

**NOVEMBER 10, 2014 MINUTES**  
**Formally approved November 25 2014 meeting**

FULL BOARD PRESENT: Also present: Susan Kauwell, Prothonotary; Jesse Kline, Treasurer; Jamie Shrawder, SEDA-COG; Lloyd Bunch, Public; Jean Knouse, Iron Heritage Festival; Bob Davies, Geisinger Health System; Dan Knorr, Danville Borough; Karen Blackledge, The Danville News.

Mr. Finn asked those so inclined to rise for a prayer led by Solicitor Robert L. Marks. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison. The meeting was then opened.

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

Mr. Ward moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

General Account Disbursements	\$295,242.84
General Account Receipts	\$143,845.46
General Account Checking .15%	\$1,196,816.91
Capital Reserve Fund .10%	\$35,129.32
Operating Reserve .10%	\$77,776.89
General MMA	\$0.00
Total Checking, MMAs	\$1,309,723.12
Act 13 Highway-Bridge .10%	\$119,340.65
Act 44 .15%	\$100.93
Act 78 Checking .15%	\$7,483.75
Children and Youth Checking .15%	\$202,304.78
Domestic Relations Checking .15%	\$49,610.37
Domestic Relations Incentive	\$0.00
Flood Mitigation .15%	\$1,838.09
Hazardous Material Account Checking .15%	\$15,547.65
Human & Community Services Checking .15%	\$53,170.91
Improvement Fund Checking .15%	\$8,846.73
Liquid Fuels Checking .15%	\$262,215.36
Medical Assistance Transportation .15%	\$131,485.93
Offender Supervision Account Checking .05%	\$17,918.11
Transit Fund Account Checking .15%	\$22,514.43
Wireless 911 .16%	\$198,659.46

Mr. Finn called for public comment. Mr. Knorr thanked the Board for the County's support of Danville Memorial Park through a donation from the Marcellus Shale Legacy Fund for the park's upkeep.

The Board recognized Mrs. Knouse who sought financial assistance on behalf of the Iron Heritage Festival to satisfy debts from the 2014 event. This year was the last for the festival, which has been in existence for 16 years. While the committee has always been diligent on the business side of the event, several unforeseen circumstances caused a shortfall in funds, Mrs. Knouse said. Commissioners expressed both their regret at the

festival's end and thanks to the committee for its hard work over year the years. Mr. Ward acknowledged the difficulty of keeping the festival – which is run entirely by volunteers – going. Mr. Ward told Mrs. Knouse the event, “brought pride back to our community.” Commissioners expressed hope that in the future a new group of volunteers may step forward to resurrect the festival. Mr. Ward moved to approve the requested amount of \$5,500.00 from the Tourism Fund. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Under old business, Mr. Ward moved to approve bids received as follows for the County Home accessibility project: General Contracting – Zartman Construction, \$26,930.00; Reilly Mechanical & Construction, \$38,600.00; Plumbing and Electrical – James D. Brouse Electric, Plumbing & Heating, \$1,255.00 for electrical and \$2,237.00 for plumbing. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor. Ms. Shrawder said she is working with the Office of Children 7 Youth Services to look for a way to address a \$14,000.00 shortfall for the project.

Ms. Shrawder said she is continuing to explore ways to restore funding to the Valley Township sewer project. She said the Department of Community and Economic Development expressed concern that criteria of job creation would not be met as work is already underway on a new business in the township. Mr. Gerst said antiquated rules and regulations have become an impediment with the CDBG program. Mr. Finn suggested looking for redress with federal legislators through the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Under new business, Mr. Ward moved to adopt Resolution R-11-91-14, a Fair Housing Resolution, for the CDBG 2014 submission. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to seek quotes for a 2015 Tax Anticipation Note in the amount of \$800,000.00, with quotes due back by December 9. Mr. Ward seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Kline updated the Board on an amendment to the Local Tax Collection Act, which will require municipal tax collectors to be “certified” through an annual training program conducted by the DCED. Additionally, any candidate for tax collector must provide a Pennsylvania State Police criminal background check when submitting nominating papers to the Board of Elections. Before taking office a tax collector must complete and pass the basic qualification exam.

Mr. Davies presented a Host Municipality Agreement between Geisinger Authority and the County in conjunction with a \$2.4 million Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program awarded to the Authority through the Governor's Office of the Budget. The grant will be used for a parking garage at the Geisinger Medical Center facility on Woodbine Lane. As part of the grant agreement, Montour County, as the taxing authority, would be required to reimburse the Commonwealth for any ineligible costs associated with the project. Under the Host Municipality Agreement, the Geisinger Authority would reimburse the County for any such expenditure. Mr. Gerst moved to approve the agreement. Mr. Ward seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Ward moved to approve an agreement as a condition of SEDA-Council of Governments joining the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation Trust. Under the agreement, the 11 member counties

comprising SEDA-COG would assume costs related to SEDA-COG's unemployment claims in the event of dissolution of SEDA-COG. Mr. Ward explained SEDA-COG is looking at setting up an escrow fund of any premium refunds to pay for such costs in the event of dissolution. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to adopt Resolution R-11-10-14 setting salaries for County elected officials taking office on January 4, 2016 as follows: 2016 – 3% increase; 2017 – 3% increase; 2018 – 3% increase; 2019 – 3% increase. Mr. Ward seconded. On called vote all voted in favor.

Mr. Ward moved to adopt Resolution R-11-11-14 compensation for tax collectors taking office January 4, 2016 as follows: 2.5 percent of the amount of taxes collected plus an annual closeout fee of \$250.00 once taxes collected for the year are settled. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to approve purchase of service agreements on behalf of Children & Youth Services with Concern and PA Treatment and Healing. Mr. Ward seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Ward moved to draft a letter of support for Danville Borough's application of a Green Light – Go Grant application to retime and synchronize the borough's signalized intersections. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Ward moved to draft a letter of support for a grant application by Riverstage Theatre. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to accept a letter of retirement from Walt Peters, Director of Emergency Services, effective May 31, 2015. Mr. Ward seconded. In accepting the letter of retirement, Mr. Ward noted Mr. Peters brought a great deal of professionalism to the job and is well respected by his peers statewide. Mr. Gerst echoed those sentiments, noting Montour County was fortunate to have someone of Mr. Peters' caliber, saying, "He saved us money, he made us safe." On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to accept a letter of resignation from Michael Babb, Correctional Officer, effective October 28. Mr. Ward seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to pay the following bills: General Account, \$340,223.10; Children & Youth, \$70,866.90; Transit, \$13,428.61; Liquid Fuels, \$6,868.44; Act 78, \$5,570.32; Domestic Relations, \$27,672.66; Human and Community Service, \$1,157.02. Mr. Ward seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Holly A. Brandon, Chief Clerk