

**Black Creek Township Reorganization Meeting**  
**January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018**  
**2:00pm**

Supervisor Dr. Saura Rohrbach and tax collector Sandra Houseknecht were sworn in by Magistrate Daniel O'Donnell

Attendance: Supervisors Bonnie Adams, Joseph Lescowitch, and Dr. Saura Rohrbach were present

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Bonnie Adams with the pledge to the flag.

Temporary Chairperson: A motion was made by Bonnie Adams to appoint Joe Lescowitch as the temporary chairperson, seconded by Dr. Saura Rohrbach. All members were in favor.

Chairperson: A motion was made by Joe Lescowitch that Bonnie Adams be appointed as chairperson, seconded by Dr. Saura Rohrbach. All members were in favor.

Vice-Chairperson: Bonnie Adams recommended Joe Lescowitch for vice-chairperson, seconded by Dr. Saura Rohrbach. All board members were in favor.

Secretary/Treasurer: Joe Lescowitch made a motion that Dr. Saura Rohrbach be appointed as secretary/treasurer. The motion was seconded by Bonnie Adams. All board members were in favor.

Treasurer Bond: Joe Lescowitch recommended the treasurer bond be set at \$350,000. Bonnie Adams seconded the motion. All board members were in favor.

Head of Recreation Board: Joe Lescowitch recommended that Bonnie Adams remain head of the recreation board. The motion was seconded by Dr. Saura Rohrbach. All board members were in favor.

Road Master: Joe Lescowitch made a motion that all 3 supervisors be appointed as road masters. The motion was seconded by Bonnie Adams. All members were in favor.

Convention Delegate: Joe Lescowitch recommended that Bonnie Adams remain convention delegate. The motion was seconded by Dr. Saura Rohrbach. All board members were in favor.

Meeting Dates and Times: A motion was made by Dr. Saura Rohrbach that meeting times be set at 7:00pm, to allow the majority of residents to attend meetings. She stated that 2:00pm meeting times restricted the working population from attending meetings, as well as the younger residents. One of the largest complaints she received while campaigning was the inconvenient meeting time at 2:00pm. She submitted a sheet to the supervisors and the audience with meeting times from all the municipalities in Luzerne County, attached to the minutes. The sheet showed that no other municipality holds meetings during the day. Residents attempted to voice their opinion on the matter prior to the supervisors' vote, but

Bonnie Adams responded by informing the residents that they were not allowed to comment at the reorganization meeting. Dr. Saura Rohrbach asked Bonnie Adams why the recreation committee meetings were held at 7:30pm, to which Bonnie Adams stated they were always held at that time.

Bonnie made a motion to set the meeting times at 2:00pm, seconded by Joe Lescowitch.  
Role Call Vote: Lescowitch Yes; Rohrbach No; Adams Yes

Appointments:

Depository Bank: BB&T

Joe Lescowitch made a motion that BB&T remain the depository bank, Bonnie Adams seconded the motion. All board members were in favor.

Depository for Local Tax Services: Berkheimer

Bonnie Adams recommended Berkheimer remain the depository for local tax services. Dr. Saura Rohrbach seconded the motion. All board members were in favor.

Township Solicitor: The Law Office of Donald Karpowich, at a rate of \$100.

Bonnie Adams made a motion made a motion to retain The Law Office of Donald Karpowich, seconded by Joe Lescowitch. All members were in favor.

Zoning Board Solicitor: The Law Office of Elliot, Greenleaf and Dean, at a rate of \$100 per hour  
Joe Lescowitch made a motion made a motion to appoint The Law Office of Elliot, Greenleaf and Dean as the zoning board solicitor, seconded Dr. Saura Rohrbach. All board members were in favor.

Township Engineer: RJD Engineering, INC, at a rate of \$82 per hour.

Bonnie Adams Made a motion to retain RJD Engineering, INC as the township engineer. The motion was seconded by Joe Lescowitch. All members were in favor.

Alternate Township Engineer: JTB Surveying and Engineering, at a rate of \$82 per hour.

Dr. Saura Rohrbach made a motion to retain JTB as an alternate engineer, seconded by Joe Lescowitch. All members were in favor.

Auditor: Lawrence Cable and Company, LLP, at the rate of \$5,000

Bonnie Adams made a motion to retain Lawrence Cable and Company, LLP, as auditor, seconded by Joe Lescowitch. All members were in favor.

Sewage Enforcement Officer: Brior Environmental Services

Bonnie Adams made a motion to retain Brior Environmental Services, seconded by Joe Lescowitch. All members were in favor.

Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer: David Popiak

Joe Lescowitch made a motion to re-appoint David Popiak, seconded by Dr. Saura Rohrbach. All members were in favor.

Zoning Board Secretary: Angelo Tolotti

Bonnie Adams made a motion to re-appoint Angelo Tolotti, seconded by Joe Lescowitch. All members were in favor.

Zoning Hearing Board Member: Ed Vergari, for a 5 year term ending December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Bonnie Adams made a motion to re-appoint Ed Vergari, seconded by Dr. Saura Rohrbach. All members were in favor.

Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer: Paul Kattner, at a rate of \$840 per quarter as zoning officer; \$12 as code enforcement officer

Bonnie Adams made a motion to re-appoint Paul Kattner, seconded by Dr. Saura Rohrbach. All members were in favor.

Vacancy Board: Sandy Rittenhouse

Bonnie Adams made a motion to re-appoint Sandy Rittenhouse, seconded by Joe Lescowitch. All members were in favor.

Right to Know Officer: Dr. Saura Rohrbach

Bonnie Adams made a motion to appoint Dr. Saura Rohrbach, seconded by Joe Lescowitch. All members were in favor.

Building Inspector and Alternate Code Enforcement Officer: Tino Nocchi, to be paid per resolution

Joe Lescowitch made a motion to retain Tino Nocchi, seconded by Dr. Saura Rohrbach. All members were in favor.

Fire Chief: Joe Lescowitch

Bonnie Adams made a motion to re-appoint Joe Lescowitch, seconded by Dr. Saura Rohrbach. All members were in favor.

Employees Raise: increase: 3%

Joe Lescowitch made a motion to give township employees a 3% raise, seconded by Dr. Saura Rohrbach. All members were in favor.

Tax Mills: Remain at .66

Bonnie Adams made a motion to set the millage rate at .66, seconded by Joe Lescowitch. All members were in favor.

Appointed Official Terms:

Zoning Board, 5 year terms:

- Danny Rittenhouse January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017
- Robert Palushok January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018

- Bill Planutis January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019
- Angelo Tolotti January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020
- Ed Vergari January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Please note, the township is unable to confirm the terms of Danny Rittenhouse or Ed Vergari. Proper documentation cannot be found. The matter is being pursued.

Planning Committee:

- Marv Sauers January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018
- Gary Houseknecht January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019
- Randall Matyas January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Adjournment, proceeded directly into the Regular Monthly Supervisors Meeting