

**West Penn Township Board of Supervisors
27 Municipal Road
New Ringgold, PA 17960**

Phone (570)386-4507

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**Regular Meeting
Monday, June 2, 2025**

Present at the Meeting

Anthony Prudenti – Chair
Glenn Hummel – Vice Chair (absent)
James Akins – Supervisor
Jason Lorah – Chief of Police

Karen Wittig – Treasurer
Katie Orlick – Secretary
Jeremy Fable – Road Master
Mike Begis – ARRO Consulting, Inc.
Paul Datte – Solicitor

I. General

A. Tony Prudenti called the meeting to order at 6:00PM with the Pledge of Allegiance & Introduction.

1. Chairman called for a moment of Silence for former Police Chief Jim Tierney.

B. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

1. Julia Stahl (Maple Lane) – She spoke to the Board about Road Conditions in her part of West Penn Township. Her concerns for road conditions were for Rocky Lane with a runoff issue. Shady Lane from Chain Circle up to Maple Lane needs to be leveled off. South on SR 309 right after you cross the bridge pass the DG needs attention. Chairman asked the secretary to reach out to PennDOT. Ridge Cup Road has holes on the road that are consistent that should be addressed. Chairman asked Jeremy Fable to look at the roads where she is concerned with and see if they could be addressed.

C. Review of Minutes – May 5th & 19th, 2025

Chairman called for a motion to accept the meeting minutes for May 5th & 19th. Jimmy Akins made the motion to accept. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

D. Treasurer's Report

Chairman called for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Jimmy Akins made the motion to approve the Treasurer's report for May 2025. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

E. Approval of Bills – May 2025

Chairman called for a motion to pay the bills. Jimmy Akins made the motion to approve the bills for May. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

F. Solicitor's Report

Attorney Datte said there is nothing to report that needs action tonight.

II. Land Use

A. Mush Dahl Farms, LLC – Pine Hill Rd.

Mike Begis said this plan proposes the subdivision of an existing 114.7-acre parcel into two parcels. New Lot No.1 (10 acres) contains an existing single-family residential structure and is served by on lot sewage

and water supply. The residual lot is 104.4 acres and will remain open space. The property is located along Pine Hill Rd. in the AG Zoning District.

Chairman called for a motion to approve the applicant's request for modification of Section 1019 requirement to set concrete monuments. Steel Pins would be set in lieu of concrete. Jimmy Akins made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0 Jimmy Akins made a motion to adopt Resolution # 19 of 2025 conditionally approving the Mush Dahl Farms, LLC Subdivision Plan contingent on ARRO's letter dated May 8, 2025, Schuylkill County Comments & Bill Brior's comments. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

III. Operations

A. Engineer/Zoning Monthly Report – May 2025

Chairman asked the Board if they had any questions for Mike Begis. Mike Begis said he would file an extension for the Atlas Park Grant. He also said he would soon be organizing a meeting with the contractor and the Park Commission to discuss the plans for the ADA Accessibility Improvements at the park on Zions Stone Church Rd. . Jimmy Akins made a motion to accept the Engineer's report for May 2025. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

B. Code Enforcement Monthly Report – May 2025

Chairman asked the BOS if they had any questions about the Code Enforcement Report. Jimmy Akins made a motion to accept the Code Enforcement Officer's monthly report for May 2025. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

C. Sewage Enforcement Officer's Monthly Report – May 2025

Chairman read the sewage enforcement officer's report. The report consisted of 1 New Permit, 1 Design Review, 1 Malfunction Inspections, 3 Subdivision Reviews and 10 Interim Inspections. No Well Activities. The Malfunction was on St. Peter's Rd. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Sewage Enforcement Officer's Report. Jimmy Akins made the motion to accept the Sewage Report for May 2025. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

D. Road Department's Monthly Report – May 2025

Jimmy Akins read the Road Department's Monthly report. The report consisted of General Maintenance to the Township Building & Equipment, Fixed street signs along Township Roads, Installed Millings on Fort Franklin Rd., Painting Stop Bars at Intersections along Township Rds., Cleaned up trees & limbs along Township Roads, Patched holes with cold patch, Installed new Guide Rail on Red Hill Rd., Cleaned Pipes & Grates along Township Rds. and Mowed Shoulders. Road Master attended PSATs Conference in Hershey. Jason Fable, Sal Digilio, Michael Kunkel and Nathan Henry attended Flaggers Training in Berks County. The Road Crew also attended Government Day at Medico Equipment in Wilkes Barre. Jimmy Akins read the Maintenance report. Jeremy Fable asked the Board if he could purchase two – 2 way Radios for the two new trucks. The cost is \$700/radio. Chairman made a motion to purchase two new radios for \$1400 for the two new trucks. Jimmy Akins seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0 Chairman called for a motion to accept the Road Department's Monthly Report. Jimmy Akins made the motion to accept the Road Department's monthly report for May 2025. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

