

**AGENDA: ORGANIZATION MEETING, MERCER TOWNSHIP, BUTLER COUNTY, PA**

**January 5, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order by: at 7: pm.

Members Present:

Visitors:

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** All attendees (please stand).

Nominations for Chairman: Motion to appoint \_\_\_\_\_ as Chairman: Second:

Nominations for Vice-Chairman: Motion to appoint \_\_\_\_\_ as Vice-Chairman: Second:

Motion to appoint Nikki Ciochetto as Secretary/Treasurer at a rate of \$25 per hour at 32 hours per week for 2026: Second:

Motion to appoint Holly Tissue-Thompson as Assistant Secretary at a probationary rate of \$15 per hour at 10 hours per week: Second:

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:**

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** Motion to accept December 15, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes as printed: Second: Motion to accept December 15, 2025 Budget Meeting Minutes as printed: Second:

Motion to appoint Lori Giesler as resident Vacancy Board Chair: Second:

Treasurer's Bond: **\$450,000** limit of liability.

Depositor: Mercer County State Bank.

Motion to reappoint all Supervisors as part-time employees of Mercer Township at a rate of \$25 per hour, pending rate approval by the Township Auditors: Second:

Roadmaster: Motion to appoint \_\_\_\_\_ as Roadmaster for 2026: Second:

Begin line item review for later motion:

CDL employees: Part-time at \$25 per hour.

Laborers: Part-time at \$20 per hour.

Custodian: Amy Bennett, independent contractor at \$45 per month.

Meeting pay for 2026: Secretary/Treasurer and Assistant Secretary to continue to receive hourly rate for meetings attended. Other employees receive \$50 per meeting.

Vehicle mileage: compensation is to match current IRS rate. Rate for 2026 is currently 72.5 cents per mile.

Auditors: McGill, Power, Bell & Associates, LLP at rate not to exceed \$7,500 for the 2025 audit of all Township accounts. **Motion to adopt Resolution #26-0105-01** – Appointment of CPA firm for 2025 Audit: Second:

Elected/appointed Auditors: to audit Tax Collector books, which are separate from the Township account books.

Township Auditor: John Bliss was appointed as Auditor to fill a vacancy through 2027 on December 15, 2025.

Tax Collector: Lisa Bauer was appointed as Tax Collector to fill a vacancy through 2027 on December 15, 2025.

Township Solicitor: Gallagher Law Group at \$205 per hour and \$75 per hour for paralegal services.

Township Engineer: The EADS Group, Inc. at \$100 per meeting and fee schedule as attached. **Motion** to sign a contract with The EADS Group for 2026: Second:

Third-Party Building Inspector: Construction Code Inspectors, Inc.

Code Enforcement Officer: Warren Whetzel, Jr.

Sewage Enforcement Officer: David G. Ice

SEO Alternate: Doug Dunkin

Deputy Tax Collector: Nikki Ciochetto

Open Records Officer: Nikki Ciochetto

Open Records Alternate: Holly Thompson

EMS Coordinator: Brian Grossman

2026 PSATS Convention Voting Delegate: Nikki Ciochetto

2026 Mercer County COG Delegate: John Bennett, Jr.

2026 Pine-Harrisville Authority Delegates: John Bennett, Jr & Emil Treese

2026 BCATO Representative: Nikki Ciochetto

Donations: SR Public Library - \$1000 annually.

Property Tax Millage: 9.1 mills. (Township – 6.6; Fire – 2.0; EMS – 0.5)

BCTCC Primary Delegate: Nikki Ciochetto; \_\_\_\_\_ as first alternate; and \_\_\_\_\_ as second alternate.

Floodplain Administrator/Stormwater Management Delegate: William Long

Meetings: Mercer Township monthly meetings will be held the third Monday of the month at 7 PM at 4629 William Flynn Hwy, Harrisville, PA.

Schedule of holidays/office closings:

Office is closed on Fridays. Appointments are available Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday.

New Year's Day – January 1

Primary Election Day – May 19

Memorial Day – May 25

Juneteenth – June 19

Independence Day – July 3

Labor Day – September 7

Columbus Day – October 12

General Election Day – November 3

Veteran's Day – November 11

Thanksgiving Day – November 26

Christmas Eve – December 24

Christmas Day – December 25

New Year's Eve – December 31

**Motion** to appoint/accept the above remaining delegates/determinations, beginning with CDL Employees and ending with the schedule of holidays/office closings: Second:

Fee Schedule: Motion to adopt Resolution #26-0105-02 – 2026 Fee Schedule: Second:

**Motion** for Treasurer to pay bills due prior to monthly meetings: Second:

**Motion** for Treasurer to transfer funds between accounts to pay bills: Second:

**Motion** to adjourn meeting at pm: Second: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted: