

Lewistown, PA

April 3, 2025

The Board of Mifflin County Commissioners met for their Regular Meeting on Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. In attendance were Commissioners Robert Postal; Kevin Kodish; Noah Wise; Chief Clerk Cathy Romig; and Fiscal Assistant Holly Yeager.

Guests present were Treasurer Diane Griffith; Planning Director James Lettiere; Voter Registration and Elections Director Paula Hoffman; Helen Kirk; from Mifflin County Library Kelly Rivera, Kelly Rodenbaugh, Shelly Swigart, Margaret Zook and Executive Director Susan Miriello; from Mifflin County Children and Youth, Administrator Nicole Patkalitsky, Assistant Administrator Megan McMahon, Supervisor Charli Henry, Supervisor Casey O'Dell, Supervisor Dillon Harlon, Cortney McMullen, Chelsea Bender, Art Stanton, Eleana Eckley, Gyasi Lear, Nataleigh VanHorn, Chelsey Berich, Cassandra Trego, Zoey Johnson, Briana Estep, Breanna Hockenberry; from The Abuse Network, Public Training Coordinator Rebecca Wills; Carol K. High of SEDA-COG; Liv Suydam and Mina Phillip from The Sentinel; and Lilly Rivera and Mara Wise 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 Meeting of March 20, 2025. Commissioner Wise seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. Approval of Bills:

1. General Fund, Accounts Payable
Ck. #'s 149891 - 150041 and EFT #'s 603039-603053 in the amount of \$606,263.05
2. Payroll Account
Ck. #'s 80004-80018 and Direct Deposit Advice #'s 60912-61147 in the amount of \$492,761.63
3. 911 Account
Ck. #'s 52987-52989 and EFT #'s 80150-80154 in the amount of \$10,992.15
4. CDBG Account
Ck. #'s 1793-1797 in the amount of \$384,077.98
5. Liquid Fuels Act 89 Account
EFT # 8151 in the amount of \$59.19
6. Liquid Fuels
Ck. #'s 1750 in the amount of \$17,972.00
7. Act 137 Account
Ck. #'s in the amount of \$1,000.00

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:

OFFICE OF THE
TREASURER OF MIFFLIN COUNTY

DIANE L GRIFFITH
COUNTY TREASURER

DANIEL Z SEARER
SOLICITOR



STEPHANIE J NEFF
1ST DEPUTY TREASURER

SUZANNE KOCHENDERFER
2ND DEPUTY TREASURER

COURTHOUSE
LEWISTOWN, PA. 17044
717-248-8439
717-242-5450 (FAX)

TREASURER'S REPORT
3/19/2025-4/1/2025

General Account Starting Balance	\$1,565,515.68
DEBITS	
Deposits Receipts #124627-124834	598,895.52
Transfer from CYS	225,756.21
Transfer from LEPC	0.00
Interest	6,013.91
Voided Checks	12,047.68
TOTAL DEBITS	\$842,713.32
Bills Paid CK #S 149891-150041 EFT #S 603039-603053	606,263.05
Transfer to Payroll CK 80004-80018 DD 60912-61147	492,761.63
Transfer to SFPP	0.00
NSF Check	232,992.57
TOTAL CREDITS	\$1,332,017.25
Ending Balance (Interest @ 4.550% as of 4/1/2025)	\$1,076,211.75
Capital Reserve Account	
Invested at JV Bank @ 4.550% as of 4/1/2025	\$8,404,212.07
Report Subject to Audit	

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*
- JVCC Annual Meeting*
- Opioid Webinar*
- PA 250 Community Meeting*
- Reder / Land Bank Discussion*
- Governor's Central Region Rep.*
- Tri-County D & A Funding*
- Metzler's Press Conference with the Governor*
- JVBDS Executive Committee*
- Local Government Merit System / Comp. Plan*
- MC Prison Board*
- Internal : MCPD; Maintenance; Tax Services; Elections, IT*

Commissioner Kodish:

- Metzler's Press Conference with the Governor*
- Workshop Meetings*
- Meeting with Mike Hannon, Tri-County Drug and Alcohol*
- Meeting regarding CCYC Reimbursement*
- Salary Board*
- America250 Meeting at Historic Courthouse*
- Regional Services Finance Committee*
- SEDA-COG Local Development Committee*
- SEDA-COG Board Meeting*
- Meeting regarding possible creation of a Redevelopment Authority*
- Regional Services Personnel Committee*

Commissioner Wise: Public Meeting
Board of Elections Meeting
Salary Board Meeting
Visitors Bureau
Universal Targe Services Ribbon Cutting
Housing Authority
Monthly Meeting of Veterans
CTC Meeting, Career Link
Central Counties Youth Center
Three-County Commissioner / SCA Meeting
Metzler's Press Conference with the Governor
MC Prison Board

