

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

Phone (570)386-4507

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**Regular Meeting
Tuesday, September 2, 2025**

Present at the Meeting

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

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

I. General

A. Tony Prudenti called the meeting to order at 6:02PM with the Pledge of Allegiance & Introduction.

1. Distributions from the 2025 Firework Celebration Event

Chairman introduced Howard Pryda. Howard Pryda was the person that organized, got sponsors for the fundraiser and set off the Fireworks Display at the J.E. Morgan Memorial Park this past July. Howard Pryda said a few words and wanted to thank Mike & Susan Hunsicker & Family especially for their time & generosity. Not only did they donate as a sponsor, but they also had a food stand they worked, and all profits went to the Emergency First Responders (Police, Fire & Ambulance) of our Township. Howard Pryda also thanked the Police, Fire, Ambulance, Board of Supervisors and Staff for their help bringing everything together for the Celebration. Howard Pryda handed out the donation checks to the Police, Fire & Ambulance. Police Chief Jason Lorah, Fire Chief Jeff Bradford and Don Hoppes from the Ambulance accepted the donations on behalf of their departments. They received \$2000 each. \$1500 was from donations from local businesses and \$500 was from the Hunsicker Family's Food Stand. Mr. Pryda and the Board of Supervisors agreed that it was a successful event to raise money for our local First Responders. The Board of Supervisors thanked Howard Pryda again for the amazing job he did for this spectacular event.

B. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only - NONE

C. Review of Minutes – July 15th & August 4th, 2025

Chairman called for a motion to accept the meeting minutes for July 15th & August 4th. Glenn Hummel made the motion to accept. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

Fire Chief Jeff Bradford had to leave the meeting early, but he wanted to thank Howard Pryda and everyone involved with the Fireworks Celebration. He also wanted to remind everyone that the Fire Department would be starting to have their monthly Breakfast again. The Breakfast is scheduled for September 14th, 8AM to Noon.

D. Treasurer's Report

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

E. Approval of Bills – August 2025

Chairman called for a motion to pay the bills. Glenn Hummel made the motion to approve the bills for August. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

F. Solicitor's Report

Attorney Datte said he prepared the Ordinance for the Supervisors Compensation, which is on the Agenda a little later in the meeting. He did get Mike Begis the Title Certifications for both parks. Mike Begis will upload them on the DCNR portal and request an extension for the Atlas Park grant. Attorney Datte said that we will have to address the fee schedule regarding solar. Secretary said the Engineer from the Solar Project did not respond yet, to let us know the number of panels for each project. The Agreements for the Solar were provided to their counsel for review. They did comment on our Development Agreement and Attorney Datte said he is finishing up the Decommissioning Agreement. Attorney Datte said there is State Legislation that would trump any local legislation including solar decommissioning. Attorney Datte said he would be introducing some of those provisions into the decommissioning agreement. Attorney Datte also discussed what can happen to the Solar Panels when decommissioning. Our Ordinance provides credit for selling the panels; however, the State Legislation limits them to metals and things like that not the panel. Chairman said they told us at a public meeting that panels had a worth to other countries and that is how they would make up the money. Attorney Datte said if you read the State legislation that is not how the recovery value is determined but more to come. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Solicitor's Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

II. Land Use - NONE

III. Operations

A. Engineer/Zoning Monthly Report – August 2025

Chairman asked the Board if they had any questions for Mike Begis. Mike Begis said the paving work was completed at Zion Ston Park for ADA paths last Thursday. Chairman asked if Mike Begis got to look at the CDBG Project for the ADA Parking Spaces at the Fire Company. Mike Begis said he looked at it along with Jeremy Fable the Road Master and figured out how many ADA Parking Spots would be allowed. Mike Begis recommended the Secretary to reach out to the County about this anticipated ADA Project. Mike Begis said he took the PDF of the Zoning Ordinance Draft and converted it into a word document that would be workable for us. We could not get in touch with Urban Research & Development, which was the company handling our updates to our Zoning Ordinance. Attorney Datte said he would get with Herb Woodring to make the updates. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Engineer's Monthly Report.

Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

B. Code Enforcement Monthly Report – August 2025

Chairman asked the BOS if they had any questions about the Code Enforcement Report. Glenn Hummel expressed his disbelief in how Notice of Violations are not getting corrected. Chairman said property owners are getting sited but still are not cleaning up. Attorney Datte said we are following the proper procedures. Glenn Hummel asked when and where do these fines get paid. Secretary said that if it is a Civil

case from what she understands should be paid to the Township. If it is a non-traffic citation for property maintenance that would go through the magistrate. Attorney Datte said you could bring an equity action depending on what it is to sue them and compel them to correct the problem. Glenn Hummel asked if we got a hauler to come in to clean up the property would we be able to do that. Attorney Datte said yes, and you would be able to charge them what it would cost to clean it up, but you would need a court order to go on the property. The property that is mentioned has over \$4K in fines. Attorney Datte said after 30 days if they do not appeal the judgement at the Magistrates Office, you enter the judgement at the courthouse, then it becomes a lien on the property. There are certain avenues you could do to pursue it. Attorney Datte said we are not in any obligation to enter any kind of payment plan. Attorney Datte said it is like you would be aiding and abetting the very thing you are trying to get rid of. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Code Enforcement Officer's Monthly Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

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

Chairman read the sewage enforcement officer's report. The report consisted of 1 Repair Permit Issued, 2 Percolation Tests, 3 Design Review, 2 New Permits Issued, 1 Subdivision Review and 7 Interim Inspections. No Well Activities. The Malfunction on Retreat Road is moving forward with progress. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Sewage Enforcement Officer's Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion to accept the Sewage Report for August 2025. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

D. Road Department's Monthly Report – August 2025

Chairman read the Road Department's Monthly report. The report consisted of General Maintenance to the Township Building & Equipment, Fixed Street signs along Township Roads, Removed dirt from Morgan Park, Patched potholes with cold patch, Patched Holes on Dirt Rds. With 2A Mod., Grated shoulders along Andreas Rd., Mountain Rd., and Quarry Rd. and Mowed Shoulders.

Chairman read the Maintenance report. Chairman said we do have a resignation for Nathan Henry from the Road Department. Chairman called for a motion to accept his resignation. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0 Glenn Hummel asked the Chairman if we could open Nathan's position to hire a new crew member. Chairman said, yes. Glenn Hummel motioned to advertise for a full-time road department worker to replace Nathan Henry for a two-week turnaround for resumes. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0 Chairman called for a motion to accept the Road Department's Monthly Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion to accept the Road Department's monthly report for August 2025. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

E. Police Department Report – August 2025

Chairman read the Police Report. The Police Dept. had 4,407 miles patrolled, 115 total citations & warnings, 9 motor vehicle accidents, 1 Criminal Arrest and 86 Total calls. Chairman said that we received a donation from Gloria at S.O.A.R. of a chip reader for dogs and several collars and leashes. We would like to thank her for her donation. Chief Lorah said that he appreciates what she has donated, and it would streamline the process of getting the lost dogs reunited with their owners. Chairman asked the secretary to write her a thank you letter. The police department requested approval of the purchase of two computers for the station to replace Windows 10 computers, which will be outdated October 1, 2025, with a cost of \$2,342. Chairman made the motion to purchase the new computers for \$2,342. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0 Chairman said the PD Frequency Report is also attached to the Police Report. Glenn Hummel thanked the Police Department for the great job they are doing.

