



MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 5, 2026

The regular meeting of the Monroe County Board of Commissioners was held on Wednesday, August 5, 2026, in the Commissioners' Public Meeting Room at the Monroe County Administrative Center with the following present: Chairman John D. Christy, Vice-Chairman David C. Parker, Commissioner Sharon S. Laverdure, Solicitor Deborah L. Huffman, Chief Clerk/Administrator Robert J. Gress and Administrative Secretary Cindy Cook.

Chairman Christy opened the meeting at 3:00 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

There was no public comment on agenda items.

M-2026-216 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to approve the minutes of July 15, 2026, Commissioners' Meeting.

M-2026-217 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to amend Motion **2026-215** dated 07/15/2026 Computer Capital, reflecting a price change from \$1,253.44 to \$1,334.57, an increase of \$81.13.

M-2026-218 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to present the following certificates of special recognition:

American Legion Post 346 – Rededication
Northbound & Company- Grand Opening Scotrun Location

M-2026-219 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to approve the actions listed below:

a) Personnel Agenda:

FIRST NAME	DEPARTMENT:	POSITION:	STEP:	DATE:	REASON:
NEW HIRES:					
Kolcun, Taylor	Domestic Relations	10 Intake/Locate Specialist	N/A	8/17/26	New Hire/Replacement
Portillo, Robert	Public Defender	22 Asst Public Defender*	N/A	8/17/26	New Hire/Replacement
Trunfio, Allisen	Public Defender	22 Asst Public Defender*	N/A	8/17/26	New Hire/Replacement
SEPARATIONS:					
Vaughn, Ramona	Aging	37 Care Manager 3	N/A	7/31/26	Resigned
Munian, Liam	Career Link	Laborer	N/A	7/10/262	Resigned
Streczyk, Elizabeth	Career Link	7 Career Counselor/Case Manager	2	7/31/26	Resigned
Corr, Julia	Conservation District	3 Administrative Specialist II	1	7/27/26	Resigned
Sebastisnelli, Robert	District Attorney	17 Detective/DA	N/A	7/24/26	Deceased
Heeter, Robert	Domestic Relations	17 Investigator/DR	N/A	8/14/26	Resigned
Michael, Patricia	Jury Management	Tipstaff	N/A	7/15/26	Resigned
Small, Annette	Prothonotary	4 Records Technician	3	7/31/26	Resigned
Heffelfinger, Brett	Sheriff	9 Corporal/Vehicle Fleet	5	7/16/26	Resigned
CHANGES:					
Felker, Susan	Assessment	11 Deputy Chief Assessor	3	5/21-6/5/26	LOA
Miller, Kayla	C&Y	35 Casw 2	N/A	10/1-11/11/26	LOA
Pleitez, Jamie	C&Y	37 Casw 3	N/A	7/27-9/6/26	LOA
Armond, Gregory	Correctional Facility	10 Sergeant	10	6/11-9/11/26	Intermittent LOA
Dancy, Cheryl	Correctional Facility	CO II	N/A	7/14-8/7/26	Mod Duty
Estrada, Brandon	Correctional Facility	CO	N/A	7/11-8/7/26	Extend LOA
Estrada, Brandon	Correctional Facility	CO II	N/A	8/18/26	Probation Complete
Geist, Steven	Correctional Facility	CO II	N/A	7/14/26-1/13/27	Intermittent LOA
Jenkins, Laquan	Correctional Facility	CO II	N/A	7/2-9/1/26	Extend LOA
Kofler, Silvia	Correctional Facility	CO II	N/A	7/22-8/25/26	Extend LOA
Ortiz, Diana	Correctional Facility	CO II	N/A	6/19-7/30/26	Mod Duty
Pilger, Kaylee	Correctional Facility	CO II	N/A	7/20-7/21/26	LOA
Polnasek, Christopher	Correctional Facility	CO II	N/A	7/21-9/29/26	LOA
Ryan, Charlayna	Correctional Facility	CO	N/A	7/11-7/25/26	LOA
Sanelli, Michael	Correctional Facility	CO II	N/A	8/18/26	Probation Complete
Schaller, Kevin	Correctional Facility	CO II	N/A	8/18/26	Probation Complete
Schiller, Blake	Correctional Facility	13 Lieutenant*	7	7/17-7/31/26	LOA
Schiller, Blake	Correctional Facility	13 Lieutenant*	7	8/28-8/29/26	LOA
Schiller, Blake	Correctional Facility	13 Lieutenant*	7	9/17-9/19/26	LOA
Shay, Jennifer	Correctional Facility	7 Records Administrator	1	7/22-8/18/26	Extend Mod Duty
Case, Kathleen	Courts	11 Administrator Asst- Pres Judge	10	7/5/26	Probation Complete
Rulapaugh, Eva	Courts	18 Court Reporter	N/A	8/10-8/28/26	LOA
Davidson, Simone	Probation- Adult	9 Probation Secretary	N/A	7/16/26-1/15/27	Intermittent LOA
Stevens, Donna	Register & Recorder	4 Deputy	4	8/5-10/27/26	LOA
Stevens, Donna	Register & Recorder	4 Deputy	4	10/28-11/5/26	LOA
Batiste, Ezekiel	Sheriff	4 Armed Bailiff	1	7/31-8/3/26	LOA
Daily, Adriana	Sheriff	4 Administrative Specialist III	2	7/28/26	Probation Complete
Ewing, Samuel	Sheriff	8 Deputy Sheriff	4	6/2/26	Probation Complete
Pergamo, Joseph	Sheriff	4 Armed Bailiff	2	7/21/26	Probation Complete
Tuohy, Samantha	Voter Registration	6 Administrative Coordinator	5	8/3-8/30/26	LOA
MISCELLANEOUS:					
Adopt the JD for the 16 Pretrial Services Director					
Adopt the JD for the 11 Career Service Manager/Deputy Director					
Approve request from the Treasurer, Ira Jolly to extend the temp position by one week until 8/21/26					

