

MINUTES JULY 28, 2009 MEETING
Formally approved at August 25, 2009 meeting

FULL BOARD PRESENT: Also present: Gina Morton, The Danville News; Chris Krepich, PressEnterprise.

The meeting was opened in prayer by Solicitor Robert L. Marks. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

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

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

General Account Disbursements	\$683,939.32
General Account Receipts	\$305,475.42
General Account Checking .50%	\$805,357.01
General Account CD 2.10%	\$550,000.00
Capital Reserve Fund .75%	\$219,017.50
Operating Reserve .75%	\$211,718.84
Total Checking, Savings and CDs	\$1,786,093.35
Act 44 .50%	\$23,538.52
Act 78 Checking .50%	\$14,743.75
Children and Youth Checking .50%	\$51,317.40
Domestic Relations Checking .50%	\$53,204.74
Escheat Account Checking .50%	\$2,006.19
Hazardous Material Account Checking .50%	\$10,065.42
Human & Community Services Checking .50%	\$5,143.94
Improvement Fund Checking .50%	\$20,589.10
Liquid Fuels Checking .50%	\$107,579.28
Offender Supervision Account Checking .50%	\$50,365.08
Transit Fund Account Checking .50%	\$31,581.28
West Nile .50%	\$9.07
Wireless 911 .50%	193.466.76

Mr. Finn called for public comment. There was none.

Under correspondence, Mr. Finn noted receipt of a letter from the Iron Heritage Board voicing concern over plans to cut back Tourism Fund grants to \$5,000.00 per approved applicant. The letter indicated that would amount to a \$15,000.00 loss and could jeopardize the future of the Iron Heritage Festival. Mr. Ward explained Hotel Tax revenues, which fund the grants, are down. Mr. Gerst added that the lower grant amounts will also make them available to more applicants.

Under old business, as advertised, this was the time and place to open bids on a 1998 Ford Windstar van. Mrs. Brandon read the sole bid of \$150.00 from Snyder Demolition. Mr. Gerst moved to accept the bid. Mr. Ward seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Ward moved to approve a quote of \$800.00 to remove diseased trees at the Courthouse. Two other proposals submitted were from A&Z, \$1,865.00, and Brown's Tree Service, \$1,475.00. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to approve the hiring of Charles R. Knapp as a part-time Correctional Officer at an hourly rate of \$10.07 effective late August. Mr. Ward seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Under new business, Mr. Ward moved to adopt Resolution R-7-29-09 to adopt a medical insurance premium only plan allowing employees to use pre-tax deductions to pay for their portion of health insurance. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to renew an X-ray machine maintenance agreement with Autoclear Control Screening at a cost of \$4,800.00. Mr. Ward seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to approve Family Medical Leave Act for Linda Hendricks, Transit Driver, effective July 1. Mr. Ward seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to approve Family Medical Leave Act for Richard Hoffman, Correctional Officer, effective September 3. Mr. Ward seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Ward moved to appoint Transit Director Amanda Boyer to the Rural Planning Organization of the State Transportation Commission. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn thanked the Sheriff for turning over its 2000 Ford Explorer for use by the Commissioners Office at no additional cost to the County.

Mr. Ward moved to approve letting bids for the County's 1993 Ford Crown Victoria with bids due 10 a.m. August 25. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn responded to a July 22 editorial in The Danville News in which the County was criticized for trying to subvert the Open Records Act. The author of the editorial compared the County's plans to shred outdated documents to Watergate. Mr. Finn said he took exception to that depiction as the County is mandated by law to purge certain records after so many years. Mr. Finn said the County has always been very open,

especially with the media, and that the County is not covering up anything. Mr. Finn said the Board feels the Open Records Act is pointed in the wrong direction, and their concern is with the ultimate cost to taxpayers as County staff must spend hours redacting and copying documents for those who are merely attempting to “go fish.” Mr. Finn also took exception to the editorialist’s claim that the County’s main function is record-keeping. He pointed out County functions include, among other things, a Transit system, Emergency Operations Center, Children & Youth Services, the courts and planning and zoning.

In an effort to save Liquid Fuels funds, Commissioners said they would personally repair Bridge #2 in Liberty Township. Commissioners estimated it would cost \$8,000.00 to hire a contractor to replace I-beams on the span, but under \$300.00 if the County did its own repairs.

Mr. Finn recognized the 10-11-year-old girls softball team which is playing for the state championship in Lewistown and the Danville High School FFA which had state winners and is going on to national competition.

Mr. Gerst announced that the National Night Out will be held August 4 at Sunnybrook Park, noting the event provides a great opportunity for the community, especially young people, to interact with local law enforcement officers, firefighters and EMTs.

Mr. Ward stated the County plans to contact PennDOT for financial assistance to repair the Keefer Mill Covered Bridge.

Mr. Gerst moved to pay the following bills General Account, \$177,151.40; Children & Youth, \$17,973.44; Transit, \$18,203.88; Liquid Fuels, \$255.50; Act 78, \$1,355.20; Domestic Relations, \$903.06; Human & Community, \$1,035.86. 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