

MEETING OF THE MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 6, 2025

Members Present: Commissioner McGonigle, Commissioner Finley, Commissioner Coleman

Prayer: Pastor Jim Sanderbeck, Antioch International Ministries

Pledge of Allegiance: Was held.

Others Present: Peter Acker, Brad Elder, Bernard Grenier, Thad Hall, Frank Jannetti, John Logan, Bill McClure, Mac McDuffie, Christian McElhaney, Dave Moyer, Stephen Sherman, Angela Sorg, Aliyah Hunt, Joanie Micsky, Jason Cochran-Joanna Cochran and family, Vance Oakes, Jim Sanderbeck, David Basnak, Charles Baldoff, Monica McDowell, Megan Gahring, Todd Hittle, James Mclusky, Jason Newton, Jeff Lockard, Jon Laird, Jerry Heckman, Mike Renner, Rick Reither, Greg Miller, Bill McConnell, Roni Shilling

General Discussion Items: Two requests for Use of Courthouse Grounds were approved.

1. The Mercer County Community Band for the Summer Concert Series,
2. Mercer Art Commission/Mercer Area Boomtown for the Brews, Bikes & Bands Event.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: Many members of the attendees commented favorably on the bond issue regarding the County Radio Project, citing their reasons for having an updated and reliable radio system in the County. Those who expressed their comments were; Grove City Boro Manager Vance Oakes, Jackson Center Fire Chief Jerry Heckman, Chief Deputy Dave Moyer, Jefferson Township Police Chief and Fire Chief Jeff Lockard, Hempfield Township Supervisor Todd Hittle, Fire Chief's Association President Jon Laird, Emergycare Manager Dave Basnak, Shenango Township Police Chief Jason Newton, Deputy Greg Miller

2025-036 RESOLUTION to approve 01/16/2025 Commissioners' Meeting MINUTES:

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

PROCLAMATIONS

2025-037 RESOLUTION to approve a PROCLAMATION to recognize JASON COCHRAN for receiving the award of Correctional Officer of the year for 2024 for Mercer County Prison.

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

Laura Murray 02/24/2025 PA 04-00-01 (\$19.51/hr.)
Enforcement Officer

HUMAN RESOURCES

Nicole Sweitzer 02/28/2025 PA 07-05-01 (\$31.41/hr.)
Assistant Director

IPP

Steven Edwards 02/04/2025 PA 06-00-01 (\$23.91/hr.)
Specialty Court Coordinator

SOIL CONSERVATION

Joshua Fleming 02/10/2025 ENVI 1-10-00 (\$13.00/hr.)
Intern

TRANSFERS

CYS

Sam Walgenbach 01/23/2025 YCW 02-01 (\$22.40/hr.)
Caseworker II *STEP/RATE CORRECTION* Transfer from Caseworker I

Kathryn Shawley 02/01/2025 YCW 00-02 (\$20.83/hr.)
Caseworker II Transfer from Caseworker I

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Ashley Mealy 02/03/2025 PA 03-04-01 (\$19.70/hr.)
Administrative Assistant Transfer from Senior Procedure Clerk (Clerk of Courts)

SEPARATION FROM EMPLOYMENT

CYS

Lacy Kiger 01/29/2025
Caseworker I

Molly Bucheral 02/03/2025
Caseworker II

JAIL

Thomas Gottlieb 02/02/2025
Corrections Officer

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

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

Road especially with response times for the fire department and EMS. He and the residents of Hosack Road are very thankful the bridges are being replaced and opened this year.

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

BRIDGE

RESOLUTION	VENDOR	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2025-055	Skydio, Inc. 3000 Clearview Way San Mateo, CA 94402	\$7,523.00	Effective 02/06/2025

Resolution to approve the purchase of a small, unmanned aircraft system (sUAS), a.k.a. drone, to assist in the collection of bridge inspection data. The County bridge engineer has obtained the required sUAS remote pilot license from the FAA. Per PennDOT Publication 238 (Bridge Safety Inspection Manual), Chapter 1.13: "Drones can provide close-up visual inspection of areas which may be inaccessible without costly traffic control or access equipment. They can also assist in accessing areas which are otherwise inaccessible, possibly due to flooding or close proximity of a railroad. This visual observation from the drone can be used to identify areas of defects, which require physical inspection methods, such as sounding to define the extent and severity of the defect." The Skydio 2+ Enterprise Kit was recommended by a consultant that has extensive experience performing bridge inspections utilizing various drone systems. The County Liquid Fuels Fund will be used for this purchase.

DISCUSSION: Bridge Engineer Brad Elder advised this drone will be a valuable tool to his Office and will be used on a daily basis. The drone will be able to inspect areas that may otherwise may not be able to be seen.

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

COURTS

RESOLUTION	VENDOR	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2025-056	Checkpoint Security Solutions 3817 Spencer Street Harvey, LA 70058	\$691.80	Effective 02/06/2025

Resolution to approve the purchase of four (4) handheld metal detectors for use at the Courthouse. Purchase to be reimbursed by AOPC through the 2024-2025 Common Pleas Essential Security Equipment Reimbursement Project.

DISCUSSION: Public Safety Director Frank Jannetti said these detectors will replace the detectors currently being used, which are older, and need replaced.