- b) Approve/Ratify Requests to work additional hours:
- i) Sheriff’s Overtime Report for pay period ending 07/12/2026:

(1) Deputies – 99.50 hours

(2) Security – 83.75 hours

(3) Clerks – 12.50 hours

M-2026-220 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice Chairman Parker and carried to approve/ratify the actions listed below:

- a) Vouchers Payable:
- i) Dated 07/17/2026 in the amount of \$948,434.82

ii) Dated 07/24/2026 in the amount of \$3,058,360.16

iii) Dated 07/31/2026 in the amount of \$1,937,208.67
- b) Gross Payroll:
- i) For Pay Period ending 07/12/2026 in the amount of \$1,678,230.75

ii) For Pay Period ending 07/26/2026 in the amount of \$1,647,026.92
- c) Healthcare Benefits Payments:
- i) Highmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield:

(1) Dated 07/16/2026 in the amount of \$89,357.67

(2) Dated 07/22/2026 in the amount of \$78,531.99

(3) Dated 07/25/2026 in the amount of \$30,890.53

(4) Dated 07/27/2026 in the amount of \$5.15

ii) Geisinger:

(1) Dated 07/20/2026 in the amount of \$73,887.53

(2) Dated 07/27/2026 in the amount of \$116,457.17

iii) Dental Claims:

(1) Dated 07/17/2026 in the amount of \$5,967.15

- (2) Dated 07/24/2026 in the amount of \$4,931.58
- iv) Flexible Spending Account:
 - (1) Dated 07/15/2026 in the amount of \$209.00
 - (2) Dated 07/17/2026 in the amount of \$989.53
 - (3) Dated 07/24/2026 in the amount of \$1,186.06
 - (4) Dated 08/03/2026 in the amount of \$1,134.39

M-2026-221 Motion by Vice-Chairman Parker, seconded by Commissioner Laverdure and carried to approve/ratify the Travel Request for the following: Adult Probation, Aging, Conservation District and Veterans Affairs.

M-2026-222 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to approve the actions listed below as requested by Area Agency on Aging:

- a) Execute contract with Kelly L. Lombardo, Esq. to provide legal assistance and advice for protective service and guardianship clients and represent the Monroe County Area Agency on Aging in court as necessary for the period 08/01/2026 – 07/31/2029 at a rate of \$150.00 per hour up to a maximum of \$10,000.00 for contract term
- b) Execute the following Contract Addendums extending the contracts to 06/30/2027:
 - i) Medscope America Corporation – personal emergency response systems
 - ii) Linda Steier, MS, RD, LDN – dietician consultation services

M-2026-223 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to appoint Dr. Precie Schroyer to the Pocono Counties Workforce Development Board with a term to expire 06/30/2029 as requested by Career Link.

Chairman Christy acknowledged Dee Raneri's end of term with the Pocono Counties Workforce Development Board and the commissioners thanked Ms. Raneri for her service over the last six years.

