

## MEETING OF THE MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 8, 2026

**Members Present:** Commissioner McGonigle, Commissioner Finley, Commissioner Coleman

**Prayer:** Jim Bombeck, Covenant Presbyterian Church

## **Pledge of Allegiance:** Was held.

**Others Present:** Bernard Grenier, Thad Hall, John Logan, Dave Moyer, Angela Sorg, Ralph Oaks, Maggie Oaks, Jeanne Croyle, Becky Humes, Laura Paxton, Randy Thompson, Jim Bombeck, Joanie Micsky, Melissa Klaric, Caleb Stright, Bill McConnell, Roni Shilling

### **General Discussion Items: None**

## **Public Comment on Agenda Items: None**

**# 2026-001 RESOLUTION to approve 12/18/2025 Commissioners' Meeting MINUTES:**

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

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

## **PROCLAMATION**

# 2026-002 RESOLUTION to approve a PROCLAMATION to recognize CONNER DOTTLE for receiving an Eagle Scout Award, the highest honor achieved in Scouting.

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

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

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

**# 2026-003** RESOLUTION to approve the following HUMAN RESOURCES actions:

NAME/POSITION	EFFECTIVE	LEVEL/STEP/GRADE
<b><u>NEW HIRES</u></b>		
<b>TAX ASSESSMENT</b>		
Christopher Majonek	01/05/2026	TCC06-00-01 (\$18.53/hr.)
Mapper		
<b>CORONER</b>		
Ella Duda	01/20/2026	No Salary/No Benefits
Intern <b>TABLED</b>		
Taylor Geiwitz	01/20/2026	No Salary/No Benefits
Intern <b>TABLED</b>		

## DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Anna Kavulla 01/20/2026 No Salary/No Benefits  
Intern

## TRANSFERS

E911

Megan Hetrick 12/28/2025 TCE-00-02 (\$22.20/hr.)  
FT Telecommunicator

## **SEPARATION FROM EMPLOYMENT**

E911

Valerie Hartman  
FT Telecommunicator

Melanie Metzgar  
PT Telecommunicator

CYS

Sophie Dixon  
Case Aide

Comment: Commissioner McGonigle inquired about the ages of interns for the County and if there are requirements for the departments that have interns who are under the age of 18 years. HR Director Angela Sorg advised there are certain clearance requirements regarding individuals under the age of 18 years, but she is not aware of the ages of the individuals on the agenda for the Coroner's Office since their dates of birth are not on their applications. **A motion was made by Commissioner McGonigle to table the interns for the Coroner's Office until their ages can be determined. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Finley.**

Commissioner Finley advised Valerie Hartman worked for the County for 26 years at the 911 Center as a dispatcher and a supervisor. She saved many lives during her years of service at the Center and endured many transformations in the 911 Center through the years.

## **With the amendment of the interns being placed on hold at the Coroner's Office:**

**Moved:** Mr. McGonigle

**Seconded:** Mr. Finley

**Vote:** Yes-Mr. McGonigle

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

## HUMAN RESOURCES

**# 2026-004 RESOLUTION** to approve the following HUMAN RESOURCES actions for positions reporting to the Courts:

**NAME/POSITION**

## NEW HIRES

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## DISTRICT JUSTICE STRAUB

Makayla Keating 01/12/2026 TCN06-00-01 (\$19.34/hr.)  
Sr. Procedure Clerk  
01/08/2026 2

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

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

### **APPOINTMENTS**

RESOLUTION

**# 2026-005** Resolution to confirm the following Appointments to the MERCER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL for the term as specified:

Eric Watson	01/01/2026 - 12/31/2028	Reappointment
Dale Rains	01/01/2026 - 12/31/2028	Reappointment
Danielle Powell	01/01/2026 - 12/31/2028	Appointment

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

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

### **COMMISSIONERS**

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
<b># 2026-006</b>	Kinzua Allegheny Consulting Services, LLC 23 Gates Hollow Bradford, PA 16701	\$10,000.00	01/01/2026-12/31/2026

Resolution to approve and execute a one (1) year agreement with Kinzua Allegheny Consulting Services, LLC to provide administrative support to the Mercer County Agricultural Land Preservation Board for the purpose of securing agricultural conservation easements in Mercer County. The consultant will be compensated in an annual amount of \$10,000.00 and will be paid \$2,500.00 quarterly. This agreement shall annually renew unless terminated by either party with a thirty (30) day advanced written notice.