Chairman called for a motion to accept the Police Department's Monthly Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

F. Fire Company Monthly Report – August 2025

Chairman read the Fire Department's Monthly Report. The report consisted of 23 total calls for the month of August. The calls were 8 Motor Vehicle Accident, 4 Wires/Tree Down, 2 Medical Assist, 1 Unknown, 1 Fire Police Call, 1 Vehicle Fire, 1 Structure Fire, 4 Brush Fire, and 1 Landing Zone. They had their monthly meeting. Their training for the month was Tanker Shuttle Operations 1, 2 & 3 with New Ringgold & Walker Township and a Medivac Landing Seminar. Chairman called for a motion to accept. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

G. Ambulance Monthly Report – August 2025

Chairman read the Ambulance Monthly Report. The Ambulance Report consisted of 295 calls year to date. Unit 935- 35 and 937 -9. August had 44 total calls. 31 West Penn, 9 Tamaqua, and 2 New Ringgold. The outcomes of the calls were 19 Treated, Transported BLS, 2 Cancelled prior to arrival at the scene, 2 Cancelled at the scene, 1 Dead at the scene, 1 No Patient Found, 1 Patient Refused Care, 1 Standby, 1 Treated Transferred Care, 15 Treated, Transported, with ALS. Receiving Hospitals were 17 St. Luke's Miners, 3 St. Luke's Carbon, 11 Lehigh Valley Carbon, 1 LVH Cedar Crest and 2 St. Luke's Geisinger. Glenn Hummel asked Don Hoppes who is a part of the Penn Mahoning Ambulance Association, if he knew Ryan Bowman. Mr. Hoppes said yes. Glenn Hummel asked if there was an agreement with Penn Mahoning and Mahoning Valley merging. Glenn Hummel said there was a request from Mahoning Valley requesting West Penn Township to make them the Primary BLS provider. Don Hoppes said that would be news to him. Glenn Hummel said the request came to the Board asking the Supervisors to take formal action designating Mahoning Valley Ambulance as the Primary Basic Life Support Provider for West Penn Township. Don Hoppes said disregard it. They did not discuss anything further with any other association. Chairman called for a motion to accept the Ambulance Report. Glenn Hummel made the motion to accept the Ambulance Report for August 2025. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

IV. Old Business

A. Chairman called for a motion to adopt Ordinance #2 of 2025, Establishing the Compensation for Incoming Supervisors. Attorney Datte said the Ordinance was properly advertise and it's ready for the Board to take action. This Ordinance is to increase Compensation to \$3,145/yr, which goes along with the Second-Class Twp. Code. It would be paid in Quarterly Installments of \$786.25. It would not apply to the current Supervisors, only incoming Supervisors. Chairman made the motion to adopt Ordinance #2 of 2025. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

B. Municibid Results – Ambulance Vehicle- 2009 GMC Red – Chairman said the final bid was \$7K. It did not meet the reserve. Don Hoppes would let the Ambulance Association know and see what they would like to do.

V. New Business - NONE

VI. Correspondence - NONE

VII. Business from Anyone on the Board

A. Set Trick or Treat – Date & Time – It will be October 31st 5PM-8PM – Same as last year.

Chief Jason Lorah – would like to set up along with the Police Dept., Fire Dept., and the Ambulance Association a safe spot for Trick or Treating at the West Penn Elementary School. It would be all their organizations at one stop instead of three different stops. They will be handing out Candy and playing Halloween Music. The Board of Supervisors supports their idea. Chairman called for a motion to set the

day & time for Trick or Treat, October 31, 2025, 5PM-8PM. Glenn Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0

VIII. Public Comments on General Items

A. Don Hoppes – asked if there was a complaint in the Code Report for Mill Dr. Supervisors asked him to fill out a formal complaint. Don Hoppes also asked about delinquent taxes. He said there was something in the paper that we are owed about \$196K. Attorney Datte explained about the upset sale and taxes. The people usually come in at the last minute before the sale and pay their taxes.

B. Carl Greves – spoke about the intersection at SR309 and SR895. He said maybe if we could light up the stop sign or blinking yellow lights with a stop sign ahead may help. Jeremy Frable and Shawn Phillips said blinking signs may be more distractive to drivers and some drivers with medical issues could have a seizure.

IX. Executive Session

Chairman called for a motion to go into executive session at 7:11PM for possible litigation. Glenn Hummel made the motion. Chairman seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion was carried. 2-0 Chairman called the meeting back to order @ 7:27PM. He said we had an executive session for possible litigation, and no action was taken.

X. Adjournment

Chairman called for a motion to adjourn at 7:29PM. Glenn Hummel 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