M-2026-224 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to approve the actions listed below as requested by Children and Youth Services:

- a) Authorize submittal of the Act 148 second quarter 2025-2026 report with total expenditures of \$10,421,371.00
- b) Execute a Purchase of Service Agreement with Mindwell Management Inc. for the period 07/01/2025 – 06/30/2026 with a contract limit of \$650,000.00 for residential group home services
- c) Execute the following Purchase of Services Agreements for the period 07/01/2026 – 06/30/2027:
 - i) Alternative Living Solutions with a contract limit of \$150,000.00 (transitional and supervised independent living)
 - ii) City Mission-Living Stones, Inc. with a contract limit of \$240,000.00 (independent living services)
 - iii) Hoffman Homes for Youth with a contract limit of \$200,000.00 (shelter program)
 - iv) Loftus-Vergari & Associates, Inc. with a contract limit of \$85,000.00 (foster care)
 - v) Merakey Pennsylvania with a contract limit of \$200,000.00 (therapeutic foster care, emergency respite and enhanced foster care with infants)
 - vi) Valley Youth House with a contract limit of \$190,000.00 (shelter care)
- d) Execute a Contract for Professional Services with PA Treatment & Healing for the period 07/01/2026 – 06/30/2027 with a contract limit of \$480,000.00
- e) Execute the following Subsidized Permanent Legal Custodian Agreements:
 - i) M.T.
 - ii) A.S.
- f) Execute the following Amended Adoption Assistance Agreements:
 - i) J.J.
 - ii) A.J.
 - iii) L.J.

M-2026-225 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to approve the actions listed below:

- a) Ratify the Budget Adjustment Report dated 08/05/2026 totaling \$10,951.00
- b) Approve the Budget Adjustment Report dated 08/05/2026 totaling \$7,452.00

- c) Ratify the revised IRS mileage reimbursement rate to .76 cents per mile effective 07/01/2026
- d) Execute agreement with Quark Scan in the amount of \$1,700.00 for geophysical survey on county property at 6th and Quaker Alley
- e) Approve/Ratify the following Opioid Grants from the Opioid Settlement Funds consistent with the uses allowed under the Opioid Settlement Agreement, Exhibit E:
 - i) Memorandum of Understanding with Path to Peace in the amount of \$50,000.00 for emergency housing assistance services and transportation services
 - ii) Memorandum of Understanding with Rays of Hope for Addiction in the amount of \$6,500.00
- f) Approve the following payments for items from the Hotel Tax funds:
 - i) Sheriff Office Overtime for Independence Day Parade coverage \$ 277.54
 - ii) Pocono Mountains Council of Governments \$1,000.00
- g) Accept quote from Mountain Landscaping, LLC in the amount of \$7,585.00 (lowest of 3 quotes) to perform required maintenance per inspection notes at Levitt Branch Dam and Goose Pond Dam
- h) Ratify acceptance of price quotation with AES Advanced Electronic Security in the amount of \$57,813.00 for security items at the courthouse (COSTARS #040-E22-158)
- i) Approve contract with Teamsters 229 for a contract period of 01/01/2026 through 12/31/2028
- j) Reject the Request for Proposals for Drug & Alcohol and Counseling Services at the MCCF opened on 06/18/2026 and authorize chief clerk to rebid for RFP's Drug & Alcohol and Counseling Services
- k) Approve proposal from C&D Waterproofing Omnia Partners #PA-R230404-321726 for the Old Jail Roof and gutter replacement totaling \$312,500.00 (Alt. #1&2)
- l) Add the following Vendors to the County List of Approved Vendors:
 - i) District Attorney:
 - (1) Melonie Sappe
 - ii) Information Technology and Services:
 - (1) BMC Helix, Inc. (Ratify)
 - iii) Office of Emergency Management:
 - (1) Charles Kevin Krause
 - (2) Mark Boncal
 - iv) Sheriff:
 - (1) Tri-Tech Forensics, Inc
- m) Approve Change order #1 with Sealcrete Contracting, LLC in the amount of \$166,050.00 for additional repairs to 3rd floor of parking deck, full depth floor and partial depth repairs
- n) Approve new COBRA rates for the period 09/01/2026 to 8/31/2027 at rates listed below:

