

May 7, 2026

**Elk County Board of Commissioners
Meeting Minutes**

Elk County, Ridgway, PA

The Elk County Board of Commissioners met on Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 10:00 AM, Elk County Courthouse Annex, Thomas G. Wagner Conference Room. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were Commissioners M. Fritz Lecker and Matthew G. Quesenberry. Commissioner Gregory J. Gebauer joined via Zoom. Also present were Rick Brown, Solicitor; Patrick Straub, Chief Clerk; Emily Anders, Office Administrator; Calvin Moore, IT Director; Matthew Frey, Treasurer; Kim Frey, Elections Director; LeeAnn Covac, Court Administrator; Tracy Gerber, Planning Director; Connor Vecellio, North Central Regional Planning; Patty Becquet and Ronnie Shall, guests; and Justin Felgar, Press.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by M. Fritz Lecker, second by Gregory J. Gebauer and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES– September 4, 2026 Commissioners Meeting

Motion by Gregory J. Gebauer, second by M. Fritz Lecker and carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Kim Frey gave an update about the Electronic Poll Book Pilot program which will run during this election and stated important election dates to remember.
2. Connor Vecellio from North Central Regional Planning explained the procedures taken to implement the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) and the process of improving transportation for our area.

RESOLUTIONS –

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request by Domestic Relations, approval of contract for front office redesign and installation of enhanced security measures a bullet proof window by Daghir Construction in the amount of \$7,980.00. Eligible for 100% reimbursement from Domestic Relations incentive account.
Motion to approve by M. Fritz Lecker, second by Gregory J. Gebauer and carried unanimously.
2. Request by Maintenance, ratification of contract with Anderson Fencing in the amount of \$1,980.34 to repair County property due to damage by a 3rd party. These repairs have already been fully reimbursed by the responsible party. **Motion to approve by Gregory J. Gebauer, second by M. Fritz Lecker and carried unanimously.**
3. Request for allocation of Liquid Fuel funds in the amount of \$7,500.00:
 - a. Jones Township for 2A stone purchase
 - b. Millstone Township for stone purchase

Motion to approve both items by Gregory J. Gebauer, second by M. Fritz Lecker and carried unanimously.

4. Request by Veteran Affairs, approval of benefits for 6 veteran burials, 4 spouse burials, and 3 headstones. **Motion to approve by M. Fritz Lecker, second by Gregory J. Gebauer and carried unanimously.**
5. Request by Elk County Ecumenical, Courthouse lawn usage on June 26, 2026 for an Ice Cream Social. **Motion to approve by Gregory J. Gebauer, second by M. Fritz Lecker and carried unanimously.**
6. Request by Elk County Ecumenical, Courthouse lawn usage on August 9, 2026 for the Glory Bound Music Festival. **Motion to approve by Gregory J. Gebauer, second by M. Fritz Lecker and carried unanimously.**
7. Request for banners on the Courthouse lawn:
 - a. Elk County Ecumenical banner for the Ice Cream Social from June 1-June 26 on bottom.
 - b. Ridgway Fire Department for the Ridgway Carnival from July 1-August 5 on top.
 - c. Ridgway Fire Department for the Rock Valley Revival Music Festival from August 5-August 14 on top.
 - d. Elk County Ecumenical for the Glory Bound Music Festival from August 1-August 14 on bottom.

Motion to approve all items by Gregory J. Gebauer, second by M. Fritz Lecker and carried unanimously.

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

1. The EADS Group (received April 13th) regarding intent to file apply for a PA DEP General Permit for the repairs of existing culvert crossing Tributary 24675 to Trout Run on Second St.. Projects includes a 60 ft./ 60 inch diameter culvert with rip rap and outer protection. Project name: Second St. FEMA Culvert Repairs. Project will not impact any undisturbed areas, or residential dwellings. This notice is provided pursuant to PA Administrative Code Section 1905-A, as amended by Acts 14, 67, 68, and 127 and requires a 30 day public comment period.
2. The Borough of Ridgway (received April 13th) regarding an application for a special exception and variance by Sawhud Land, LLC. A special use exception is required within the R-1 Suburban zoning designation to convert an existing building that is currently an unoccupied nursing home into residential apartments for senior living. The hearing will be held Wednesday, April 29th 5:00pm at the Ridgway Second Ward Fire Hall.
3. Larson Design Group (LDG) (received April 16th) regarding National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation's (NFG) intent to apply to the PA DEP for a NPDES General Permit 11 to complete verification digs within the existing pipeline right-of-way. All permits required under PA Code Title 25, Environmental Protection for stream or wetland encroachments will also be obtained. Project name is PA Girth Welds VM71 2 and 3 Project and is located in the City of St. Marys.
4. St. Marys Snowmobile Association (received April 29th) regarding intent to submit an application to PA DEP to construct a low-profile bridge on West Creek Rd to improve access to recreational snowmobile trails. Bridge consists of a steel structure, wood planking and concrete abutments to be installed July 2026 through September 2026. Site locating is West Creek; North Fork Lodge property. This notice is provided pursuant to PA Administrative Code Section 1905-A, as amended by Acts 14, 67, 68, and 127 and requires a 30 day public comment period.

GOOD OF THE COUNTY

- We welcome and encourage the public to attend our meetings.
- America250PA update
- National Day of Prayer is being held tonight at 6:00PM at the Methodist Church Pavilion in St. Marys.
- The PAGO board approved \$2,000 marketing grant for the 2026 Elk Expo.
- Teacher Appreciation week is May 4th - May 8th.
- National Correctional Officers Week is May 4th - May 8th.
- 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

COMMENTS FROM TAXPAYERS

ADJOURN MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM on a motion by Gregory J. Gebauer.

Next Meeting:
10:00 A.M. Thursday, May 21, 2026
Thomas G. Wagner Conference Room, Courthouse Annex

Attest: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. S.", written over a horizontal line.