VII. Public Comment:

None

VIII. New Business:

A. Proclamation – National Library Week is April 6 – 12, 2025



Commissioners of Mifflin County

20 NORTH WAYNE STREET
LEWISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 17044-1797
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Fax: 717-248-3695
Email: commissioners@mifflincountypa.gov

COMMISSIONERS
ROBERT P. POSTAL
KEVIN P. KODISH
NOAH D. WISE

CHIEF CLERK
CATHY L. ROMIG

SOLICITOR
BMZ LAW

National Library Week 2025 Proclamation

April 6-12, 2025

WHEREAS, libraries spark creativity, fuel imagination, and inspire lifelong learning, offering a space where individuals of all ages can explore new ideas and be drawn to new possibilities; and

WHEREAS, libraries serve as vibrant community hubs, connecting people with knowledge, technology, and resources while fostering civic engagement, critical thinking, and lifelong learning; and

WHEREAS, libraries provide free and equitable access to books, digital tools, and innovative programming, ensuring that all individuals—regardless of background—have the support they need to learn, connect, and thrive; and

WHEREAS, libraries partner with schools, businesses, and organizations, connecting the dots to maximize resources, increase efficiency, and expand access to essential services, strengthening the entire community; and

WHEREAS, libraries nurture young minds through storytimes, STEAM programs, and literacy initiatives, fostering curiosity and a love of learning that lasts a lifetime; and

WHEREAS, libraries protect the right to read, think, and explore without censorship, standing as champions of intellectual freedom and free expression; and

WHEREAS, dedicated librarians and library workers provide welcoming spaces that inspire discovery, collaboration, and creativity for all; and

WHEREAS, libraries, librarians, and library workers across the country are joining together to celebrate National Library Week under the theme “**Drawn to the Library**”; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that we, the Commissioners of Mifflin County, proclaim April 6–12, 2025, as **National Library Week**. During this week, we encourage all residents to visit the library, explore its resources, and celebrate all the ways that the library draws us together as a community.

Proclaimed this 3rd Day of April, 2025.

Robert P. Postal

Kevin P. Kodish

Noah D. Wise

B. Proclamation – April 2025 is Child Abuse Prevention Month



Commissioners of Mifflin County

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CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the early experiences of a child impact them throughout life and every family and child is filled with tremendous promise; and

WHEREAS, Positive Childhood Experiences such as loving caregivers and safe, stable, and nurturing relationships—play a vital role in helping children thrive by mitigating trauma and the negative impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences; and

WHEREAS, families who receive the support they need before a crisis occurs are better equipped to provide safe, healthy, and nurturing environments, leading to children who are safer, healthier, and more hopeful about their futures; and

WHEREAS, prevention of child abuse and neglect can reduce the lifetime economic burden associated with child maltreatment; and

WHEREAS, strengthening families through access to economic, social, and community-based supports reduces the likelihood of abuse and neglect and ensures children have the foundation for lifelong well-being; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the partnerships created between child welfare professionals, education, health, community- and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and families; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and contribute to promoting the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment; and

WHEREAS, investments in prevention initiatives—such as home visiting programs, family-strengthening policies, economic supports, and community-based child abuse prevention efforts—are essential to building safer, healthier communities for children and families; and

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the Mifflin County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 2025 as **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** and urge all citizens to recognize this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families. Together, we can create a state where every child can grow up happy, healthy, and safe with hope for their future.

Proclaimed this 3rd Day of April, 2025.

Robert P. Postal

Kevin P. Kodish

Noah D. Wise

C. Proclamation – April, 2025 is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation

April 2025

Whereas, April marks **Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM)**: a time to bring attention to the widespread issue of sexual violence and empower communities to take action. This year's theme, "**Together We Act, United We Change**," highlights the power of working together to create safer, more respectful environments for all; and

Whereas, Sexual abuse, assault, and harassment affect individuals of every background. To address this, we must promote education around consent, healthy communication, and bystander intervention. By equipping individuals and communities with these tools, we can help prevent violence before it starts and foster a culture of respect and care; and

Whereas, Central to this campaign is the importance of amplifying the voices of survivors, especially those most vulnerable in our communities. Their experiences must be heard and acknowledged, and their stories should guide our efforts to combat sexual violence in all its forms; and

Whereas, everyone in our communities deserves to live in safe and supportive environments where they are treated with respect. When our workplaces, schools, and communities work together to uphold safety and respect, we make progress in preventing sexual abuse, assault, and harassment; and

Now, Therefore, we the Mifflin County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April, 2025 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Together, we act; united, we change. By standing in solidarity, we can build a future free from sexual violence and create a world where everyone is safe, valued, and respected.