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

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

### **COMMISSIONERS**

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
<b># 2026-007</b>	N/A	N/A	Effective 01/08/2026

Resolution to authorize the County Commissioners to execute a Land Lease and Easement Agreement and Memorandum of Lease with Gary and Cynthia Butch for the purpose of leasing a 65' x 75' site and three guyed wire areas along with access and utility easements on property owned by the Butch's located on the Mercer Grove City Road in Findley Township, for the purpose of constructing, maintaining, and operating a public safety radio transmission tower. The term of the lease is 20 years with an option to renew for an additional 20 years at an annual rental of \$1.00.

**Moved:** Mr. McGonigle  
**Vote:** Yes-Mr. McGonigle  
01/08/2026

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

**COMMISSIONERS**

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
<b># 2026-008</b>	Recorder of Deeds Office	\$91.18	Effective 01/08/2026

Resolution to authorize payment to the Recorder of Deeds in the total amount of \$91.18 for the recording of the Memorandum of Land Lease and Easement Agreement to the County's leasing of the Grove City Tower Site property from Gary and Cynthia Butch. Total amount includes a recording fee of \$67.75 and realty transfer tax of \$23.43, to be paid from the 2025 Bond Fund.

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

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

**BRIDGE**

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
<b># 2026-009</b>	N/A	N/A	Effective 01/08/2026

Resolution for condemnation of a certain parcel of property for right-of-way purposes with authorization for the Chair to file documents as may be required under PA Eminent Domain Code and as deemed necessary for the reconstruction of a public bridge on Service Avenue in the City of Sharon.

Comments: Solicitor McConnell advised he is working with the Bridge Department and the engineer on preparing a Declaration of Taking. They prefer to have an agreement with the property owner but need to have this option available so there is no interference with the funding for the bridge reconstruction.

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

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
<b># 2026-010</b>	SPX Aids to Navigation, LLC P.O. Box 277883 Atlanta, GA 30384-7883	\$540.00	01/01/2026-12/31/2026

Resolution to approve a one (1) year agreement with the vendor for monitoring and call center solutions for tower lighting at the Grove City, PA communications tower site. Upon expiration of the initial one (1) year term, the agreement will continue to be renewed monthly at a rate of \$45.00 monthly. Cost to be paid from Fund 244.

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

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
<b># 2026-011</b>	Tower Services Unlimited 6580 Red Top Road Harrisburg, PA 17111-4822	\$11,500.00	Effective 01/08/2026

Resolution to approve a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment at the Grove City communications tower site. This assessment is to test the soil on the property for chemicals of concern due to a nearby mining operation and an auto sales/salvage yard business on the property. Samples will be analyzed, evaluated and a Phase II ESA report will be provided with recommendations for any further action if needed. Costs to be paid from the 2025 Bond Fund.

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

Yes-Mr. Finley

Yes-Dr. Coleman

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
<b># 2026-012</b>	Tower Services Unlimited 6580 Red Top Road Harrisburg, PA 17111-4822	\$948,060.00	Effective 01/08/2026

Resolution to approve the vendor to install a 450' Sabre guyed tower at the Grove City communications tower site. The tower will be installed under PA State Contract Number 4400027244. Pricing is inclusive of applicable freight and prevailing wage rates. Installation includes the tower template and anchor bolts, guy anchors and wire, antenna mounts, lighting, and site work. Cost to be paid from the 2025 Bond Fund.