	New COBRA Rates 9.1.26-8.31.27 INCLUDING 2%					
	Highmark PPO Blue	Highmark HMO	Geisinger POS	UCCI Dental Option 2 (high)	UCCI Dental Options 1 (LOW)	VBA
Employee Only	\$ 1,169.02	\$ 1,086.57	\$ 1,086.57	\$ 28.98	\$ 17.82	\$ 3.28
Employee + 1	\$ 2,805.65	\$ 2,354.57	\$ 2,354.57	\$ 86.27	\$ 53.05	\$ 5.93
Employee + 2 or more	\$ 3,273.26	\$ 3,025.82	\$ 3,025.82	\$ 86.27	\$ 53.05	\$ 8.07

- o) Approve the following Service Agreements for Medical, Dental and Vision Plans:
 - i) HM Life Insurance Company Stop Loss Renewal totaling \$1,177,837.00 (09/01/2026- 08/31/2027)
 - ii) Highmark HRA - \$5.15 per month per person (09/01/2026 – 08/31/2027)
 - iii) Highmark PPO - \$1.97 per month per person (09/01/2026 – 08/31/2027)
 - iv) HMO - \$1.97 per month per person (09/01/2026 – 08/31/2027)
 - v) Geisinger Administrative Service Fee - \$10.85 per month per person (09/01/2026 – 08/31/2027
 - vi) Highmark Master Health Service Agreement Option 2 (09/01/2026 – 08/31/2027)
 - vii) VBA Vision - \$0.96 per month per person (09/01/2026 – 08/31/2028)
 - viii) Swift MD/ReviveHealth, Inc. - \$5.50 per month per person (9/01/2026-8/31/2027)
 - ix) United Concordia Dental Administrative Service Fee - \$1.80 per month per person (01/01/2027 – 12/31/2027)
 - x) MadScripts in Partnership with Aphora Health – (09/01/2026 – 08/31/2027) contingent upon solicitor approval

Dulce Ridder asked why the proposals for drug, alcohol and counseling services at MCCF were rejected.

Chairman Christy stated that the proposals were not uniform as one proposal was for a one-year term and the other proposal was for a three-year term.

M-2026-226 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to acknowledge award of 2026 Local Law Enforcement Grant in the amount of \$250,000.00 as requested by the District Attorney.

M-2026-227 Motion by Vice-Chairman Parker, seconded by Commissioner Laverdure and carried to ratify acceptance of estimate from Knowink in the amount of \$61,650.00 to purchase new iPads to be paid from the Election Integrity grant as requested by the Elections/Voter Registration office.

Theresa Pesce asked if all poll pads were being replaced.

Dulce Ridder asked if the same model poll pads were being purchased or were the poll pads being upgraded.

Chairman Christy stated one hundred and forty (140) poll pads are being purchased, and the poll pads are being upgraded.

M-2026-228 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to approve the actions listed below as requested by the Fiscal/Grants department:

- a) Ratify authorization for Ashley Kerrick, Grants Manager, to electronically sign the FY25-26 Justice Reinvestment Initiative 2 (JRI-2) Grant Award Notification with addition of Special Conditions added after contract signature was complete
- b) Ratify authorization for Ashley Kerrick, Grants Manager, to electronically sign and submit the BJA FY26 Invited to Apply-Byrne Discretionary Community Project grant with a grant period TBD in the amount of \$1,020,379.00 to be used to formalize an Opioid Crimes Section of the District Attorney's office and enhance the existing Drug Task Force
- c) Ratify authorization for Ashley Kerrick, Grants Manager, to electronically sign and submit the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Regional Mobile Crisis Team Expansion for Carbon and Monroe Counties Grant application for the period 09/30/2026-09/30/2030 in the amount of \$3,000,000.00 for continued operation and expansion of the existing Mobile Crisis Team
- d) Approve submittal of the 2025 Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$663,596.00 and authorize Jennifer Barclay, Finance Director, to electronically sign the grant contract
- e) Approve the Chief Elected Official to sign certification documents for the submission of ESG FY2026 application
- f) Adopt a Resolution to Authorize the filing of a proposal for funds with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development for the Emergency Solutions Grant FY 2026 **(R-2026-7)**

Chairman Christy noted the BJA FY26 Invited to Apply-Byrne Discretionary Community Project is a one-year grant.

Ana Lopez asked for clarification on who the Chief Elected Official was.

Chairman Christy gave clarification.

