

Mercer Township, Butler County  
4629 William Flynn Hwy, PO Box 380, Harrisville, PA 16038  
MEETING MINUTES – May 18, 2026

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order at 7:02 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 April 20, 2026 Meeting Minutes as printed: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. **OLD BUSINESS:** Public Sewer: Incomplete connections/inspections (5). Delinquencies-Three or more months (4). Property Liens (3). Notice of Claim: Filed on H. Russell estate. Delinquency Rate: Total-7%; Severe-2%. Tepco Grinder Pumps: Call on 4-29-26 from 653 W. Mercer St. Ext. for pump alarm. Replaced pump. PumpMan Maintenance Program: waiting for new contract to be sent.

Flow Control Meter: Recently calibrated. Marvin reports it is now acting funny. Thinks it got struck by lightning in the bad storms. Will have someone come & look at it. Office will notify insurance co. to see if covered. No response from insurance company to date. Pine-Harrisville Authority: Letter sent in February to PHA requesting that Mercer Township be released from the PHA. They sent a past due notice for dues on 4-10-26. Office followed up on letter. Was forwarded to the PHA solicitor. They are waiting for formal requests from Harrisville Boro & Marion Twp to process all removal requests at one time to save on filing expenses. Solicitor is investigating. 200 Shields Rd: Awaiting DEP permits. Solicitor prepared Easement Agreement for our review & approval. Once these are completed & received, will need to complete application, receive tap-in fee & inspect. Motion to adopt **Resolution 2026-0518-01 - Easement Agreement for 200 Shields Road:** E. Treese. Second: J. Bennett, Jr. All in favor, motion carried. 138 Boyers Rd: Owners received paperwork on connection/inspection & paid the tap-in fee. Inspector is to deliver tracer wire & have them install it when they connect. Connection deadline: 9-30-26. Private Sewer: 632 Grove City Rd: SRSTP. Awaiting DEP approval. Holding escrow. 140 W. Oak Grove Ln: SRSTP. Need to collect & hold escrow. Office: Building Permits (6): J. Pierce (solar); W. Tomko (garage); L. Bauer (greenhouse); T. McDougall (house/garage); R. Stuchal (barn); Glenn Westbrook (garage). Road Bonds: Anegada Energy-Halterlein gas well, Shields Rd. Subdivision Plans: Giesler Family Trust – resubmitted to Planning Commission. Approved by Twp. FireFighter: Have been trying to contact them for several years regarding our extinguisher inspections. Nobody will get back to us. John will f/u. Copier: Our Kyocera copier is too old for repairs. Received a proposal for a new machine from FORD Office Technologies. Investigating other machines. Municipal Garage: Doors on old shed: Metal doors have not been installed but are prepped & ready. 2024 Plow Truck: May want to get a backup auger for winter. Supervisors will research. Boom Mower: Purchased 2022 John Deere tractor with boom mower from SEI. Need EGR issue addressed. Old Boom Mower: Motion to advertise old boom mower for sale: E. Treese. Second: W. Long. All in favor, motion carried. 2026 Paving Project: Accepted bid from Youngblood Paving for Item #2 at \$67,916.58 using slag aggregate. W. Long will get phone quotes for the small portion of Centertown Rd. that needs edge repair. Will set up special meeting for May 28, 2026 at 4:30 pm to decide. Tree Trimming: Advertised for bids to trim trees along Browntown Rd. Received 2 sealed bids at the Bid Opening mtg. on April 17, 2026. Both bids came in at a total exceeding our budget. Needed to clarify bids per LF for a smaller area. Received clarification: 1. Thunder Ridge Bid: Unit Price - \$12/LF at a minimum of 2,200 LF (\$26,400 minimum). 2. Adler Tree Service Bid: Unit Price - \$6.49/LF at a minimum of 2,200 LF (\$14,278 minimum). Motion to accept bid from Adler Tree Service at unit price of \$6.49/LF for \$30,000 worth of tree trimming: W. Long. Second: J. Bennett, Jr. All in favor, motion carried. **EMC/Weather – Emergency Management Coordinator:** *Need to name a Secondary EMC contact.* John to f/u. **Butler County Hazard Mitigation Plan Revision:** received letter from the County asking for help completing everything quickly. First mtg. was held 4-7-26. B. Grossman is working with Butler Co. to provide info for the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Office worked with Brian to complete online survey. **Harrisville VFC:** Will be providing us with a financial report. **EMS QRS Agencies:** Harrisville VFC will be our designated QRS agency once they report that they have completed their licensure. Still waiting on DOH inspection. **“For Love of the Lost”/Fish property:** In Litigation. **Mercer Township, Butler County/Ag Security Area:** Want to create an Ag. Security Council. We need a committee of 1 supervisor, 3 farmers & 1 resident (non-farmer). Information on how to volunteer 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. Supervisors met on site to determine plan. W. Long will get pricing. **No Littering Signs:** Resident on Valley View Rd complained about roadway litter. Signs will be placed. **Mercer Township Clean Up Day on May 9<sup>th</sup>:** W. Long said we had about 45 residents attend. **NEW BUSINESS:** None. **OTHER BUSINESS:** Primary Election Day: Tues. May 19. Office is closed. **MEETINGS/CONFERENCES/TRAINING:** **PSATS Conference:** (4-19 to 22-26) Bill attended. Much information about America 250 happenings & how our infrastructures aren't prepared to handle the amount of data centers that are being built. **PennDOT Mtg:** (4-23-26) 10 am @ Jennings. Unattended. **Wolf Creek COG Mtg:** (5-20-26) John to attend. **Butler Co. Municipal Outreach Mtg:** (5-20-26). **Butler Co. Association of Twp Officials (BCATO):** (5-21-26) 2026 Spring Convention. Nikki to attend.

**ROAD REPORT:** 4/1-Checked roads & cleared culvert at end of Browntown Rd. 4/3-Cleaned ditches & roads after heavy rain. 4/6 & 7- Cleaned ditches. 4/11-Delivered grinder pump to Crum's & wired fuel pump. 4/13-Straightened signs. 4/16-Took tire off old mower. 4/17-Mowed STP. 4/20-Assessed culvert complaint on Browntown Rd. 4/23-Cleaned ditches, washed both trucks, fixed tailgate latches on new truck. 4/28-New tractor/mower delivered. Removed branch on Harmony Rd. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** General Fund: \$167,034. Sewer Fund: \$57,250. Liquid Fuels: \$164,437. Capital Reserve: \$136,569. Escrow: \$6,435. Total: \$531,725. Financial Report dated 4-17-26 to 5-14-26 received & reviewed 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 meeting at 8:03 pm: E. Treese. Second: J. Bennett, Jr. Mtg adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: Holly Thompson, Assistant Secretary

*Holly Thompson*