

FEBRUARY 8, 2011 MINUTES
Formally approved at February 22, 2011 meeting

PRESENT: Commissioner Chairman Trevor S. Finn, Commissioner Vice Chairman Jack Gerst. Commissioner Jerry Ward was absent due to illness. Also present: Betty Woodruff, Auditor; Harold Hurst for Rep. Kurt Masser; Amanda Boyer, Transit Director; Charlie Ross, Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce; Charles Milheim, Mark Fry, Michael Balducci, James Staib, Robert Staib, Tom McGreevy, Jim Radel, Charlie Miller, public; Karen Blackledge, 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. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

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

General Account Disbursements	\$508,706.32
General Account Receipts	\$58,138.97
General Account Checking .50%	\$1,015,076.14
Capital Reserve Fund .50%	\$26,468.51
Operating Reserve .50%	\$39,623.80
Total Checking, Savings and MMAs	\$1,081,168.45
Act 44 .50%	\$46,102.16
Act 78 Checking .50%	\$2,430.16
Children and Youth Checking .50%	\$253,397.42
Domestic Relations Checking .50%	\$147,155.29
Escheat Account Checking .50%	\$2,752.08
Flood Mitigation	\$96,481.61
Hazardous Material Account Checking .50%	\$11,433.86
Human & Community Services Checking .50%	\$23,324.97
Improvement Fund Checking .50%	\$897.88
Liquid Fuels Checking .50%	\$46,801.88
Liquid Fuels MMA 1.10%	\$130,000.00
Offender Supervision Account Checking .50%	\$28,941.89
Transit Fund Account Checking .50%	\$47,153.63
Wireless 911 .50%	\$189,282.72

Mr. Finn asked for public comment. Attorney Balducci presented a petition signed by “pilots, neighbors and friends” of the Danville Airport expressing dissatisfaction with how the airport is being operated. Mr. Balducci said 95 percent of the pilots who utilize the facility supported the operator whose contract was not renewed by the Airport Authority. Mr. Fry stated as of January 1st, there has been no maintenance, no mechanic and no fuel at the airport, and that he was locked out of the facility and couldn’t get to his plane for a week. Mr. Balducci said pilots have been frustrated by the dismissive attitude of Airport Authority members. Mr. Finn explained that once an authority is created, the municipality, in this instance, Montour County, has no say in its day-to-day operations. The County’s responsibility is to appoint board members. Mr. Finn said he believed both sides could come to an amicable conclusion by sitting down together at the next Authority meeting, which Commissioners indicated they would attend.

Under old business, Mr. Gerst moved to reject the sole bid to lease County farmland submitted by Johnathan Beltz who quoted a lump sum of \$250.00 for the 15 acres, and to issue a Request For Proposals for the farmland. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Under new business, Mr. Gerst moved to approve an agreement with Northumberland County to take over 911 dispatching calls in Riverside Borough, Rush and Mayberry Townships. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to adopt Resolution R-2-8-11 authorizing the execution of the aforementioned agreement. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to adopt Ordinance 2-11 extending the life of the Geisinger Authority’s Articles of Incorporation for 50 years until 2061. Mr. Marks explained the extension was necessary for the term of bond issues the Authority plans to issue. Mr. Finn seconded, stating Geisinger is vital to the economy of the region and the commonwealth, noting that the Authority does a tremendous job. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to let bids for an accessible raised roof van with four wheel drive for the Transit agency with bids due March 8. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst affirmed the hiring of Norma Bird as Deputy Treasurer at an annual rate of \$18,500.00 effective February 14. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to approve the promotion of Julie Spencer to Caseworker II effective February 8. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to enter into an agreement in the amount of \$3,900.00 with Real Estate Appraisal & Marketing Associates for an appraisal report for litigation involving the Days Inn Conference Center. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst moved to draft a letter of support for the work of the Transitional Housing and Care Center. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Gerst recognized Children & Youth Services for achieving 100 percent compliance in its Adoption and Foster Care Compliance Review.

Mr. Finn asked the public to write to their state legislators to oppose a movement that would prohibit hundreds of certified fire instructors, who are in the state retirement system, to be fire instructors as the pay they would receive would be considered double dipping. In Montour County, the majority of fire instructors would be lost, leaving volunteer firefighters facing onerous fees for training.

Mr. Finn moved to pay the following bills: General Account, \$20,038.20; Children & Youth, \$1,431.40; Transit, \$10,476.31; Liquid Fuels, \$30.26; Act 78, \$0; Domestic Relations, \$135.00; Human and Community Services, \$25.68. Mr. Gerst seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:

Holly A. Brandon, Chief Clerk