

The Board of Mifflin County Commissioners met for their Regular Meeting on Thursday, October 3, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. In attendance were Commissioners Robert Postal; Kevin Kodish; Noah Wise; Chief Clerk Cathy Romig; Solicitor Steve Snook; and Fiscal Assistant Charity Larson.

Guests present were, Treasurer Diane Griffith, Elections Director Paula Hoffman, Children and Youth Administrator Nicole Patkalitsky, Planning Director James Lettiere, CDBG Grants Liaison Michael Fonti, Matt Harper of the EADS Group, Kathy Whalen from JVBDS, Rebecca Wills from The Abuse Network, and Morgan Crader and Dakota Schulze from MCTV.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Commissioner Postal.

- I. Invocation:** The Invocation was given by Commissioner Kodish.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.
- III. Approval of Minutes:**

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to accept the minutes of the Regular Meetings of September 19, 2024. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Bills:

- 1. General Fund, Accounts Payable
Ck. #'s 147742-147888 and EFT #'s 602302-602315 in the amount of \$631,850.05
- 2. Payroll Account
Ck. #'s 79906-79916 and Direct Deposit Advice #'s 58036-58251 in the amount of \$461,188.14
- 3. 911 Account
Ck. #'s 52886-52891 and EFT #'s 80096-80099 in the amount of \$7,908.83
- 4. CDBG Account
Ck. #'s 1759-1762 in the amount of \$159,159.60
- 5. Liquid Fuels Act 89 Account
Ck. # 8145 in the amount of \$46.10

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve payment of bills as listed above. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

v. Treasurer's Report:

TREASURER'S REPORT
9/18/2024-10/1/2024

General Account Starting Balance	\$1,513,407.55
DEBITS	
Deposits Receipts #122490-122639	523,643.91
Transfer from Coroner	1,113.37
Voided Checks	0.00
Interest	7,488.23
TOTAL DEBITS	\$532,245.51
Bills Paid CK #S147742-147888 EFT #S 602302-602315	631,850.05
Transfer to Payroll CK 79906-79916 DD 58036-58251	461,188.14
Adjustment	855.00
NSF Check	572.73
Transfer to Coroner	16,200.00
TOTAL CREDITS	\$1,110,665.92
Ending Balance (Interest @ 4.550% as of 10/1/2024)	\$934,987.14
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Capital Reserve Account	
Invested at JV Bank @ 4.550% as of 10/1/2024	\$15,414,138.03

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the Treasurer's Report as received, subject to audit. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

VI. Meetings and Events:

Chairman Postal:

*Salary Board
Central Counties Youth Center
PA Opioid Trust Board & Executive Committee
CCAP Monthly Membership
FNB After Hours
Mifflin County Conservation District
DLI Executive Committee
US Senator Fetterman Call-in
Board of Elections
Mifflin County Career Link
SEDA-COG Home Program
Corrections Consultants
JVBDS Executive Committee
Budget Meetings (Ag Extension; Courts; Human Services; MIS; Prothonotary; Prison; Maintenance; Elections; Veterans; CYS; Public Defender; 911)
Internal (Planning; Maintenance; Tax Services; Veterans; Elections)*

Commissioner Kodish:

*Salary Board
Meeting with Tri-County Drug & Alcohol Workshop Meetings
Steelworker Contract Negotiations
SEDA-COG Local Loan Development Corp
SEDA-COG Board
Board of Elections
Corrections Consultants
Budget Meetings (Ag Extension; Courts; Human Services; MIS; Prothonotary; Prison; Maintenance; Elections; Veterans; CYS; Public Defender; 911)*

Commissioner Wise:

*Board of Elections
Salary Board
JVBDS Meeting
Union Negotiations
Housing Authority
SEDA-COG
Correction Consultants
CTC Meeting
Budget Meetings (Ag Extension; Courts; Human Services; MIS; Prothonotary; Prison; Maintenance; Elections; Veterans; CYS; Public Defender; 911)*

VII. Public Comment:

Elections Director Paula Hoffman noted 3249 mail-in ballots have been mailed out as of today. There are still more to process and send out. In-house voting will start on Monday October 7th. These ballots will be processed as a mail-in ballot where the voter must first complete the mail-in ballot application and will then be given a mail-in ballot to complete and return immediately.

VIII. New Business:

A. Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation

Rebecca Wills from The Abuse Network stated abuse is more prevalent for women than women's health issues and goes largely unreported. Community members can help by volunteering, donating, or by contacting their legislators.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation for October 2024

Whereas domestic violence remains a pervasive issue across Mifflin County, the United States and the world with implications for personal and community health; and

Whereas, domestic violence does not discriminate and touches all communities regardless of age, race, disability, gender identity, or socioeconomic status; and

Whereas, in Mifflin County, every day people are physically abused by an intimate partner; and

Whereas, considering medical expenses, lost productivity, legal costs, and property loss and damage, domestic violence costs victims nearly \$82,000 over their lifetime and collectively costs the United States \$3.6 trillion; and

Whereas, research shows that by creating communities where people are connected, supportive and care for one another can reduce incidents of domestic violence; and

Whereas, every day in Mifflin County individuals and organizations play a part in supporting people impacted by domestic violence, providing services including therapeutic, legal, educational, housing, advocacy, and medical services;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mifflin County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of all residents of Mifflin County, does hereby proclaim **October 2024** as

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

in Mifflin County and urges all residents to become involved in efforts to prevent and respond to domestic violence and recognize the impact of domestic violence in our community.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the item. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Disability Employment Awareness Month Proclamation

Kathy Whale from JVBDS noted that disabled workers have many talents to contribute to the workforce. JVBDS currently celebrates 39 disabled workers. An event to recognize these workers and the facilities that employ them will be held at JVBDS on October 26th from 4:00-10:00.

