

**Mercer Township, Butler County**  
**4629 William Flynn Hwy, PO Box 380, Harrisville, PA 16038**  
**MEETING MINUTES – March 16, 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:** Randy Giesler (resident); Maura Farr (Butler Eagle intern). **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** R. Giesler needs his subdivision approved & signed. Supervisors reviewed & signed. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** **Motion** to accept the February 16, 2026 Mtg Minutes as printed: W. Long. Second: E. Treese. All in favor, motion carried. **OLD BUSINESS:** **Kozy Rest Sewage Expansion:** Invoiced Kozy Rest for 2025 legal/engineering expenses. Pmt. received 2-23-26. **Public Sewer: Incomplete connections/inspections (5). Delinquencies-Three or more months (2):** Two are delinquent by 6 months or more: 126 Shields Rd & 535 W. Mercer St. Ext. Solicitor sent 30 day notice letter to 126 Shields Rd. **Property Liens (2):** D. Brown (connect); H. Russell (debt). **Notice of Claim:** H. Russell estate. **Auto Pay:** 47 of 119 accounts (40%); **Online Card Push Pay:** 9 (8%). **Delinquency Rate:** Total-7%; Severe-2%. **Sewer Lateral Inspections:** 224 Boyers Rd. passed inspection on 3-2-26. **Teppo Grinder Pumps:** Received new back up pump & invoices for 2 repaired pumps. **PumpMan Maintenance Program:** waiting for new contract to be sent for review. **Ground Leveling:** soon. **Sludge Hauling:** soon. **Pine-Harrisville Authority:** Letter sent in February to PHA requesting that Mercer Township be released from the Pine Harrisville Authority. **799 E. Main St. Ext:** Replaced grinder pump lid damaged by resident. Cost at their expense (\$150.00). **200 Shields Rd:** Escrow has been replenished. Received revised documents from their engineer. Reviewed this evening & signed. **Motion** to adopt **Resolution 26-0316-02**, Resolution for Plan Revision for New Land Development for Debra & Jonathan Crum, Crum Forcemain Extension: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. **138 Boyers Rd:** New owners are ready to install & connect to sewage. Office has been working with engineer to update info. **Private Sewer: 632 Grove City Rd:** needs a single residence sewage treatment plant. Component 3s – Sewage Facilities Planning Module for SRSTP was reviewed. **Motion** to adopt **Resolution 26-0316-01**, Resolution for Plan Revision for New Land Development for Bonnie Snyder SRSTP: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. **On-Lot Sewage Permits (2026):** 0. **Office: Building Permits (2026):** J. Pierce (Solar). **Road Bonds (2026):** Anegada Energy-Halterlein gas well, Shields Road. (2-18-26 to 8-18-26). **Subdivision Plans:** Giesler Family Trust – approved & signed. **Outside spigot: Drop slot:** Will finish inside later. **Outside basement doors:** Will paint second coat when warmer. **Municipal Garage: Doors on old shed:** Ordered the metal plates from 84 Lumber. **2024 Plow Truck:** Would like to order a laser plow guide. Cost is approx. \$2,000.00. **Motion** to purchase a laser guide for the new plow truck from General Fund: W. Long. Second: E. Treese. All in favor, motion carried. **Boom Mower:** Need to replace our current boom mower that is very old. **Motion** to advertise for bids to purchase a used Boom Mower: W. Long. Second: E. Treese. All in favor, motion carried. **Butler County Use Fee Grant:** Received check for \$50,000 on 3-2-26. Grant reimbursed the General Fund. **EMC/Weather – Emergency Management Coordinator:** Twp. notified by Butler Co. that we need to have a backup EMC for when our EMC may not be available. John will check to see who Harrisville Borough's EMC is & see if we can have them cover for us & Brian Grossman will cover them. **Harrisville VFC:** Was granted permission to use Twp. roads for an ATV fundraiser ride. Tentative date: Oct. 10. Harrisville VFC asked J. Bennett, Jr. to write a letter for a grant application for a truck. Dave Evans asked if we would like to drive our new truck in the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade in Harrisville. **EMS QRS Agencies:** Harrisville VFC will be our designated QRS agency once they report that they have completed their licensure. **"For Love of the Lost"/Fish property:** In Litigation. **Mercer Township, Butler County/Ag Security Area:** Want to create an Ag. Security Council with a committee of 1 supervisor, 3 farmers & 1 resident (non-farmer). Anyone interested in volunteering should call Bill for more info. Request for volunteers is on the website & in the spring newsletter. **Centertown Road Curve:** Supervisors were asked to install a guardrail on the sharp curve to help keep vehicles from driving off the road into the pasture. John received direction from our engineer. Bill will research items needed & prices. **Motion** to purchase items: tabled. The supervisors need to meet at site to decide what they are doing before Bill can calculate cost. **Tri-County Clean Up Day 2026:** Scheduled for Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>: 7 am – Noon. **Motion** to pay Township employees at current pay rate & non-employees a \$75 stipend as Independent Contractors for working Clean Up Day: W. Long. Second: E. Treese. All in favor, motion carried. **NEW BUSINESS: No Littering Signs:** Resident on Valley View Rd complained about roadway litter. Would like signs posted. Supervisors will monitor litter & decide later. **OTHER BUSINESS: 2026 Paving Project:** Need to advertise. Bid meeting will be held on Friday, April 17, 2026 so we can approve bids at April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. **Motion** to advertise for bids as soon as paperwork is received from Cory Shaffer & schedule Bid Opening mtg for April 17, 2026 at Noon: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. **2026 Newsletter:** Supervisors reviewed newsletter. Office plans to have it mailed by the middle of April. **Motion** to approve 2026 Newsletter for printing & mailing: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried.

**MEETINGS/CONFERENCES/TRAINING: Butler Co. Municipal Outreach Mtg:** (2-18-26) Nikki & Holly attended. Commissioners gave updates. Election candidates petitioning are NOT soliciting. D. Rottinghaus from BMH gave updates on respiratory illnesses, expanding services & affiliation with WVU. Stated that they will continue to accept all insurances. C. Shaffer discussed how to deal with road salt needs. SRU gave a presentation on student-community collaboration opportunities & requested project ideas & suggestions. **Mercer Co. COG Mtg:** John will attend. **ROAD REPORT:** 2/1-Checked roads. 2/3-Salted Twp in AM & cleared drifts in PM. 2/4-Checked roads. 2/5-Checked roads, broke up frozen anti-skid & put 2 loads of salt in the shed. Picked up a new cutting edge for the plow & installed. 2/6-Checked roads in AM & salted Twp in PM. 2/7-Plowed roads in AM. Cleared drifts in PM. 2/8-Plowed & salted Twp. 2/12-Salted Twp & broke up frozen anti-skid. 2/16-Videoed Shields Rd. for bonding purposes. 2/22-Plowed & salted Twp. 2/23-Salted Twp & mixed anti-skid. 2/24-Salted Twp. 2/25-Plowed & salted Twp. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** General Fund: \$107,840. Sewer Fund: \$65,448. Liquid Fuels Fund: \$163,518. Capital Reserve: \$126,229. Escrow Fund: \$6,345. Total: \$469,380. Financial Report dated 2-13-26 to 3-12-26 received & reviewed by all Supervisors. **Motion** to approve the report & pay all invoices: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. **Motion** to transfer \$10,000 from General Fund to Capital Reserve (to complete the amount originally motioned on at the 2025 budget workshop mtg): E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. **ADJOURNMENT: Motion** to adjourn mtg at 8:30 pm: E. Treese Second: W. Long. Mtg adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: Holly Thompson, Assistant Secretary

*Holly Thompson*