E. Police Department Report – May 2025

Jimmy Akins read the Police Report. The Police Dept. had 4,700 miles patrolled, 134 total citations & warnings, 2 motor vehicle accidents, 0 Criminal Arrest and 92 Total calls. CSI Camp will be June 16th – 20th at the West Penn Township Elementary. Jimmy Akins said the PD Frequency Report is also attached to the Police Report. Jimmy Akins said the Body Cameras with Motorola Contract is due to expire in 2027. The Police Dept. would like to extend the contract for 5 years with the rate staying the same at \$4140/Yr. Chief Lorah said this would save us money. Jimmy Akins would like to make a motion we accept the Police Report for May 2025. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0 Jimmy Akins made a motion to accept the 5 Year extension with the Motorola Contract for the Body Cams until 2032. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

F. Fire Company Monthly Report – May 2025

Chairman read the Fire Department's Monthly Report. The report consisted of 16 total calls for the month of May. The calls were 2 Motor Vehicle Accident, 7 Wires/Tree Down, 3 Fire Police Calls, 1 Structure Fire, 0 Brush Fire, and 2 Automatic Fire Alarms, They had their monthly breakfast, meeting and cash bingo. Their training for the month was Equipment Checks & Location, Driver Training, / Dry Hydrant Inspection, Rescue Truck Maintenance and Pump Operations. Chairman called for a motion to accept. Jimmy Akins made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

G. Ambulance Monthly Report – May 2025

Jimmy Akins read the Ambulance Monthly Report. The Ambulance Report consisted of 183 calls year to date. Unit 935- 17 and 937 -9. May had 26 total calls. 18 West Penn, 2 Tamaqua, 2 East Brunswick, 2 Lynn Twp. and 2 New Ringgold. The outcomes of the calls were 13 Treated, Transported BLS, 5 Cancelled, 2 Lift Assists, 1 Standby – No Service or Support and 5 Treated, Transported, with ALS. Receiving Hospitals were 7 St. Luke's Miners, 3 St. Luke's Carbon, 4 Lehigh Valley Carbon, 2 LVH Cedar Crest and 2 St. Luke's Geisinger. The calls consisted of abdominal pain, breathing problems, cardiac arrest, chest pain, fall victims, lift asst., medical alarm, patient evaluation, psychiatric problems, sick, stroke, traffic accidents and unknown problems. The Ambulance Assoc. could not verify the total calls missed because the County did not send out their report yet. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Ambulance Report. Jimmy Akins made the motion to accept the Ambulance Report for May 2025. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0 Valerie Coombe said please donate. Karen Crostley said they have an EMT slot available, anyone interested let them know.

IV. Old Business

A. Park Commission – Chairman announced we are looking for volunteers for a Park Commission for the J.E. Morgan Park & the Atlas Park.

B. Fireworks Display – Chairman announced that there would be a free Fireworks event at the J.E. Morgan Memorial Park on July 5th, the event is from 6PM-9PM. The Fireworks will begin after 9PM. Chairman said we are preparing for this event. There are somethings that we will need to get but everything will come together. Jimmy Akins said this is exciting. Please come and support our event.

C. Tamaqua Soccer Lease – The Township has the lease agreement. Jimmy Akins said the Soccer Association would be coming in to speak to the Secretary about the Mailbox. They have a local resident that would check the park mail regularly. The Soccer Association is looking to make Morgan Park their new home. They are looking to get out of the fields they use at Tamaqua School Elementary. Chairman called for

a motion. Jimmy Akins made a motion to accept the Lease Agreement with the Tamaqua Youth Soccer Association for a period of 10 Years, and can be terminated by either party by giving 90 days written notice to the other party of the intent of that party to terminate the lease. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

D. Chairman clarified the Water Extraction Ordinance with Brian McQuillen. Chairman said what Mr. McQuillen said was right. Our new Ordinance says every five acres you could pull 10K Gal. Our old Ordinance said you needed 100 acres. Brian McQuillen asked why that was changed. Chairman said he does not know. He was an advocate for the 100 acres. Attorney Datte said he feels there was no legal basis for those 100 acres tied to the amount of water you could withdraw. Brian McQuillen said his concern was the woman that ran out of water this past year.

V. New Business

A. Landscaping in front of the Building – Chairman was going to volunteer his services to landscape the front of the building. However, he decided not to because he does not want anyone to scrutinize his work and question him. Chairman did say regardless the front of the Municipal Building does need to be Landscaped. Chairman feels we should reach out to local landscapers to see if anyone would donate their time. Chairman would donate to the landscaping project.

VI. Correspondence

VII. Business from Anyone on the Board

VIII. Public Comments on General Items

Shawn Phillips – Ask the Chairman to reconsider his decision on doing the landscaping out front of the Municipal Building. Chairman said no good deed goes unpunished.

Valerie Coombe – suggested maybe some Eagle Scouts would donate their time to help with the Landscaping in front of the Municipal Building.

Brian McQuillen – spoke about Tamaqua Community Partnership. He was wondering why West Penn Township never received any funding from them. Jimmy Akins said it is for the benefit of Tamaqua. Jimmy Akins said we are a part of the ESRC, which helped our Township to get grants by being a part of the ESRC. Chairman said we get a lot of grants.

IX. Executive Session

X. Adjournment

Chairman called for a motion to adjourn at 6:50PM. Jimmy Akins made the motion to adjourn. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

Transcribed By:

Katie Orlick - West Penn Township Secretary