**“NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH”
October 2024**

WHEREAS October 2024 marks the 79th anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS the purpose of National Disability Employment Awareness Month is to educate about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities; and

WHEREAS the history of NDEAM traces back to 1945, when it started as a week and focused only on people with physical disabilities.

WHEREAS, Later, it expanded to a full month, and its name and scope evolved to acknowledge the importance of increasing the workforce inclusion of people with all nature of disabilities.

WHEREAS, Workplaces welcoming of the talents of all people, including people with disabilities, are a critical part of our efforts to build an inclusive community and strong economy; and

WHEREAS Activities during this month will reinforce the value and talent people with disabilities add to our workplaces and communities and affirm Juniata Valley Behavioral and Developmental Services' commitment to increasing access to good jobs for all workers, including disabled workers.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Counties of Huntingdon, Mifflin and Juniata acting as Juniata Valley Behavioral and Developmental Services, in recognition of the importance of the message that people with disabilities add value and talent to our workplaces and communities, do hereby proclaim October 2024 to be “National Disability Employment Awareness Month” in Huntingdon County, Mifflin County and Juniata County encouraging all citizens to support individuals with disabilities to pursue goals of opportunity, full participation, economic self-sufficiency and independent EVERYDAY LIVES.

RESOLVED, That the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy and the Counties of Huntingdon, Mifflin and Juniata call upon employers, schools, and other community organizations in the tri-county region to observe October with appropriate programs and activities, to ensure that disabled workers have access to good jobs every month of every year.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the item. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. Amending the action taken on August 29, 2024 to exonerate Newton Hamilton Borough Tax Collector Melody Kane from collecting 2024 per capita tax bills as presented (2)–corrected total 1

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the item. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

D. Change Order No. GC-3 with WSL, Inc. for the Library Project adding the Children's Library area finishes and East Wing finishes – increase of \$204,300.00

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the item. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- E. Change Order No. EC-02 with Robert P. Lepley Electrical for the Electrical in the East Wing – increase of \$72,517.00

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the item. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- F. Application for County Aid – 2024 Liquid Fuels Allocation:

- Union Township - \$4,804.00

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the item. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- G. Change Order No. 1 for the Hawstone Water Extension Project for SE Construction Group, LLC deducting 1.5” wearing course, adding a wall/curb at the intersection of Pierce and 1st Street and increase the contract days by 150 calendar days – no change in total contract

Michael Fonti, Grants Liaison said this primarily is for the purpose of adjusting the date to flow with other project dates.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the item. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- H. Change Order No. 3 for the Hawstone Water Extension Project for SE Construction Group, LLC relocation of drop pole and transformer location – increase of \$2,837.00

Michael Fonti, Grants Liaison stated this change is being required by Penelec.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kodish to approve the item. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- I. Juvenile Probation Services Grant Award Notification for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 \$32,328.00

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- J. Purchase of Service Agreement for use, if needed, by Children and Youth

Children and Youth Administrator Nicole Patkalitsky presented the following for approval:

- Perseus House, Inc., Erie, PA at \$282.67 - \$359.06 per day
- Merakey, Harrisburg, PA at \$19.18 - \$248.88 per day
- Salvation Army, Allentown, PA at \$50 - \$220 per session
- Salvation Army Children’s Services, Allentown, PA at \$68.89-\$172.47 per day
- Pentz Run Youth Services, Dubois, PA at \$172.50-\$269.49 per day
- Clear Vision Residential Treatment Services, Inc., Montgomery, PA at \$224.49 per day
- Bethesda Lutheran Services, Meadville, PA at \$68.11-\$530.00 per day
- Evolutions Counseling Services, LLC, Altoona, PA at \$95.00-\$175.00 per day

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- K. Reappointment of Brenda Stayrook to the Juniata Valley Behavioral Developmental Services Citizens Advisory Board for a three-year term – term expires December 31, 2027

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- L. Reappointment of Dan Dunmire to the Solid Waste Authority for a five-year term – term expires December 31, 2029

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- M. Act 13 Round 2 Marcellus Shale Legacy Agreement with Burnham Youth Sports Association - \$11,478.00

Planning Director James Lettiere explained this is for site improvements to include water and electric lines and a concrete slab for a concession stand.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the item. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

N. Personnel:

- Resignation of part-time LPN Tara Griffith effective September 16, 2024
- Hiring of Craig Rutherford for a part-time Corrections Officer effective September 30, 2024
- Hiring of Richard Clark for a part-time Corrections Officer effective October 7, 2024
- Resignation of Abigail Yoder from Children and Youth Caseworker effective October 11, 2024
- Resignation of Director of Fiscal Affairs Jenaya Mellinger effective October 18, 2024
- Hiring of Rhonda Moore for the Director of Fiscal Affairs effective October 15, 2024
- Retirement of Michelle Ingram from Corrections Officer effective October 19, 2024
- Hiring of Children and Youth Caseworker James Wilburne effective October 7, 2024

Motion was made by Commissioner Wise to approve the personnel items. Commissioner Kodish seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IX. Adjournment:

With no other business on the agenda, Commissioner Postal adjourned the meeting at 9:33 a.m.

Secretary

ATTEST:

Chief Clerk