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Vote: Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

DISCUSSION: Elections Director Thad Hall expressed his appreciation to the Commissioners for working with him on acquiring this software. This software will allow the poll workers to be paid quickly and it also allows checks to be issued if requested by the worker. Commissioner McGonigle advised this process is used to pay the jurors, and the County is very happy with it.

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

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

VOTER REGISTRATION/ELECTION

RESOLUTION	VENDOR	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2025-066	Phoenix Graphics 1525 Emerson Street Rochester, NY 14606	\$4,189.00	Effective 01/30/2025

Resolution to approve having Phoenix Graphics conduct the annual mailing to 15,000 voters on the permanent mail ballot list. This is the most efficient way to do the mailing.

DISCUSSION: Elections Director Thad Hall advised the mail ballot list changes frequently, and this will allow the mailings to be efficiently processed and sent out.

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

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

LAWRENCE-MERCER COUNTIES RECYCLING/SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2025-067	Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC) 828 West North Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15233	Not to exceed \$1,600.00	Effective 02/06/2025

Resolution to approve an agreement with PRC for the traveling glass bin recycling program in Mercer County. Proposed period is 07/05/2025—07/17/2025 for one collection event. Minimum cost for the program is \$950.00. PRC will be responsible for providing the collection equipment, transportation, and processing of glass for recycling, while the County transitions to its own Glass Recycling Program.

DISCUSSION: Deputy Director Megan Gahrng advises they hope this will be the last event PRC is involved with as the Recycling Department is anticipating having two glass recycling locations permanently placed in Mercer County for residents and businesses. The locations have yet to be determined.

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

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

DISPOSITION OF ASSETS

RESOLUTION	VENDOR	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2025-068	N/A	<\$1,000.00	Effective 02/06/2025

Resolution to approve notice of sale. Bids are due no later than 02/18/2025 at the Office of the Chief Clerk. These items as being sold in “as is,” “where is” condition with no implied warranties or guaranties. County reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

- One (1) Yamaha YPG-535 Digital Keyboard with stand. Serial number UBVN02092.
- One (1) box of approximately 50 various computer cables.

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

GRANTS

RESOLUTION	GRANTOR:	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2025-069	Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency 3101 North Front Street Harrisburg, PA 17110	N/A	Effective 01/30/2025

Resolution to approve the budget modification to the Mercer County Jail Vivitrol Program grant as follows:

Modification by reducing line items by the following amounts:

- Vivitrol Injection - \$2,512.00
- Consultant - \$583.00

Modification by increasing line items by the following amounts:

- Desk - \$845.00

Modification by adding line item as follows:

- Medication Refrigerator - \$2,250.00

There are no other changes to the grant. No County match required.

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

GRANTS

RESOLUTION #	GRANTOR:	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
2025-070	Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency 3101 North Front Street Harrisburg, PA 17110	\$107,194.00	01/01/2025-12/31/2025

Resolution to accept the grant award for the RASA/VOJO (Rights and Services Act/Victims of Juvenile Offenders) continuing, non-competitive grant. The Victim Services Program ensures that crime victims are afforded their rights under the PA Victim's Bill of Rights to ensure fair and compassionate treatment of all Mercer County victims of crime.

DISCUSSION: D.A. Acker reported this grant has been in use for a number of years. This grant ensures the Victim/Witness Services Program is dedicated to ensuring individuals who are affected by crime are granted their rights as outlined in the Crime Victim's Bill of Rights. This Program consists of a Director, 2 full-time and 2 part-time coordinators that help crime victims navigate through the judicial process.

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 McGonigle reports the Agricultural Conservation Learning Center Project has identified another grant that will be applied for. This DCNR grant will allow additional funding to permit modernization of the Learning Center and Munnell Run Farm that includes ADA compliance and walking trails.
- Commissioner Finley thanked everyone for their support for the County Radio Project.
- Commissioner Coleman offered her congratulations to the Mercer County Historical Society for receiving a grant award in the amount of \$5,000.00 from the America250 PA Grant Program. The check was presented to Holly Stump at a meeting on Wednesday that the Commissioners attended. Commissioner Coleman displayed the front page of the Sharon Herald of a picture and story of the statue pillar being prepped for the return of the statue. Commissioner Finley added the anchor bolts were being replaced prior to the statue being placed back on the pillar.

Elected Official/Department Head Reports:

- Bridge Engineer Brad Elder advised the County bridges that had weight limits changed have been posted and were posted when the inspections were completed.
- Elections Director Thad Hall reported election petitions can be filed beginning February 18th through March 11th. Commissioner McGonigle asked about curing ballots in Mercer County. Thad Hall responded by advising there are currently numerous lawsuits on curing ballots, and he is waiting for the outcome of these lawsuits to see if the legal requirements will be changed.

Recess to Salary Board

Public Comment: Joanie Micsky read a comment from Fiscal Director Nicki Biles that Resolution 2025-69 needed to be amended to read the Grant was from PCCD. Motion was made by Commissioner McGonigle to amend the Resolution and Seconded by Commissioner Finley. Motion passed by vote.

Questions of the Media: None

Motion to Adjourn

Moved: Mr. McGonigle

Seconded: Mr. Finley

Attest:

Chief Clerk

Mercer County Board of Commissioners