

## NOVEMBER 17, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

Formally approved at December 11, 2020 meeting

FULL BOARD PRESENT; Also present: Norma Bird, Treasurer; Susan Kauwell, Prothonotary; Clair Heath, Sheriff; Teri Provost, SEDA-COG; David D’Onofrio, Montour Solar One; Laurinda Voelcker, Lloyd Bunch, Ronald Johnston, Jim Holdren, Darlene Holdren. Dawn Carr, Public; Rick Dandes, The Daily Item.

Mr. Holdren asked those so inclined to rise for a prayer led by Assistant Solicitor Michael Dennehy. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison. The meeting was then opened.

Mr. Hartman moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

General Account Disbursements	\$261,883.39
General Account Receipts	\$374,592.98
General Account Checking .20%	\$1,384,553.10
Capital Reserve Fund .20%	\$9,847.95
Operating Reserve .29%	\$188,479.77
Total Checking	\$1,583,150.82
Act 13 Highway-Bridge .20%	\$1,809.61
Act 44 .20%	\$66,155.20
Act 89 .20%	\$2,423.33
Children and Youth Checking .20%	\$249,608.61
Facilities Fund .10%	\$179,737.81
Flood Mitigation .20%	\$2,814.49
Hazardous Material Account Checking .20%	\$12,569.89
Human & Community Services Checking .20%	\$98,447.76
Improvement Fund Checking .20%	\$15,662.21
Liquid Fuels Checking .20%	\$193,463.22
Offender Supervision Account Checking .20%	\$42,497.34
Storm Water Ordinance Escrow	\$34,961.05
Uniform 911 Surcharge .20%	\$824,101.90

Mr. Finn moved to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Holdren asked for public comment, asking those wishing to speak about solar farming to wait until the end of the meeting. Ms. Voelcker said she was an election observer and complimented the County on “an amazing job. Everything was very well organized and efficient.” Mr. Holdren also thanked poll workers and voters on the historic turnout and applauded everyone “who spoke their voice.”

Under old business, Mr. Hartman moved to ratify the reissuance of the Bear Hunters Campground complaint to keep the litigation involving right-of-way issues active. The complaint was put on hold for negotiations, which now appear stalled. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Holdren moved to approve CDBG subrecipient agreements on behalf of Danville Borough for the years 2016 through 2019. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Under new business, Mr. Holdren moved to approve a CARES Act Block Grant nonprofit award of \$5,000.00 to Central Pennsylvania Workforce Development Corporation, which has a 501(c)(3) designation, to cover security-related costs at its CareerLink site. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Holdren moved to approve a CARES Act Block Grant award of \$1,180.92 for eligible administrative costs incurred by Montour County. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman move to approve a tax settlement with USG, which appealed its tax assessment, and to authorize Mr. Dennehy as signatory on court documents. Mr. Finn seconded. Mr. Dennehy said the Danville Area School District must also approve the stipulation. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Holdren moved to seek quotes on a \$1,000,000.00 Tax Anticipation Quote for 2021 with submissions due by December 7. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Holdren moved to approve a proposal from Zelenkofskie Axelrod to perform a single audit for the years 2020 through 2022 at a cost of \$53,300.00 for 2020 with a 2% increase in subsequent years. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to approve a legal services agreement between Marks, McLaughlin and Dennehy and the County on behalf of Derry Township for a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program acquisition/demolition of three properties in Derry Township at a cost of \$150.00 per hour. Fees will be paid from the HMPG grant. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to approve Resolution R-11-17-2020 designating EMA Coordinator Ed Burkland as the County's agent on the Luzerne County Flood Protection Authority Mitigation Committee. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Holdren asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Glenda Ruch, a SEDA-COG employee, who worked with the County on several programs.

Under recognition, Mr. Holdren noted that Veteran's Day was last week and expressed appreciation to veterans and their families.

Danville Area High School's Cross-Country Team was congratulated for participation in the state championship with Rory Lieberman placing 14<sup>th</sup> and Coyla Bartholomew placing 25<sup>th</sup>. Nick Krohn, Victoria Bartholomew and Grace Piestrak were recognized as state qualifiers.

The Board congratulated the Danville football team as District 4 champions and state qualifiers.

Mr. Holdren also noted that November 15 through 22 is National Awareness of Homelessness and Hunger Week.

Mr. Holdren opened the floor for public comment on proposed changes to the zoning ordinance on solar farming. Darlene Holdren read a statement saying she had a petition with 289 signatures of County residents opposed to amending the ordinance. However,

her husband, Mr. James Holdren, declined to present the signatures to the Board. Mrs. Holdren, in her statement, said the County zoning ordinance is supposed to ensure orderly, appropriate and compatible development that produces economic growth and preserves agricultural areas. A utility-scale solar development of 1,000 acres, she said, is neither appropriate nor compatible development. Mrs. Holdren urged the denial of allowing a large-scale solar production on agricultural land.

Mr. Finn moved to pay the following bills: General Account, \$409,278.75; Children & Youth, \$79,991.45; Liquid Fuels, \$368.79; Human and Community Service, \$1,103.29; Facilities, \$429,652.41; Uniform 911, \$0; Other Funds, \$55,116.96; CARES Block Grant, \$17,197.90. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Holly A. Brandon, Chief Clerk