Proclaimed this 3rd day of April, 2025

Robert P. Postal

Date

Kevin P. Kodish

Date

Noah D. Wise

Date

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

Mifflin County Library Executive Director Mirello thanked the Commissioners for the Proclamation. She was excited to share that the library has started the first Story Time in the newly renovated library. There are 8 sessions with 95 children. The registration was filled by noon on the first day.

Mifflin County Children and Youth Administrator Nicole Patkalitsky shared that in 2024, Mifflin County had 207 reports of abuse and 16 indicated cases of child abuse. Administrator Patkalitsky recognized the caseworkers and supervisors who respond to situations of child abuse.

Rebecca Wills, Public Training Coordinator from the Abuse Network, thanked the Commissioners for having her at the meeting and for signing the Proclamation. She also thanked the Commissioners for showing their support to survivors and for partnering with the Abuse Network to bring awareness that to the fact that sexual assault is a pervasive issue in

Mifflin County. Coordinator Wills shared that the Abuse Network is hosting a social media event to bring awareness to Sexual Awareness Month.

D. Paula Hoffman, Director of Elections and Voter Registration – Election Update

Director Hoffman shared that she is in the process of proofreading ballots and preparing the mailings. The ballots need to be tested and approved. Some ballots were sent back for changes. There are currently 1,569 mail-in ballots. The goal is to mail ballots by the end of April and/or beginning of May.

The last day to make any changes to your voter registration or to register to vote as a new voter is May 5. The last day to apply for a mail in ballot or absentee ballot is May 13. Election day is May 20.

E. Request for exoneration of the county delinquent real estate taxes and relieve Kathy Whitsel, Assistant Director of Tax Services, from collecting these taxes:

- Parcel No. 21,21-0515--,020 – mobile home was removed (2013 and 2015-2018)
- Parcel No. 19,02-0113--,003 – mobile home was removed (2013-2017)

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

F. Extension of the termination date for the Subrecipient Agreement with the Municipal Authority

The Municipal Authority would like to use the encumbered monies left in this loan for another project and asked to have the termination date extended to December 31, 2025.

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

G. Cooperation/ Host Agreement with Geisinger Authority to fulfill the requirements of the RACP School of Nursing Grant

This grant needs to be linked to a taxing entity and Mifflin County has been authorized to serve as the host municipality for the RACP Grant.

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

H. Payment Application No. 1 from Mid-State Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$59,961.28 for improvements to the Derry Township Senior Center

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

I. Payment Application No. 5 from SE Construction Group, LLC in the amount of \$324,622.80 for the Hawstone Water Extension Project

The expected completion date is May 2025.

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

J. Armagh Township Act 13 Grant in the amount of \$13,843.00 for enhancements to the walking trail

Armagh Township has requested a change in scope because CDBG money will be used to improve the trail itself. The remaining grant money will be used to enhance the trail by adding solar lights, benches, trash cans, dog waste stations and equipment rentals. Armagh Township will have 1 year to complete this project.

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

K. Purchase of Service Agreement for use, if needed, by Children and Youth for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025:

- Meagan Hopkins, Esquire of Johnson, Duffie, Stewart and Weidner PC, Lemoyne, PA

Children and Youth Administrator Nicole Patkalitsky, stated that Ms. Hopkins has been an existing Guardian Ad Litem, however, she has switched firms and the agreement needed updated.

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

L. Personnel:

- Rescind the hiring of Caden Stine that was to be effective March 10, 2025
- Promotion of David Villega from part-time to full-time Corrections Officer effective April 6, 2025
- Hiring of Suzanne Vecanski for Children and Youth Caseworker effective April 7, 2025
- Retirement of Laurie Kozak from Chief Deputy Sheriff effective April 9, 2025
- Promotion of James Aumiller from Sheriff Deputy to Chief Sheriff Deputy effective April 9, 2025
- Promotion of Nicholas Loudenslager from Part-time to Full-time Sheriff Deputy effective April 9, 2025
- Hiring of Robin Smith for a Clerk in the Sheriff's Office effective April 28, 2025
- Hiring of Zoey Johnson for Children and Youth Caseworker effective May 27, 2025
- Retirement of Ann Ford from Clerk in the Sheriff Office effective May 30, 2025
- Hiring of Makenzi Beward for Probation Officer effective June 2, 2025
- Hiring of Sonya Yoder for a Probation intern for the period June 9 through July 11, 2025

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 9:36 a.m.

Secretary

ATTEST:

Chief Clerk