

MEETING OF THE MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 17, 2023

Attendance	Present	Absent	By Phone
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Pledge of Allegiance: Was held.

Others Present: Peter Acker, Nicki Biles, Bill Madden, Ann Morrison, Lee Ann Nucerino, Stephen Sherman, Susan Haley, Richard Dillaman, Melissa Klaric, Caleb Stright

General Discussion Items: See Below.

Penn State Extension has been hosting meetings across the Commonwealth called “Day in the County.” Commissioners reported on Mercer’s Day in the County. It was informative to hear the details of projects and support offered to Mercer County residents and visitors. Penn State University was formed as a land grant college and it provides valuable education, e.g., about spotted lanternfly outbreaks and oil, and gas well development in the region. These meetings aim to strengthen the Extension’s commitment and collaboration with County partners.

Commissioners provided an update on the Real Property Reassessment Project. The sales data that will be used for comparative analysis to determine the new assessed value will be from 01/01/2023 through 06/30/2025. Use of contemporaneous sales data is a best and fair practice when re-assessing property values. They also noted that the millage for 2027 will be adjusted so that taxes collected in 2027 will be revenue neutral or no higher than those collected in 2026.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None.

2023-350 RESOLUTION to approve **8/3/2023** Commissioners’ Meeting MINUTES.

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

PROCLAMATIONS

2023-351 RESOLUTION to approve a PROCLAMATION to recognize September 18-24, 2023, as Rail Safety Week.

DISCUSSION: Commissioners highlighted the incidents of collisions and fatalities in 2022 from both vehicular and pedestrian rail grade crossings. Rail safety is important to Mercer County. Since 2017, Commissioners have been in contact with Canadian National (CN Railway), Coolspring Township, and PennDOT concerning the deterioration of the Route 62 tunnel which was built in 1922. It is height and weight restricted and may not be used by emergency vehicles. Mercer County has been awarded a \$3MM grant from HUD to assist with the estimated repair costs of \$15MM to replace the tunnel. PennDOT has advertised for a preliminary engineering study with anticipated construction in 2027 or 2028. Commissioners read from CN’s Annual Report highlighting its commitment to safety and strengthening local community partnerships. They have requested CN to contribute to the costs of repair of the tunnel.

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

PROCLAMATIONS

2023-352 RESOLUTION to approve a PROCLAMATION to recognize the 75th Anniversary of the Jamestown Lions Club.

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

PROCLAMATIONS

2023-353 RESOLUTION to approve a PROCLAMATION to recognize the lifesaving efforts of Jamestown Police Officer Danielle Downing.

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

EXPENDITURES

2023-354 RESOLUTION to approve DISBURSEMENTS for the period of 07/01/2023—07/29/2023 in the amount of \$4,748,238.06. Detail as listed:

- \$4,631,010.81 County operations
- \$30,000.00 ERAP Advance
- \$4,552.58 Election Integrity Grant
- \$2,984.63 Witness Fees
- \$4,500.00 County agencies for ERAP Two administration
- \$33,039.96 CDBG Covid projects
- \$2,950.00 Veterans’ Memorial markers
- \$39,200.08 ARPA Funds: Radio Project, Neshannock Creek Watershed

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REFUNDS

2023-355 RESOLUTION to approve the following REFUNDS(s) listed effective 08/17/2023.

NAME/ADDRESS	DISTRICT	R. E.	REFUND	REASON
Kempf, Samuel S Etal 9943 N Girdle Rd Middlefield, OH 44062	Pine Township	X	\$ 187.74	Two mobile homes removed
Wilson, Charles I II 171 N Maysville Rd Greenville, PA 16125	West Salem Twp	X	\$ 271.09	Part land/building transfer

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

CYS

2023-356 RESOLUTION to enter into AGREEMENTS(s) with the following providers for services listed.

EFFECTIVE 07/01/2023—06/30/2024

VENDOR	PROGRAM	RATE	TERM
Fruit, Dill, Goodwin & Scholl, Attorneys at Law 32 Shenango Avenue P.O. Box 673 Sharon, PA 16146	Parent Representation	\$ 55.00	Hourly
David R. Gloss, Esquire 6 Plum Street Greenville, PA 16125	Parent Representation	\$ 55.00	Hourly
Evans, Garvey, Lackey & Ochs 19 Jefferson Avenue P.O. Box 949 Sharon, PA 16146	Educational Decision Maker	\$ 65.00	Hourly
LifeSpan Family Services of PA 203 Lane Avenue Punxsutawney, PA 15767	Foster Care – FC	\$ 71.69	Daily
	Behaviorally Challenged – BC	\$ 91.29	Daily
	Medically Needy	\$ 91.29	Daily
	Emergency Placement – EP	\$ 99.36	Daily
	Respite - RP	\$ 99.36	Daily
	Kinship Wins – KW	\$ 60.86	Daily
	Parenting Youth – PY	\$ 118.66	Daily
Ted Isoldi, Attorney at Law 106 North Pitt Street Mercer, PA 16137	Transitioning Teen – TN	\$ 110.21	Daily
	Complex Cases – CC	\$ 180.00	Daily
	Parent Representation	\$ 55.00	Hourly
	Child Representation	\$ 65.00	Hourly
	Educational Decision Maker	\$ 65.00	Hourly

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

HUMAN RESOURCES

2023-357 RESOLUTION to approve the following HUMAN RESOURCES actions.

NAME/POSITION	EFFECTIVE	LEVEL/STEP/GRADE
<u>NEW HIRES</u>		
TAX CLAIM:		
Kimberly Grossman Senior Procedure Clerk	9/5/2023	TCC06-00-01 (\$17.47/hr.)

SEPARATION FROM EMPLOYMENT

DISTRICT ATTORNEY:	
Ryan Wilityer Assistant District Attorney	8/22/2023
Nicole Kaltenbaugh Specialist	8/25/2023

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

HUMAN RESOURCES

2023-358 RESOLUTION to approve the following HUMAN RESOURCES actions.

NAME/POSITION	EFFECTIVE	LEVEL/STEP/GRADE
<u>NEW HIRES</u>		
JUDGE MCEWEN:		
Karen Philson Tip Staff	8/1/2023	TIPCC-20-00 (\$78.70/day)

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

BRIDGE

RESOLUTION # 2023-359	VENDOR/CONTRACT Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and Mercer County	AMOUNT Revenue- neutral	DATE RANGE Effective 08/17/2023
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Amend Resolutions: 2019-114, 2020-278 and 2021-041 for the East Gilmore Road Bridges related to Reimbursement Agreement No. R19010009 using 100% federal funds. This is to reimburse Mercer County for project costs via the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Move \$125,000 from the construction phase to the preliminary engineering phase.
Move \$300,000 from the construction phase to the final design phase.
The preliminary engineering phase now has \$440,000.
The final design phase now has \$300,000.
The right-of-way phase now has \$19,000.
The construction phase now has \$305,883.
The total reimbursement agreement for this project remains \$1,064,883.

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

BRIDGE

RESOLUTION # 2023-360	VENDOR/CONTRACT Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and Mercer County	AMOUNT Revenue- neutral	DATE RANGE Effective 8/17/2023
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Amend Resolutions: 2019-113 and 2020-276 for the Hosack Road Bridges related to Reimbursement Agreement No. R19010008 using 100% federal funds. This is to reimburse Mercer County for project costs via the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Move \$65,000 from the construction phase to the preliminary engineering phase.
Move \$200,000 from the construction phase to the final design phase.
The preliminary engineering phase now has \$340,000.
The final design phase now has \$200,000.
The right-of-way phase now has \$19,000.

The construction phase now has \$259,117.

The total reimbursement agreement for this project remains \$818,117.

DISCUSSION: Commissioners recognized Engineer Brad Elder and the Mercer County Bridge Department. The Bridge Department was a nominee for the Road and Bridge Safety Improvement Projects Award at the annual County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) 2023. Although Mercer County did not win the award, Brad Elder has creatively, and in a fiscally responsible way devised “Bridge Bundle” projects, including the use of new design features, to categorize and improve many bridges simultaneously.

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

BUILDING & GROUNDS

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2023-361	N/A	N/A	Effective 08/17/2023

Approve advertisement for an RFP for windowsill, lintel, masonry, brick, and stone repair of external walls at 107 N. Diamond Street to be received at the Office of the Controller, 2 Courthouse, Mercer, PA 16137 by 1:00 pm on Thursday, September 21, 2023. Bids will be opened and publicly announced at the Commissioners’ Meeting on September 21, 2023, at 3:00 pm. Bidding documents are available on the Mercer County website, <https://www.mercercountypa.gov/rfp>, or from the Mercer County Facilities Manager, 19 Courthouse, Mercer, PA 16137, during normal operating hours, 8:30 am—4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. The County Commissioners reserve the right to reject any and all bids, or parts thereof, and to waive any informality.

