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March 9, 2021
11:00 A.M.

FULL BOARD PRESENT; Also present: Sue Kauwell, Prothonotary; Greg Molter, Planning/Zoning Director; Ryan Craig, IT; Bob Stoudt, MARC; Tim Hippensteel, DRIVE; Lloyd Bunch, Charles Billet, Public; Geri Gibbons, Press Enterprise; Rick Dandes, The Daily Item.

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

General Account Disbursements	\$491,318.05
General Account Receipts	\$238,507.91
General Account Checking .05%	\$919,878.04
Capital Reserve Fund .10%	\$9,852.67
Operating Reserve .10%	\$366,319.71
Total Checking	\$1,296,050.42
Act 13 Highway-Bridge .10%	\$232,381.98
Act 44 .05%	\$117,444.23
Act 89 .10%	\$146,753.06
Children and Youth Checking .05%	\$395,258.33
Facilities Fund .10%	\$87,626.26
Flood Mitigation .05%	\$2,815.83
Hazardous Material Account Checking .05%	\$15,008.86
Human & Community Services Checking .05%	\$107,656.09
Improvement Fund Checking .05%	\$9,869.26
Liquid Fuels Checking .05%	\$185,012.76
Offender Supervision Account Checking .17%	\$42,306.08
Storm Water Ordinance Escrow	\$34,961.05
Uniform 911 Surcharge .05%	\$723,611.95

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

Mr. Holdren called for public comment. Mr. Bunch expressed concern that gun rights might be taken away. Mr. Finn noted the Board recently passed a resolution that no County employee would, in the course of their duties, knowingly violate the rights of citizens as provided in the Bill of Rights. He suggested Mr. Bunch contact state legislators.

Mr. Hippensteel briefed the Board on broadband expansion in the County funded by CARES Act dollars. He said despite delays due to weather and Covid-related issues, the initiative is in a good place as key spots – such as Bald Top - have been installed and are ready to go. Work in Anthony and Mayberry townships continues. Originally, the broadband required line of site, he said, but new technology can reach residences much better and because of that, there will be some coverage in all of Montour County. Mr. Holdren said this is an example of how well a public-private enterprise can make significant improvements at a low cost.

Mr. Stoudt spoke to the Board about the settlement agreement between Middle Susquehanna Riverkeeper Association and Talen Energy, and how that would affect the Montour Preserve. Once Talen ceases coal combustion at its Montour plant and no longer needs water from the dam for its operations, Talen will donate the dam, the preserve, surrounding buildings and land to a governmental or non-governmental 501(c)(3) organization. Additionally, Talen will escrow \$1,000,000.00 to ensure upkeep of the property. Mr. Stoudt noted neither Montour County government nor MARC has the knowledge or expertise to maintain the dam. Mr. Holdren suggested reaching out to state legislators and DCNR for a meeting on how to proceed.

Under correspondence, receipt of a letter was noted from the Montour County Historical Society. The organization asked to be notified should artifacts be uncovered during the installation of any solar panels, and if artifacts are found, they be turned over to the society. Mr. Holdren said that will be part of DEP oversight.

Under old business, Mr. Holdren moved to approve an amendment to an agreement with SEDA-COG to administer the Covid-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program. Mr. Hartman seconded. The amendment changes the per application fee to \$340.00 not to exceed \$6,610.00. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Under new business, Mr. Molter briefed the Board on the Emergency Rental Assistance Program through the state Department of Human Services. Montour has received \$1,198,992.43 to assist eligible individuals with rent and utilities costs. Income guidelines are 80 percent of the area median income, meaning, for example, that a family of three can have an annual income of \$54,950.00 and be eligible to receive aid. The state is still refining rules of the program, but Mr. Molter said Montour County Human Services hopes to be able start taking applications by March 15. Information on the program is posted to Montour County's website. Additionally, the County has established a new email and phone number for those interested in participating in the program. Mr. Hartman moved to approve the program. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Holdren moved to approve the annual CCAP Web Program enrollment agreement of \$3,950.00. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Holdren moved to approve a Tourism Grant application of \$30,000.00 by Danville Little League for its senior division field light replacement project. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

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Mr. Hartman moved to disencumber \$60,000.00 in Liquid Fuels funds earmarked for Bridge 15 in Anthony Township. Mr. Holdren seconded. The money was originally encumbered a number of years ago, but the bridge was destroyed in flooding in 2018. It was replaced using FEMA funds, so the encumbered funds are no longer necessary. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to appoint Brett Johnson to a three-year term on the MARC Board effective April 23 to replace outgoing member Kendra Boell. Mr. Holdren seconded, thanking Dr. Boell for her service. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to appoint Michele Jenkins to the Children & Youth Services Advisory Board. Mr. Holdren seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

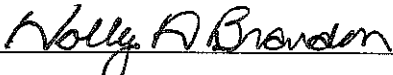
Mr. Holdren moved to affirm the hiring of Cynthia Zablocky as a part-time Deputy Coroner at an hourly rate of \$12.50 effective March 1. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Hartman moved to promote Amy Hertzog to Caseworker 2 effective March 15. Mr. Holdren seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Holdren moved to approve intermittent Family Medical Leave Act leave for William Wilt, Prison Warden, effective March 8. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Holdren moved to pay the following bills: General Account, \$190,088.72; Children & Youth, \$24,758.40; Uniform 911, \$0; Human and Community Service, \$1,826.15; Facilities, \$3,938.43; Liquid Fuels, \$142.82; Other Funds, \$3,875.13. Mr. Hartman seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Holly A. Brandon, Chief Clerk