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

Yes-Mr. Finley

Dr. Coleman

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
<b># 2026-013</b>	Tower Services Unlimited 6580 Red Top Road Harrisburg, PA 17111-4822	\$972,765.00	Effective 01/08/2026

Resolution to approve the vendor to install a 450' Sabre guyed tower at the Masury, Ohio communications tower site. The tower will be installed under PA State Contract Number 4400027244. Pricing is inclusive of applicable freight and prevailing wage rates. Installation includes the tower template and anchor bolts, guy anchors and wire, antenna mounts, lighting, and site work. Cost to be paid from the 2025 Bond Fund.

Comment: Commissioner McGonigle expressed his thanks to Frank Jannetti and Fire Chief/Commissioner Finley for a great job on their work on the Radio Project. Commissioner Finley advised he is looking forward to getting the Radio Project completed and also expressed his thanks to Solicitor McConnell for his role in acquiring the Masury tower site.

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

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

**VETERAN'S SERVICES**

RESOLUTION	VENDOR/CONTRACT	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2026-014	U.S. Flag Maker 189 Cobb Pkwy N. Suite C-4 Marietta, GA 30062	\$18,630.00	Effective 01/08/2026

Resolution to approve the purchase of 22,000 American made U.S. Flags for placement at the grave sites of all Mercer County Veterans.

Comment: Director Benard Griener advised this flag purchase is a part of a greater purchase of all other Veterans agencies in northwestern Pennsylvania. All together there are close to 100,000 flags purchased. There are over 21,000 Veteran grave sites in Mercer County and 152 Veterans passed away last year.

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

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

**GRANTS**

RESOLUTION	GRANTOR	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2026-015	PCoMP Insurance Program County Commissioners Association of PA	\$2,647.72	Effective 01/08/2026

Resolution to accept the Wellness Improvement Program Grant funding award. The funds will be used to offset the following expenses from 2025:

- Cost of CPR/AED Training for County employees - \$1,620.00
- Filters for the water systems at E911 and CYS - \$1,027.72

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

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

**GRANTS**

RESOLUTION	GRANTOR	AMOUNT	DATE RANGE
# 2026-016	PCoMP Insurance Program County Commissioners Association of PA	\$35,000.00	Effective 01/08/2026

Resolution to accept the Safety Improvement Program Grant funding award. The funds will be used to offset the following projects/expenses:

- Mold abatement services in the Maintenance Department - \$32,000.00
- Outside security camera for the perimeter of the Courthouse - \$2,968.53
- Winter anti-slip mats for Courthouse entrance - \$684.00

**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 McGonigle advised the Ag Learning Center Project is progressing and there is expected to be a resolution for an RFP for contracts at the next Commissioner's Meeting. He recently received information that there is \$6,000,000.00 available to assist EMS agencies across the Commonwealth, and the County is definitely going to check into this for our local EMS providers.
- Commissioner Coleman expressed condolences to previous Commissioner Scott Boyd and his family on the passing of his father and the Commissioners attended the funeral. January 26 will be the official kick-off for America 250 at the Courthouse. Registration for this event is on the County website and registration is for the refreshments that will be provided. Grove City College sponsored the Mercer County bell for this event, and it will be available in the Courthouse for viewing until it is permanently placed at Grove City College Campus. Commissioner Coleman asked Elections Director Thad Hall for any comments on the upcoming elections. Director Hall advised that the Federal, State, and Legislative offices will be on the ballot for this election year. During this primary, election party committee people will be elected at the state and county levels. That becomes available in early February.

### **Recess to Salary Board**

**Public Comment:** Laura Paxton asked when the forms will be available for election petitions. Elections Director Thad Hall provided the latest information on the petition forms.

**Questions of the Media:** Caleb Stright of the Record Argus asked about the number of communication towers to be constructed and when construction would begin. Commissioner Finley advised two other towers will need to be built. The County will own five towers and lease space on three other towers. It is expected that construction could begin sometime during the spring of this year.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

**Moved:** Mr. McGonigle

**Seconded:** Mr. Finley

**Attest:**

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**Chief Clerk**  
01/08/2026

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**Mercer County Board of Commissioners**