding her questions.

Questions from the Media: None

Motion to Adjourn

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Attest:

Chief Clerk

Mercer County Board of Commissioners