M-2026-229 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to approve the actions listed below as requested by Information Technology and Services department:

- a) Ratify execution of registration services agreement with American Registry For Internet Numbers, LTD for the period 07/23/2026 – 07/22/2027 in the amount of \$275.00
- b) Ratify agreement with Norstar Networks in the amount of \$6,600.00 for remaining phone system migration

M-2026-230 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to approve the actions listed below as requested by Office of Emergency Management:

- a) Ratify Memorandum of Agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) Program Management Office regarding the use of Monroe County Office of Emergency Management Interoperable Systems and IPAWS OPEN Platform for Emergency Networks
- b) Ratify authorization for Maryellen Keegan, OEM Director to submit the FFY2026 Emergency Performance Grant (EMPG) application and the Attachment D – FFATA in the amount of \$203,739.31 for the period 10/01/2025 – 09/30/2026

M-2026-231 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to approve Data Center Planning Guide July 2026 as prepared by the Monroe County Planning Commission providing clarification on Data Centers as a land use as requested by the Planning Commission.

Nate Staruch, Assistant Planning Director, took quotes from the plan and stated the Data Center Planning Guide is not a regulating or legal document. It is an educational document intended to provide municipalities, local officials, boards, commissions, residents and other stakeholders with a shared foundational understanding of what data centers are and why they are increasingly relevant to local land use decision-making. Mr. Staruch stated the overall purpose of the report is not to advocate for or against data center development but to provide a clear, balanced and practical framework for local governments to evaluate such facilities in a legally defensible, technically informed and community-specific manner. Mr. Staruch stated if the document was approved by the Commissioners the document would be placed on the county website for public viewing.

A question was asked by the public as to why the Commissioners were approving the document instead of accepting the document. Discussion took place between the Commissioners and Deborah L. Huffman, Solicitor, who stated in this case using either approve or accept was acceptable.

M-2026-232 Motion by Vice-Chairman Parker, seconded by Commissioner Laverdure and carried to acknowledge receipt of the 2025 Financial Statements for the year ending 12/31/2025 as requested by the Pocono Mountains Municipal Airport Authority.

M-2026-233 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to approve the actions listed below as requested by the Redevelopment Authority/Affordable Housing Board:

- a) Approve request to ratify the First-time Homebuyer Program Guidelines to include a requirement for a credit score of 620 or higher and a right to evaluate the maximum loan terms of thirty (30) years on a case-by-case basis with potential exceptions for applicants using USDA 502 loans
- b) Approve funding of \$25,000.00 to Eldred Township for project #2026-02, 594 Kunkletown Road, Kunkletown, PA from ACT 152 Demolition Program Funds
- c) Authorize Jennifer Petersen, Executive Director, Redevelopment Authority to advertise the first Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) public hearing

Anna Lopez asked for clarification on the requirement of a credit score of 620 or higher for the First-time Homebuyer Program.

Solicitor Huffman stated that the 620 or higher credit score is a requirement of the lenders.

M-2026-234 Motion by Vice-Chairman Parker, seconded by Commissioner Laverdure and carried to approve agreement with Axon Enterprise, Inc. for purchase of tasers and related equipment totaling \$202,299.00 (\$40,459.80 per year) for the period 01/01/2027 – 12/31/2031 as requested by the Sheriff's department.

M-2026-235 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to approve rental agreement with the Sherman Theater on 09/14/2026 in the amount of \$600.00 as requested by the Tax Claim department.

M-2026-236 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to approve the Capital Purchases Report dated 08/05/2026 as follows:

DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT #	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	QTY	ITEM	Vendor	AMOUNT
APPROVED CAPITAL:						
District Attorney	101.4194.9575.0000	Capital Expenditure	1	Workstation	ULINE - Lowest Quote	\$ 3,054.31
Sheriff	101.4197.9575.0000	Capital Expenditure	2	Ballistic Panels, Trauma Plate	Starr Uniform - State Contract	4,232.44
TOTAL APPROVED CAPITAL						\$ 7,286.75
REQUESTS WITH TRANSFER: (see Budget Adjustment Report)						
Human Services Grants	770.4490.9575.0000	Capital Expenditure	1	Workstation	Office Service Company - State Contract	\$ 3,513.97
TOTAL REQUESTS W/TRANSFER						\$ 3,513.97
GRANT FUNDED & OTHER:						
TOTAL GRANT FUNDED & OTHER						\$ -
TOTAL CAPITAL REQUESTS						\$ 10,800.72

Chairman Christy explained the capital purchase report expenses.

