

**AUGUST 11, 2015 MINUTES**  
**Formally approved September 2, 2015 meeting**

FULL BOARD PRESENT; Also present: Craig Patterson, Children & Youth Services Director; Greg Molter, Human Services Director; Jamie Shrawder, SEDA-COG; Fred Gaffney, ColumbiaMontour Chamber of Commerce; Dan Knorr, Danville Borough; Ken Holdren, Dan Hartman, Jim Donahue, Public; Karen Blackledge, The Danville News.

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

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

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

General Account Disbursements	\$284,301.75
General Account Receipts	\$62,356.05
General Account Checking .15%	\$1,998,361.08
Capital Reserve Fund .10%	\$29,627.65
Operating Reserve .10%	\$77,835.10
General MMA	\$0.00
Total Checking, MMAs	\$2,105,823.83
Act 13 Highway-Bridge .10%	\$83,370.09
Act 44 .15%	\$10,675.57
Act 78 Checking .15%	\$6,022.94
Children and Youth Checking .15%	\$161,048.22
Flood Mitigation .15%	\$1,840.14
Hazardous Material Account Checking .15%	\$18,005.70
Human & Community Services Checking .15%	\$40,293.77
Improvement Fund Checking .15%	\$11,272.06
Liquid Fuels Checking .15%	\$251,106.00
Medical Assistance Transportation .15%	\$39,423.50
Offender Supervision Account Checking .15%	\$38,982.55
Storm Water Ordinance Escrow	\$33,798.55
Transit Fund Account Checking .15%	\$62,214.86
Wireless 911 .15%	\$193,392.79

Mr. Finn called for public comment. Mr. Gaffney told the board of two ribbon-cutting ceremonies for new businesses in Danville. A grand opening celebration will be held at Bason Coffee at 8:30 a.m. Friday, August 28. The second ribbon-cutting is planned for 4 p.m. Thursday, September 10, at Merle Norman.

Mr. Knorr reported as work progresses on the borough's sewer line project, part of the municipal parking lot will be closed, but certain parking permit holders will be able to utilize parking space on Ferry Street. In conjunction with the work, 320 feet of the levee will be temporarily removed to allow new installation. The borough has plans in place to provide protection, such as an inflatable dam, should it be needed, Mr. Knorr said.

Mr. Finn complimented Danville on its inter-governmental cooperation agreements with Riverside and Washingtonville Borough to provide codes enforcement services.

Under correspondence, Mr. Ward announced receipt of a letter from PennDOT, which is hosting a meeting for public officials followed by one for the public on an engineering study of Route 54 and Route 642 west and east in Valley Township. The study is being undertaken as part of a plan to make possible safety improvements in that area. The meeting, open to the public, is scheduled from 6 to 7:30 p.m. August 24 at First Baptist Church.

A request was received from Donald and Margaret Hunter, who asked to purchase County land adjoining their property along Route 11 and Sechler's Run in order to mitigate potential flooding issues. The Hunters would need to have a survey done and provide an appraisal on the property, said Solicitor Robert L. Marks, who was directed by the Board to research the matter.

Mr. Finn noted a phone call from a resident stating the courthouse has never looked so nice both inside and out. He thanked County staff for remodeling and maintenance efforts. Chief Assessor Kathleen Shuler sent a thank-you note to the County praising the service, caring and professionalism of the Transit staff, whose services she needed to use for a short period of time recently.

Under old business, Mr. Ward moved to adopt Ordinance 2 of 2015 forming the Public Safety Answering Point – East Central Region Consolidated/Shared Services Emergency Network and establishing a joint 911 Center with Columbia County. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Commissioners discussed the state budget impasse and its potential effect on the County and County residents. Mr. Ward said rather than sit and debate who is right and who is wrong, the state should just get the budget done so taxpayers are not affected. He pointed out that the Aging Office has to take money out of its reserve funds to keep the senior center's doors open. Additionally, the agency provides waiver services to keep the elderly in their homes, meals on wheels and a variety of other programs to help senior citizens. He remarked of an upcoming fund-raiser, "When you have a state agency and have to have fund-raisers, something's wrong."

Mr. Finn said the County's Transit, Children & Youth and Human Services all depend on state dollars. With funds currently on hand, Transit Director Shawn Mowery estimated in a best-case scenario, Transit could keep its vehicles on the road for another three months. Human Services, meanwhile has stocked enough goods in its food pantry to keep distributions through the end of September, but has no money for housing assistance.

Mr. Patterson said Children & Youth Services is already feeling the fallout. Families facing eviction or homelessness who are unable to receive rental assistance from Human

Services are now calling CYS. Under state law, Children & Youth is mandated to provide services regardless of funding issues. "For every (other) agency that doesn't have a dollar, I have a mandate," Mr. Patterson said. And CYS will have to provide services at a much higher cost. If children need to be placed in foster care, that's \$50.00 to \$100.00 per day as opposed to a one-time rental assistance of \$1,000.00. And any rental assistance dollars spent by CYS will be monies the County will not recoup from the state, he noted. The positive cash flow the agency has achieved after many years of work "will be erased in a heartbeat," he said.

Mr. Molter expressed frustration over the stalemate. "You put me in a job to take care of people, let me do it," he said of state legislators.

Mr. Gerst said the gridlock is nothing new. "We keep electing and voting for the same people over and over with the same results," he said of the state's inability to act.

Mr. Finn said he would like to invite the Governor and local legislators to come to Montour County "with no cameras" to see firsthand how Children & Youth Services and Human Services operate.

Under new business, Ms. Shrawder presented the 2015 CDBG project proposals as follows: Jane E. DeLong Memorial Hall, Washingtonville, requesting \$51,960.00 for a new roof; Montour County for accessibility improvements for the courtroom, request amount to be determined; Washingtonville Municipal Authority, \$105,000.00 for improvements to tank #2; and Montour County, \$16,587.00 to reimburse Children & Youth Services and the County for dollars expended to the County Home accessibility project. Ms. Shrawder also asked the County to approve the Washies parking lot improvement project on behalf of Danville Borough. Ms. Shrawder said the Borough is looking to utilize 82% of its CDBG funds for the project with 18% of the allocation used for administration. Mr. Ward moved to approve the projects as presented. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to accept the 2015 Emergency Management Performance Grant from PEMA in the amount of \$25,362.00. Mr. Ward seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Ward moved to approve Resolution R-8-11-15 designating EMA Coordinator Ed Burkland as the County's agent for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Ward moved to approve the County's intent to adopt Resolution R-8-12-15 authorizing receipt of 911 subscriber and consumer fees. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Ward moved to approve Children & Youth Services' needs-based budget of \$1.18 million for 2015-16 and \$1.122 million for 2016-17. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor. Mr. Gerst thanked Mr. Patterson for advocating a movement toward preventive services many years ago, which has saved the County much money by educating families, and thus avoiding the need for costly placements.

Mr. Gerst moved to approve a Family Medical Leave Act request by Scott Davis, Prison Lieutenant, effective August 7. Mr. Ward seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to approve the hiring of Joseph Stigerwalt as a Maintenance I worker at an hourly rate of \$12.00/\$24,960.00 annually, effective August 17. Mr. Ward seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to affirm the resignation of Lynn Shannon as Victim Witness Coordinator, effective July 30. Mr. Ward seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to pay the following bills: General Account, \$160,981.31; Children & Youth, \$49,425.71; Transit, \$16,891.42; Liquid Fuels, \$24,754.02; Act 78, \$3,966.95; Human and Community Service, \$818.85. 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