

**MINUTES**  
**MIFFLIN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**  
**December 19, 2024**  
**MIFFLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

**ATTENDANCE**

Members

Kent Spicher, Chair  
Dan Dunmire, Vice Chair  
Dan Firth  
Dave Pennebaker  
Joshua Yetter Clark  
Kay Semler  
Tom Lake  
William Campbell

Other

Brian Wiser, Keller Engineers  
Kim Carr, Keller Engineers  
Sierra Bolger, Lewistown Sentinel

Staff

James Lettiere, Planning Director  
Candace Rager, Planning Secretary

**Call to Order**

Chair Spicher called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

**Record of Public Attendance**

Spicher confirmed all present signed the record of attendance.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Spicher requested a motion to approve the minutes from the November 21, 2024 meeting. Clark made a motion to approve the minutes. Firth seconded the motion. All members voted aye.

**Public Comment**

No public comment was given.

**Bridge Capitalization Report**

Director Lettiere introduced Brian Wiser, PE, VP of Keller Engineers and Kim Carr, PE, Chief Bridge Inspector of Keller Engineers. Wiser stated Mifflin County has been instrumental in providing leadership for management of local bridges. The plan identifies system-wide needs and outlines a balanced approach to preservation, repair, rehabilitation and replacement of county bridges. The plan's goal is to reach a "state of good repair" for all locally-owned bridges in Mifflin County. The local system consists of 53 bridges. Mifflin County owns and maintains 8 local bridges and 9 municipalities own and maintain 45 bridges. Carr reported that the average age of the bridges is 58 years. There are nine bridges over 100 years old. 18 bridges are considered structurally deficient, 14 are functionally obsolete, and 12 are in fair condition which means they are at risk of declining into poor condition without preservation, maintenance, or rehabilitation of one or more components. Bridge preservation is a very important component of asset management to reduce long-term costs and extend the lifespan. It is recommended

that all bridge owners' budget and undertake the recommended maintenance activities, and that Mifflin County led an effort to bundle preservation activities for interested bridge owners. The recommended initial budget goal is \$400,000. There is a copy of the presentation included with the MCPC monthly minutes.

### **Subdivision and Land Development Review Committee Report**

There are a total of eight (8) plans submitted for December.

- One (1) Charles Colony, one (1) Ronald Booher, six (6) Wright Land Surveying
- Eight (8) plans are under municipal ordinance
- Four (4) Minor Subdivisions, four (4) Lot Additions

The plans are for Jonathan & Esther Hostetler, David & Veronica Hostetler (Armagh Township), Henry & Barbra Hostetler (Armagh Township), Nathan & Elizabeth Yoder, Kenneth & Tammy Henry (Armagh Township), Arlan & Sally Peachey (Brown Township), James & Cara Wagner (Decatur Township), Benjamin Hall, Jr. (Decatur Township), Emanuel Byler (Menno Township), Melvin & Judy Peachey (Union Township).

### **Municipal Subdivision Plans**

The committee members reviewed the eight submitted plans prior to the meeting. Director Lettiere stated the plans are straight forward with only a few minor modifications needed to the comments.

Spicher made a request to approve the comments for the eight municipal plans. Dunmire made a motion to accept the comments. Pennebaker seconded the motion. All voted aye.

### **Project Updates**

The community wide survey for the Comprehensive Plan is being circulated. It includes a series of 40+ questions. The survey will gather information regarding different components of the community and opinions on the quality of life in Mifflin County. This will help to prioritize projects involving the comprehensive plan. It will be accessible through a QR code or at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/mifflincounty>. There are also hard copies available at several locations in the county for those who do not have internet access. The visitor's bureau is being very instrumental in getting the survey promoted. There will be a planning advisory committee in February.

There was a transportation plan meeting with the Menno Township officials regarding traffic flow, speed of traffic, crosswalks, etc. at either end of Allensville. There will be additional connections made with SEDA COG and PENN DOT to install visual traffic speed signage. The cost of the project will be approximately one half million dollars.

Decatur Township is amending their subdivision ordinance to change the setbacks. This amended document will be presented at the January Planning Committee Meeting for consideration of adoption.

