

Brecknock Township Board of Supervisors
Minutes of Meeting – April 1, 2025

Call to Order: The regular monthly meeting of the Brecknock Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:00 PM at the Township Building, by Chairman Jeff Fiant with Vice Chairman Ron McClure and member Jason Coyle present. Also present at the building were Elizabeth Magovern, Township Solicitor, John Weber, Township Engineer, Chuck Keifer, Roadmaster, Erik Grunzig, Chief of Police, Joel Lutz, Fire Chief, and several members of the public. The call to order was followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Public Comment Period on Agenda Items: None

Minutes: The minutes of March 4, 2025, meeting were unanimously approved as written on motion by Ron McClure, seconded by Jason Coyle.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurers report dated 4/1/25, and payment of all bills and payrolls were unanimously approved on motion by Ron McClure seconded by Jason Coyle.

Unfinished Business:

Proposed Maintenance Building: Jeff Fiant explained the current plan is to put the project out for bid on April 11, 2025, for 6 weeks, which Sondra Laub at C.S. Davidson is handling. It will require a special meeting to award the bid around May 28th at a time to be determined. In the meantime, a temporary electric panel & meter base have been installed & inspected, and we are waiting for MetEd to schedule disconnecting the service from the existing building and connecting the temporary service so we can move forward with the demo.

Other Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Melissa Hughes for PFM about Public Works Building Financing: Melissa Hughes and her colleague Cole Thayer of Public Finance Management (PFM) came to give a presentation of what their services are, and how they can help the township economically procure the best-fit funding it needs for the Public Works building project. Melissa explained how working with PFM would be different than negotiating with a bank; and the access their firm has to knowledge of special programs that could be a good fit for the township's needs.

Melissa explained the need for a special lawyer to handle the finance approval process with DCED, and mentions the solicitor Peter Edelman, with Stevens and Lee, whom Township Solicitor Liz Magovern had previously recommended for that role. Melissa went on to explain how the process and timing would work if the Township did choose to work with PFM. The presentation went through tax-exempt interest rates, the "art & science" of deciding how much cash to contribute up front, and handouts that were provided to visualize some different funding scenarios. Jason Coyle asked how PFM would benefit from the transaction as it was not detailed in the handouts; Melissa explained that they work on a "fixed-fee basis," that would be agreed upon to prior; and estimated that the cost for

Brecknock's needs might be in the range of \$17,000-\$19,000 which would be determined by closing costs. The supervisors thanked Melissa and Cole for their time and presentation; Jeff Fiant explained they'd need a little time to digest the material and would get in touch with PFM soon.

Ordinance 205: Stormwater Management Ordinance Amendment- John Weber explained that the Amendment to the Ordinance was necessary to stay compliant with DEP NPDES/MS4 permit. He explained there are not too many changes, but one of the positive significant edits is a specified simplified drainage plan methodology for smaller projects, with worksheets and details that can be helpful to planners. Resident, Rich DiGuardi asked John if there were any negative changes, John identified a detail he did not prefer, which was that now all Stormwater Permits would require a Maintenance Agreement, while prior to the amendment, only larger projects had that requirement. Jeff Fiant made the motion to approve the Stormwater Management Ordinance Amendment, Ron McClure seconded, and the amendment was unanimously approved.

Resignation of Barabara McIntyre from the Rec Board- Jeff Fiant explained that Barbara had served the township Rec Board faithfully for many years. He regretfully made the motion to accept Barbara's resignation, Ron McClure seconded, and the resignation was unanimously approved. Jeff asked that a Thank You letter be written to Barbara for the years of service she provided the township.

Appointment of Alyssa Swartz to the Rec Board- Alyssa Swartz offered to join the Rec Board and volunteered to help the township with writing for the newsletter and social media. Chairman Jeff Fiant appreciated Alyssa's willingness to volunteer and made the motion to appoint Alyssa to the Recreation Board. Ron McClure seconded, and Alyssa was unanimously appointed to the Brecknock Township Recreation Board.

JDJ Rentals/ Stoltzfus Poultry Barn conditional Final Plan approval- John Weber explained that at the March 24th Planning Commission meeting the members voted to recommend conditional plan approval to the Board of Supervisors. The conditions were to place notes on the plan detailing the Highway Occupancy Permit requirement and noting the property owner's acknowledgement and waiver of the Fire Chief's recommendation. John explained that those notes had been added to the plans, and Randy Hoover, of TeamAg, representing the JDJ Rentals Poultry Barn, approached the supervisors to point out the changes on the revised plan and answer any questions. After brief discussions of the conditions, Randy asked for conditional Final Plan approval. Solicitor Liz Magovern suggested that motions could also be made for approval of the JDJ Rentals Poultry Barn's *Stormwater Controls and Best Management Practices Operations and Maintenance Agreement*, and *Land Development Improvement, Maintenance, and Financial Security Agreement* as well, with signing to take place later. A motion for conditional Final Plan approval for the JDJ Rentals Poultry Barn was made by Ron McClure, seconded by Jason Coyle, and unanimously approved. A motion to approve the Stormwater O&M and Financial agreements, noted above, was made by Ron McClure, seconded by Jason Coyle and unanimously approved.

2025 Sponsorships for Berks Nature & Center of Excellence in Local Government- Jeff Fiant explained that Berks Nature helps with some of the easements in the Township and would like to continue supporting them. Jason Coyle made the motion to donate the suggested amount of \$250 to Berks Nature for 2025, Ron McClure seconded, and the donation to Berks Nature was unanimously approved. Then the supervisors discussed CELG sponsorship for 2025 and agreed on sending \$1250 in line with last

year's donation; Jason Coyle made the motion to approve the 2025 CELG sponsorship, Ron McClure seconded, and the donation was unanimously approved.

EMC Report- Ron McClure summarized the March 2025 Fire Department report which included 33 calls, and the annual 2024 Police Report prepared by Chief Erik Grunzig. The police dept had 2,893 calls in 2024; the report detailed the staffing, training, equipment procured, and events the department participated in in 2024. Department goals achieved in 2024 included upgrading scheduling software, updated operational policies, and professional development. Projects and goals for 2025 include: body camera implementation, ongoing operational and professional development, and holding a National Night Out event.

Other New Business: Jeff Fiant brought up the sale of the township's old paver, shared with and sold by Robeson Township, and noted the need to approve acceptance of the winning bid. Ron McClure made the motion to approve the sale of the paver at the winning bid of \$35,400; Jeff seconded, and the motion to approve the sale of the paver was unanimously approved.

Jeff asked the attendees if there was any other new business, Karl Peterson took the opportunity to thank the Supervisors for their support of Greater Governor Mifflin League the previous month, but no other new business was brought up.

Adjournment: With no additional business to be discussed, motion was made by Ron McClure seconded by Jason Coyle and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate McIntyre-Hannigan
Secretary Treasurer