

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
PT Custodian

11/18/2024

TCC02-00-00 (\$14.77/hr.)

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Paige Loutzenhiser
Social Service Advocate

11/25/2024

P&A 06-00-01 (\$23.21/hr.)

TRANSFERS

TAX ASSESSMENT

Alesha Adams
Lead Mapper

11/18/2024

TCC07-04-01 (\$20.70/hr.)
Transfer from Mapper

SHERIFF

Kelly Knight
Administrative Assistant

11/25/2024

PA05-08-01 (\$24.12/hr.)
Transfer from Second Deputy

Jail

Justin Angus
Corrections Officer

11/12/2024

JCO 00-01 (\$18.78/hr.)
Transfer from Temp. Caseworker I

SEPARATION FROM EMPLOYMENT

SHERIFF

Heidi Kizak
Administrative Assistant

01/21/2025

JAIL

Aleiah Keys
Corrections Officer

11/04/2024

Amanda Crans
Corrections Officer

11/13/2024

Kliah Fisher
Corrections Officer

11/21/2024

CYS

Gregory Walp 01/31/2025
Caseworker II

Jeffrey Garrett 10/31/2024
Caseworker II

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

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

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

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

BRIDGE

RESOLUTION	VENDOR	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2024-508	Gibson-Thomas Engineering Company, Inc. and Mercer County/L00554	\$204,389.49	Effective 11/14/2024

Resolution to amend Resolution 2023-249 and Resolution 2023-441 related to a Consultant Agreement between Mercer County and Gibson-Thomas Company, Inc., for Mercer County Bridge 2606, on Old Mercer Road in East Lackawannock Township. Add \$204,389.49 for Part 2, the final design phase of the project. The total consultant agreement is now \$542,368.81. This project uses 80% federal funds, 15% state funds and 5% local funds via Reimbursement Agreement No. R20010010.

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

BRIDGE

RESOLUTION	VENDOR	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2024-509	Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and Mercer County	\$857,883.00	Effective 11/14/2024

Resolution to amend Resolution 2024-170, 2023-360, 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). The total reimbursement agreement for this project is now \$1,712,000.00

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

CONSERVATION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2024-510	McJunkin Roll Offs, Inc. 2064 Perry Highway Fredonia, PA 16124-2430	\$636.80	Effective 11/14/2024

Resolution to approve the rental of a 40-yard dumpster with a 10 Ton max weight for clean-up of the buildings at the Munnell Run Farm Facility. Rental is for 7 days with a \$10.00 per day fee after 7 days.

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

DOMESTIC RELATIONS

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2024-511	Amazon Capital Services P.O. Box 035184 Seattle, WA 98124-5184	\$157.99	Effective 11/14/2024

Resolution to approve purchase of a Garmin Drive Smart 55 and Traffic GPS Navigator. This will be used solely in the Domestic Relations Detective Interceptor for navigation and location purposes. 66% of cost to be reimbursed through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Human Services.

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
# 2024-512	Aiken Refuse Inc. 615 Kate Houk Road New Castle, PA 16101	\$69,984.00 Total amount	01/01/2025-12/31/2026

Resolution to approve a two (2) year extension on the contract with Aiken Refuse, Inc. for the collection, processing, and marketing of recyclables for Lawrence and Mercer Counties. Mercer County's responsibility will be \$34,992.00 per year.

DISCUSSION: Director Jerry Zona advised the current contract expires at the end of this year, and this was an option to extend the contract for two years to lock in the current pricing.

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

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

Old Business: None**New Business:** None**Commissioner's Reports:**

- Commissioner Finley reported the previous week was busy with Election Day, the process went well, and he was happy to be a part of it.
- Commissioner Coleman thanked the community for the Veterans Day events held in the past week. The Commissioners attended events at Mercer and Commodore Perry Schools, and it was nice to see the young students understanding and respecting our Veterans. She also thanked Thad Hall, the employees, and volunteers of the Elections Office for their hard work, and Fiscal Director Nicki Biles for her work on the County Budget.

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