

November 25, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

Formally approved December 16, 2025 meeting

FULL BOARD PRESENT; Also present: Norma Bird, Treasurer; Chuck Jenkins, Treasurer-elect; Will McKenna, Sheriff; Melodie Follmer, Claire Gallagher, CYS; Rebecca Warren, Stacey Spangenburg, Milton Hershey School; Terrance Lynn, Kelly Smith-Wells, Craig High, Beth Goldman, Alyssa Wenrich, Ardie Kissinger, Jack Gerst, Jerry Ward, Sister Michael Ann Orlik, Sister Barbara Sable, Mark Giesen, Public; Drew Mumich, Press Enterprise; Anna Wiest, The Daily Item.

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

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| General Account Disbursements | \$110,658.84 |
| General Account Receipts | \$10,840.02 |
| General Account Checking | \$898,275.44 |
| Capital Reserve Fund | \$44,893.17 |
| Operating Reserve | \$1,465,920.27 |
| Total Checking | \$2,409,088.88 |
| Act 13 Highway-Bridge | \$228,106.72 |
| Act 44 | \$124,203.28 |
| Act 89 | \$283,051.91 |
| Children and Youth Checking | \$1,216,407.84 |
| Debt Service Fund | \$1,122,518.82 |
| Flood Mitigation | \$2,904.39 |
| Hazardous Material Account Checking | \$11,785.96 |
| Human & Community Services Checking | \$129,687.08 |
| Improvement Fund Checking .01% | \$17,301.90 |
| Liquid Fuels Checking | \$262,175.28 |
| Offender Supervision Account Checking | \$64,309.53 |
| Opioid Settlement Fund | \$245,995.03 |
| Storm Water Ordinance Escrow | \$57,049.55 |
| Uniform 911 Surcharge | \$1,044,678.71 |
| Whole Homes Repair | \$9,395.57 |

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

Mr. Finn moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Lynn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Ms. Dressler called for public comment related to agenda items. There was none.

Ms. Dressler welcomed Rebecca Warren of the Milton Hershey School, who said the school is seeking to raise awareness of its mission to provide an education to underprivileged children in a nurturing atmosphere. Toward that end, the school is hosting a free dinner and family information night January 20 at Washies Fire Company.

Ms. Warren then introduced Stacey Spangenburg, a recruiter for the school, who presented a history of the school and its philosophy. The school was founded in 1918 by chocolate magnate Milton Hershey and his wife, who gave their entire \$60 million fortune to provide free tuition and boarding to underprivileged children from 4 years old through high school age. To date, the school boasts 11,000 graduates. Currently, 2,100 students from 39 states are enrolled and live on campus. All expenses are paid, including clothing, medical care, school supplies, and activities. Students live in gender- and age-specific homes staffed by married couples. In addition to a well-rounded education, the school helps prepare students for life after school. Every student will have their driver's license, basic swim skills, career and technical training before leaving. The majority of graduates will move on to secondary education, a career or the military. Students also have the opportunity to accrue money in continuing education scholarships.

There was no old business.

Under new business, Ms. Dressler moved to approve the 2026 tentative General Fund budget of \$11,416,912.14 in revenues and expenditures of \$11,255,238.99. Mr. Lynn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Ms. Dressler moved to set the real estate tax at 5.19 mills and debt service tax at .2652 mills. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Ms. Dressler said the budget was driven by increased costs, including higher allocations to CYS and the Retirement Fund, as well as an 18% increase in health insurance costs. Mr. Finn noted flat revenues factored into the millage increase. He pointed to the loss of \$180,000.00 in anticipated annual revenues when a lease agreement with a behavioral school to rent the second floor of the Admin Center fell through due to the delayed passage of the state budget, which left the behavioral school without necessary funds.

Ms. Dressler moved to approve the 2026 tentative Liquid Fuels budget of \$736,258.90 in revenues and \$700,274.63 in expenditures. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Ms. Dressler moved to approve the SWAN Legal Services Initiative with Diakon-SWAN LLC to provide free paralegal services from October 1, 2025, through June 30, 2030, to Children & Youth Services. Mr. Finn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Lynn moved to reappoint Frederick Dyroff and Diane Keefer to the CMSU Behavioral Health Advisory Board, with both terms running through December 31, 2028. Ms. Dressler seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to affirm the resignation of Deana Titman as Deputy Prothonotary effective November 20, 2025. Mr. Lynn seconded on called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to accept the resignation of Terry Diener as Valley Township Constable effective immediately. Mr. Lynn seconded. On called vote, all voted infavor.

Mr. Lynn moved to postpone the December 17 hearing for Talen Energy's request to re-zone land in Anthony Township from agricultural to industrial and to reschedule the hearing on a date to be determined. Ms. Dressler seconded. On called vote, all voted in

favor. Attorney Marks said he spoke to Talen counsel Erich Shock who requested to push back or postpone the hearing until the end of January. Mr. Shock indicated that Talen would pay for the cost of re-advertising. Mr. Marks noted this will also be helpful in securing a venue large enough to accommodate the expected crowd at the hearing. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Ms. Dressler moved to cancel meeting dates on December 9 and 30, with the meeting scheduled for December 16 remaining. Mr. Lynn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

Mr. Finn moved to pay the following bills: General Account, \$175,956.20; Children & Youth, \$45,999.46; Liquid Fuels, \$0; Human and Community Service, \$846.15; Operating Reserve, \$1,669.97; Other, \$1,669.97. Mr. Lynn seconded. On called vote, all voted in favor.

The floor was then opened to public comment on Talen Energy's application to rezone land in Anthony Township from agricultural to industrial. Mr. High asked the Board to reiterate when the Talen request to postpone occurred. Mr. Marks said a message from Talen came into the law office for Attorney Michael Dennehy, who was in Columbia County, at the time, so Mr. Marks took the call this morning at 9:15.

Ms. Smith-Wells asked how many seats would be provided for the hearing. Mr. Finn answered the County has been reaching out to a number of venues, among them schools, Geisinger, and Montour Preserve, but the goal is to have enough space "so everyone can have a voice and be heard."

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted By:

Holly A. Brandon, Chief Clerk