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

CYS

RESOLUTION # 2023-362	VENDOR/CONTRACT Amazon	AMOUNT \$1,291.24	DATE RANGE Effective 08/17/2023
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Approve purchase of 19 rugged laptop cases. Cost to be paid from CYS IT Grant, 80% reimbursement. Vendor is low apparent responsible quote.

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION # 2023-363	VENDOR/CONTRACT The Hermitage Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. 2511 Highland Road Hermitage, PA 16148	AMOUNT Not to exceed \$22,499.00	DATE RANGE Effective 08/17/2023
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Approve an agreement to reimburse Hermitage Volunteer Fire Department for the grant application cost and award management fee for the preparation of the FY2023 Regional AFG application to secure funding for the purchase or replacement of radios on behalf of twenty-four (24) fire departments in Mercer County.

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MH/ID

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2023-364	Pennsylvania Department of Human Services Bureau of Financial Operations 1 st Floor Forum Place Harrisburg, PA 17105	\$129,187.00 (incoming)	07/01/2023–06/30/2024

Accept FY 2023-2024 Human Services Development Fund (HSDF) tentative allocation, as developed by the PA Office of Policy and Development and funded by Act 1-A, the General Appropriation Act of 2021. Approve preliminary distributions in proportion to the preliminary budget based on unofficial funding and subject to revision. Advances are receipted quarterly:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Ohio/Western Pennsylvania – maximum annual amount of \$7,500.00 for mentorship of youth and children with mental health/behavioral health problems and those with intellectual disabilities who have experienced traumatic events.
- United Way of Mercer County – maximum annual amount of \$9,000.00 for outreach and coordination of access to the 211-information line.
- Mercer County Jail – reimburse up to \$112,687.00 for inmate counseling services.

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2 nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

TAX ASSESSMENT

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2023-365	Rafferty’s Printing 106 South Diamond Street Mercer, PA 16137	\$521.00	Effective 08/17/2023

Approve printing of 10,000 FAQ trifold brochures for Real Property Tax Reassessment Project. Vendor is low apparent responsible quote.

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VOTER REGISTRATION/ELECTION

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2023-366	Phoenix Graphics, Inc. 1525 Emerson Street Rochester, NY 14606	\$25,770.00	Effective 08/17/2023

Award contract for Vote by Mail Services RFP. Vendor is low apparent responsible bidder.

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

DISPOSITION OF ASSETS

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2023-367	N/A	< \$1,000.00	Effective 08/17/2023

Approve notice of sale for items listed in “as is”, “where is” condition. Items are being sold with no implied warranties or guaranties. County reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

seven binders, 1” and 2”.

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

GRANTS

RESOLUTION	GRANTOR	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2023-368	Pennsylvania Commission On Crime and Delinquency 3101 N. Front St. Harrisburg, PA 17110	\$90,000.00	Effective 07/01/2023

Accept award for eGrants #40703, for the Intermediate Punishment Treatment Programs (State IP/DARIP). This grant is for the Mercer County Intermediate Punishment Program (IPP) to provide the Courts with alternatives to incarceration in the Mercer County Prison in regard to Restrictive Conditions as an Order of Probation. Mercer County will utilize its House Arrest Program and Specialty Court Program to fulfill these objectives. These are State funds. The grant period will be 07/01/2023—06/30/2024. No County match required.

RESOLUTION adopted:

	Moved	2 nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Timothy M. McGonigle	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scott Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matthew B. McConnell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Public Comment: Richard Dillaman of Springfield Township, thanked the Commissioners for the previously created Tax Increment Financing (TIF) that generated successful commercial and economic development in the community. He presented concerns about a proposed landfill to be developed. The Sand and Gravel Company has requested a variance for property zoned agricultural. Several residents are concerned about truck traffic, dust, and possible health risks from a sand and gravel pit at the site. He requested information on hotel occupancy and hotel tax collected near the proposed site. Commissioners referred him to Treasurer White and Visit Mercer County PA Tourism Bureau.

Questions of the Media: Topics discussed included the project at Route 19 and Route 80 intersection announced by Penn-Northwest Development Corporation (PNDC), including a proposed million square foot building. Questions asked and answered.

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Boyd

Attest:

Chief Clerk

Mercer County Board of Commissioners