

Mercer Township, Butler County
4629 William Flynn Hwy, PO Box 380, Harrisville, PA 16038
MEETING MINUTES – July 20, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman, J. Bennett, Jr. Members present: John Bennett, Jr.; William Long; Emil Treese; Nikki Ciochetto; Holly Tissue-Thompson. Visitors: None. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** None. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** Motion to accept the June 15, 2026 Meeting Minutes as printed: W. Long. Second: E. Treese. All in favor, motion carried. **OLD BUSINESS:** Public Sewer: Incomplete connection/inspection (4); Delinquencies-Three or more months (3); Property Liens (2); Notice of Claim: H. Russell estate. Estate Auction held June 27. Office updated current balance on account. Sent info to closing company. Delinquency Rate: Total-5%; Severe-1%. Sewer Lateral Inspections: None. Tepco Grinder Pumps: None. Ground Leveling/Cinder Blocks: None. Sludge Hauling: None. Pine-Harrisville Authority: Letter sent to PHA requesting that Mercer Twp. be released from the PHA. Mtg. scheduled for 8-11-2026. Crum/200 Shields Rd: Escrow account has been depleted. Additional expenses billed directly to Crum's. Private Sewer: 140 W. Oak Grove Ln: SRSTP. Need to collect & hold escrow. On-Lot Sewage Permits (2026): 326 Frampton Rd (Mularski). Office: Building Permits (8): J. Pierce (solar); W. Tomko (garage); L. Bauer (greenhouse); T. McDougall (house/garage); R. Stuchal (barn); G. Westbrook (garage); T. Fedokovitz (pool/deck); R. Drake (pool). Road Bonds: Anegada Energy-Halterlein gas well, Shields Rd. (2-18-26 to 8-18-26). Subdivision Plans: Giesler Family Trust. Landlord/Tenant Records: Office is updating records of tenants & vacant properties to help keep our PC tax records up to date. Drop slot: Need to finish. Outside basement doors: Need to paint second coat. FireFighter: Annual inspection in October. Mercer County State Bank: Harrisville office hours changed. Ground hogs: Destroying property. Holes are plugged but still are here. Mowing: Brush needs mowed at the office. Power Washing: Greg scrubbed the siding. Parking Lot: Needs sealed. Will obtain quotes. Municipal Garage: Doors on old shed: Project completed. Old Boom Mower: Accepted highest bid of \$10,775. Will transfer amount to Capital Reserve fund once funds are verified. 2024 Dump Truck: The truck was detailed & driven in the Harrisville Boro 4th of July parade. Valley View Rd. Ditch: Stone has been hauled & ditch has been filled. Centertown Road Edge Repair: Youngblood Paving was the lowest quote for the Centertown Road edge repair. Work was completed on 6-10-26. Motion to pay \$23,810.00 invoice for this work from Liquid Fuels fund: W. Long. Second: E. Treese. All in favor, motion carried. 2026 Seal-Coating Project: Youngblood Paving won the bid to perform the seal coat project using slag aggregate (Item 2 bid amount - \$67,916.58) sections of Shields, Centertown, Enterprise, Sutherland & Unity Rds. Work was completed on 7-7-26. Slag aggregate was not used due to inavailability of materials. Work was completed as specified in Item 1 (bid amount - \$65,763.60). Invoice has been received. Amount is \$6,417.60 over the bid due to variation in road width. Motion to pay the invoice amount of \$72,181.20 using limestone from Liquid Fuels fund: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. Tree Trimming: Adler Tree Service performed tree trimming along Browntown Rd from 6-23-26 to 7-3-26. Motion to pay Adler Tree Service invoice in the amount of \$30,000 from General Fund: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. EMC: None. Butler County Hazard Mitigation Plan: None. Harrisville VFC: Awaiting financial report. EMS QRS Agencies: Harrisville VFC will be our designated QRS agency once they report that they have completed their licensure. No update. Fish property: In Litigation. F/U in October. Mercer Twp., Butler Co./Ag Security Council: Need a committee of 1 supervisor, 3 farmers & 1 resident (non-farmer). Information on how to volunteer is on the website & in the newsletter. W. Long will reach out after the fall harvest. Centertown Road Curve: Will install a guardrail on the sharp curve. Allegheny Mineral: White Oak Road closing: July 13-25, 2026. Office mailed letters to residents on 6-17-26. Verified EMS & PennDOT are aware. USPS has also been notified. Frampton/Unity/Valley View Road: Supervisors assessed the mowing complaint. Office mailed response letter to complainant on 6-18-26. **NEW BUSINESS:** None. **OTHER BUSINESS:** None. **MTGS/CONFERENCES/ TRAINING:** Wolf Creek COG Mtg: (7-15-26) John attended. Butler Co. Municipal Outreach Mtg: (6-18-26) Nikki attended. Commissioners provided update. Plan to renew the \$5 use fee when it expires. Penn State Extension provided background info. on data centers: use; sizes; energy; geography; power use; efficiency; electricity prices; proximity vs power; jobs; water use; other info sources. PUC is trying to regulate to keep electric costs down for consumers. Farmland Preservation & Easement was mentioned. J. Bennett obtained sample ordinances for our review. We hope to get an ordinance in place for Mercer Twp. Butler Co. Municipal Outreach Mtg: (7-16-26) Nikki & Holly attended. Commissioners & Dr. Rottinghaus provided updates. Discussed the plugging of gas wells. There are up to 30,000 wells in PA that require plugging. Major issue is that the wells are not reported because landowners are afraid of being responsible for covering the cost. Unplugged wells affect health & safety, soil & water, & land value. Once the wells are plugged, they are marked with an identifying number. Then, they try to return the area to what it would have looked like prior to the well being dug. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** General Fund: \$166,262. Sewer Fund: \$55,976. Liquid Fuels Fund: \$164,850. Capital Reserve: \$46,767. Escrow Fund: \$5,625. Total: \$439,480. Financial Report dated 6-12-26 to 7-16-26 received & reviewed by all Supervisors. Second Quarter Budget Report received by all Supervisors. Motion to approve the report & pay all invoices: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn mtg at 8:10 pm: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. Mtg adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: Holly Tissue-Thompson, Assistant Secretary

Holly M Tissue-Thompson