

November 6, 2025

**Office of the County of Elk Commissioners
Meeting Minutes**

Elk County, Ridgway, PA

The County of Elk Commissioners met on Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 10:00 AM, in the Annex Building, Conference Room 1. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were Commissioners M. Fritz Lecker, Matthew G. Quesenberry, and Gregory J. Gebauer. Also present were Rick Brown, Solicitor; Patrick Straub, Chief Clerk; Emily Anders, Office Administrator; Calvin Moore, IT Director; Gerald Copella, Director of Veteran Affairs; Kathy McClelland, Planning Department; Cortney Pahel, Dickinson Mental Center; Barb Swanson, guest; and Marilyn Secco, Press.

A moment of silence was held for Mason Neureiter, 9-1-1 Dispatcher who passed away on October 20th.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve by Matthew G. Quesenberry, second by Gregory J. Gebauer and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES– October 16, 2025 Commissioners Meeting

Motion to approve by Gregory J. Gebauer, second by Matthew G. Quesenberry and carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclamation - National Parents as Teachers Day – November 8, 2025. **Cortney Pahel explained the Parents as Teachers program and stated this is their second year as a Blue Ribbon Affiliate. Motion to approve by Matthew G. Quesenberry, second by Gregory J. Gebauer and carried unanimously.**
2. Proclamation- Operation Green Light for Veterans 2025. **Gerald Copella explained the green lights are showing support for Veterans. Motion to approve by Gregory J. Gebauer, second by Matthew G. Quesenberry and carried unanimously.**

RESOLUTIONS –

1. Resolution 2025-09 – 2025/2026 PHARE, PA Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement and PHFA, PA Housing Finance Agency Request for Proposal. **Kathy McClelland explained this program has both age and income requirements. Motion to approve by M. Fritz Lecker, second by Gregory J. Gebauer and carried unanimously.**
2. Resolution 2025-10 – Ratification of resolution lifting the burn restrictions in Elk County. **Motion to approve by Gregory J. Gebauer, second by Matthew G. Quesenberry and carried unanimously.**

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Renewal of Health Insurance Contract between the County of Elk and Delaware Valley Health Trust (DVHT) for County's employee health plan for calendar year 2026. Total cost is \$1,875,525, net cost

is \$1,828,739. The increase for 2026 was 9.7% prior to applying earned credits of \$46,786. The Elk/DVHT healthcare plan is part of a large, self-insured group risk-sharing pool designed only for public entities and includes wellness program, legal guidance, and loss control resources. County employees pay up to 15% for the cost of their elected coverage. **Motion to approve by Matthew G. Quesenberry, second by Gregory J. Gebauer and carried unanimously.**

2. Ratification of Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Elk and UMWA Local 8923 regarding the additional health care plan option for employees in the Commissioner's Residual Bargaining Unit. **Motion to approve by Gregory J. Gebauer, second by Matthew G. Quesenberry and carried unanimously.**
3. Request from IT, ratification of new contract with Center for Internet Security from September 24, 2025 through September 23, 2026 at an annual rate of \$995.00. **Calvin Moore stated the County must fund this because the State budget had not been approved, and this is normally covered by the State. Motion to approve by Matthew G. Quesenberry, second by Gregory J. Gebauer and carried unanimously.**

CORRESPONDENCE – (The following correspondence, if any, is available in the Commissioner's office for further review.)

1. The EADS Group (received October 20th) on behalf of Penn Hills Resources, LLC regarding their intent to apply for a ESCGP and Joint Permit for the installation of a new gas line from the pad on Little Hunter Rd. to the structure on Game lands Road 28-9, crossing multiple streams and their unnamed tributaries. This notice is provided in accordance with Section 1905-A of the PA Administrative Code as amended by Act 14, and Acts 67, 68 and 127 of the Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) which requires a 30 day public comment period.
2. Keller Engineers (received October 14th) regarding the intent of Brockway Borough Municipal Authority to submit an application to the PA DEP for the "2025 Water System Improvement Project". The project scope is the replacement of several existing water lines within the Borough. Project location is Snyder Township, Jefferson County and Horton Twp, Elk County. This notice is provided in accordance with Section 1905-A of the PA Administrative Code as amended by Act 14, and Acts 67, 68 and 127 of the Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) which requires a 30 day public comment period.
3. Area Transportation Authority (ATA) (received October 14th) regarding notification that the rate for one-way passenger trips has increased from \$44.57 to \$51.87 for the period commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

GOOD OF THE COUNTY

- We welcome and encourage the public to attend our meetings.
- Matthew G. Quesenberry recognized the hard work of all election personnel.
- Recognition of National First Responders Day on October 28th.
- Special Board of Commissioners meeting will be held on Thursday, November 13 at 10:00am in Conference Room #1.
- America 250PA updates:
 - Bell Dedication ceremony at 11:00 today on the Courthouse lawn.
 - America250PA Grant award finalists. **See attachment for finalists.**
- Please continue to pray for our military personnel, our families and our children, their teachers, all elected officials and peace in the world.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS

1. Marilyn Secco asked how many employees were covered by the County's healthcare plan.
Patrick Straub stated around 105, but he could email her the exact number after the meeting.
2. Marilyn Secco requested a picture of the Commissioners with Gerald Copella.

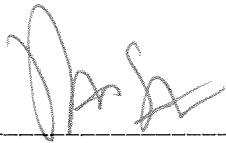
COMMENTS FROM TAXPAYERS

ADJOURN MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM on a motion by Matthew G. Quesenberry.

**Next Meeting:
10:00 A.M. Thursday, June 19, 2025
Thomas G. Wagner Conference Room, Courthouse Annex**

Attest: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. G. Quesenberry', is written over a horizontal line.