M-2026-237 Motion by Commissioner Laverdure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Parker and carried to ratify the Computer Capital Purchases Report dated 08/05/2026 as follows:

DEPARTMENT	ACCOUNT #	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	QTY	ITEM	Vendor	AMOUNT
APPROVED CAPITAL:						
Courts	101.4184.9575.0000	Capital Expenditure	6	100" Smart Google TVs	Amazon - Lowest Quote	\$10,499.94
Courts	101.4184.9575.0000	Capital Expenditure	1	100" Smart Google TV	Amazon - Lowest Quote	1,599.99
Courts	101.4184.7850.0000	Other General Expenses	7	TV Wall Mounts	Amazon - Sole Sources	1,059.38
Dept Of Information System	101.4172.5260.0002	Cybersecurity & DR	40	Cisco WI-FI network devices and accessories	Iron Bow LLC - Lowest Quote	36,467.70
TOTAL APPROVED CAPITAL						\$ 49,627.01
REQUESTS WITH TRANSFER: (see Budget Adjustment Report)						
TOTAL REQUESTS W/TRANSFER						\$ -
GRANT FUNDED & OTHER:						
TOTAL GRANT FUNDED & OTHER						\$ -
TOTAL CAPITAL REQUESTS						\$ 49,627.01

Vice-Chairman Parker gave an update on America250PA events that were ongoing or coming up including a new Passport Trail called the Ice Cream Trail.

Vice-Chairman Parker also stated there will be an open house at Parkside Chapel in Paradise Township on Sunday August 16, 2026, from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Parkside Chapel is the only building in both Barrett and Paradise townships that is on the National Historic Registry. Vice-Chairman Parker stated there are only sixteen (16) buildings in Monroe County on the National Historic Registry and six (6) of them are in the National Park Service. He recommended signing up for the National Historic Registry Passport Trail to visit all the buildings on the registry.

Commissioner Laverdure stated that all three of the Commissioners had just returned from County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania Annual Conference and Trade Show that was held at Kalahari. Commissioner Laverdure said everyone was pleased with the event venue and that Kalahari did an excellent job.

Maryellen Keegan, Director, Office of Emergency Management announced the U.S. Small Business Administration has issued a disaster declaration is offering relief to Pennsylvania small business and private nonprofits affected by the July 4, 2026, severe storms in the form of low interest disaster loans. The loans are available to recover from physical damage as well as economic damage.

Ms. Keegan also announced Monroe County received a \$50,000.00 grant from Realtor’s Relief Foundation and more information would be forthcoming.

Chairman Christy asked if there was any public comment.

Dulce Ridder stated her concerns about issues in the Borough of Stroudsburg on Main Street, such as homeless people, loud cars and motorcycles on the streets at 2:00 a.m. or later, Ms. Ridder questioned what could be done about these things.

Chairman Christy suggested contacting Chief Lyons at Stroud Area Regional Police about the cars and motorcycles.

Stan Lewandowski, CRS, Law Enforcement Treatment Initiative, spoke about resources available for homeless people and stated that they are doing as much as they can with the resources available. Mr. Lewandowski stated at this point there is not an answer for everyone out there who needs assistance.

Chairman Christy stated that not everyone who may need treatment or services is willing to accept treatment or services.

A virtual question was asked concerning where one could find out more about disaster relief.

Maryellen Keegan, Director, Office of Emergency Management stated there is a Business Recovery Center located at 147 Municipal Drive, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301 Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Saturday 10:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m. until Friday August 21, 2026, or the SBA website could be utilized to complete applications.

Theresa Pesce stated her concerns about the management of student data collection and information pertaining to the student surveys and her difficulty in receiving the information she is requesting though open record requests.

Chairman Christy stated The Carey Group is the company that manages the information from the surveys.

Ashley Kerrick, Grants Manager, stated she would work with Ms. Pesce to locate the information she is requesting.

Dr. John Toleno stated The Carey Group created a compilation of information which is for the protection of the human subjects.

Dr. John Toleno reported that through some contacts John Jakobsen made as a law enforcement officer they were able to do a presentation on gun safety in Penn Estates. Dr. Toleno reported they also participated in the National Night Out in Pocono Country Place and would be going back to present an educational program at Pocono Country Place in September. In addition, Dr. Toleno announced they have established a contact in Saw Creek Estates and hope to conduct an educational program between now and the holidays. The Community Partnership for Gun Safety will also be at the West End Fair. Dr. Toleno noted an educational program has been held once a month for the last ten months.

Dulce Ridder asked if the current VIP Grant has expired and if another grant was forthcoming.

Dr. John Toleno stated the current grant expires in March of 2027, and they are certainly working in obtaining another grant as there are many other organizations that are funded from the grant.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Robert J. Gress, Chief Clerk/Administrator

M-2026-216 through M-237
R-2026-7