



PENN TOWNSHIP

LANCASTER COUNTY, PA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES

March 10, 2025

7:00 PM

BOARD ATTENDANCE:

Benjamin Bruckhart

Tom Walsh

Gary Stevens

Richard Landis

ABSENT:

Joe Eisenhauer

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mark Hiester, Township Manager

Matthew Reeser, Zoning Office, BCO

Shannon Martin, Public Works Director

Fred Hammond, resident

Keith McMinn, Penn State Health

Mike Reinhart, D.O., Penn State Health

Joe Turnowchyk, Hex 9 Architects

Rob Walker, Warwick EMS

Gary Haldeman, resident

Frank Kenavan, WCAA

Daryl Myer, resident

Connie Weidle, Recording Secretary

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance – Ben Bruckhart opened the meeting at 7 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment & Guest Recognition

Gary Haldeman inquired if the walking path at Hillcrest Drive to the Cedar Hollow Development will have improvements done. M. Hiester responded that the Township has partial easement and is working on having full easement to do the improvements.

Robert Walker, Warwick Community Ambulance Association Chief, was forceful and clear that the Township is not getting what is being paid for, consistent and reliable service. There are no Life Lion back-up rigs in the immediate area. Voluntary EMS memberships may not make up for the gap in funding, either. Warwick can provide the service the township pays for (same amount) with its 5 rigs. Life Lion has 5 rigs in this county, too. Warwick is responding to too many calls in Penn that Life Lion should be responding. Warwick's service to Penn went from routine to regular. In January and February 63 calls dispatched to Warwick in Penn, 54 responded by Warwick. MESA has similar challenges with Life Lion, too. Is this fair? Transparency and accountability are needed. Warwick uses an N+1 level of service – ostensibly better than Life Lion's. Warwick uses full and part-time staff and can adjust those back and forth. They have little trouble hiring, too.

Life Lion's Keith McMinn said Warwick is not telling the full picture. They have 8 EMTs in orientation, have increased pay and are attracting applicants. They have separated out transports to another company. A second truck assessment for the Manheim region is underway. They have been transparent about their challenges and are working to address them. They get pulled into Manheim Township, the city, and York County. Dr. Mike Reinhart said PSH has changed his and other duties to improve EMS here. This problem is all over, he works in 8 counties. Covid hurt employment. They credit Warwick for improving its service, too. Moreover, the county is adding a new public services director position to evaluate 911 and more.

When asked if Warwick gets pulled in other directions, too, Walker said yes. Mostly to Manheim Township, but nowhere as much as to Penn. The county EMS council meets on these matters but the focus on improvement starts with the municipalities. There are those who do not pay EMS at all. And the system is being stretched. For instance, a Gordonville EMS rig ran to a call in York County recently due to a lack of available trucks at the time.

G. Stevens commented that this is a bigger problem than in Penn Township; Lancaster County and the State needs to help. Dr. Reinhart spoke to how these problems are across the whole region. R. Landis asked why Penn Township should stay with Life Lion and not Warwick. Keith McMinn responded that they want to provide service to Penn Township and are working to improve.

New Business

- Joseph Turnowchyk presented his architectural proposal for exterior alterations to the office and public works buildings. M. Reeser stated that the Township needs a design professional who will give us the plans and keep the builders and contractors managed. G. Stevens asked why we need an architect if a local contractor is able to this without an architect. Because the work is required to be bid and sealed by a qualified professional. J. Turnowchyk said he will provide the specifications and help with the bidding.

A motion was made by R. Landis, with a second by T. Walsh, to approve the office and public works buildings architect design proposal for all 3 township buildings in the amount of \$62,950. The motion passed 3-1 (G. Stevens voted opposed).

- A motion was made by G. Stevens, with a second by T. Walsh, to award road paving and materials bids to:
 - Blacktop In-place: Pennsy Supply;
 - Blacktop Picked-up: Heidelberg Materials;
 - Stone: Rohrer's Quarry.The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by T. Walsh, with a second by G. Stevens, to adopt Ordinance 2025-01 Traffic Regulations. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by R. Landis, with a second by G. Stevens, to adopt Ordinance 2025-02 Supervisors Compensation. The motion passed unanimously.
- M. Hiester advised the Board that since the Township spent more than \$750,000 in one year of American Rescue Plan Funds, a federal audit must be performed. He noted that the reason the funds were spent in one year was due to the delay in construction of the Yard Waste Facility and the timing of the expenditures. The cost is \$5,000.

A motion was made by R. Landis, with a second by T. Walsh, to approve the Federal Audit Engagement Letter from Boyer & Ritter LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

- A motion was made by G. Stevens, with a second by T. Walsh, to authorize the Penryn Fire Police to perform traffic control at the Pleasant View Communities Days on Saturday, May 17, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by T. Walsh, with a second by G. Stevens, to adopt Resolution 2025-10 Transfer Funds to Higher Interest-Bearing Bank Money Market Accounts. The motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

- A motion was made by R. Landis, with a second by T. Walsh, to approve the February 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

- A motion was made by T. Walsh, with a second by G. Stevens, to approve the Treasurer's Reports as presented and approval to pay invoices. The motion passed unanimously.
Discussion took place relative to when Supervisors will be paid the new approved rate and how to apply the rate. It was discussed that this may be determined at budget time.
- G. Stevens noted the liaisons for the Planning Commission should be J. Eisenhower and G. Stevens and the liaisons for the Zoning Hearing Board should be R. Landis and G. Stevens. This is a change to the January 6, 2025 Meeting Minutes.
- Communications
The Board acknowledged receipt of the Lancaster County Community Development Block Grant Program Policies and Procedures document.
- Reports
 - Building, Zoning, and Property Maintenance – M. Reeser reported on the following items:
 - The Zoning Hearing Board upheld his denial of a fence being installed in an easement.
 - There have been inquiries about the old fire house in Penryn. M. Reeser has been advising those inquiring that they need to get a land use attorney and an engineer because of the building code, accessibility, and on-lot septic issues.
 - 800 Park Hill Drive has many violations due to the submitted site plan is different than what was put in. They have hired an attorney and will need re-approvals.
 - Discussion took place about the 3 apartments at 1147 N. Penryn Road and if the units were legally approved.
 - Staff is receiving a lot of calls about the proposed development off of Fruitville Pike and Temperance Hill Road. The developer is seeking 2 variances at the Zoning Hearing Board.
 - Planner – The Board reviewed the report submitted by J. Tulonen.
 - Sewage Enforcement Officer – The Board reviewed the report submitted by Len Spencer.
 - Public Works – S. Martin reported on the following items:
 - Road salt is fully stocked.
 - The Woody Waste Site is being used and public works is getting questions about what can be brought into the facility. There was a problem with big items being dropped off. They were logs that were not able to be chipped. M. Hiester commented that he will call the resident that brought the logs and tell him to come pick them up.
 - Bridge inspections were done with the engineer. Guiderail work needs to be done.
 - There were numerous snow events over the past month and there were snow plow repairs along with tire chain repairs.
 - Northview Road bank was filled in along the road.
 - A basin collapsed on Ditz Drive and it has been repaired.
 - Manager – M. Hiester reported on the following items:
 - There was a complaint received from a resident in the Sweetbriar Development about trucks parking near the park and street crosswalks.
 - Our website host made the township website ADA compliant to help people with disabilities.
 - Our lawyers are filing papers in court for the Manheim Crown Sewer Tap Fee complaint.

Adjournment

A motion was made by R. Landis, with a second by T. Walsh, to adjourn the Meeting at 8:15 p.m. into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation and the Board would not reconvene. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted, Connie Weidle, Recording Secretary