

Black Creek Township Supervisors General Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 1, 2023

The Pledge of Allegiance

The General Meeting of the Black Creek Township Supervisors, held on Thursday, June 1st, 2023, was brought to order at 6:00 PM.

Attendance: Roll Call; Lupcho, Rohrbach, Tombasco; Present

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None.

Minutes:

The chairwoman will ask if there are any additions or corrections to the May 4th general meeting. A *motion* by: Supervisor Rohrbach, seconded by Supervisor Tombasco, to approve the minutes of the May 4th general meeting.

All in favor.

Financial Report: May 1, 2023 through May 31, 2023

		Interest
BB&T/Truist General Fund:	\$1,350.13	0.01%
Mid Penn – Gen. Fund:	\$272,014.69	1.00%
Fire Escrow Account:	\$14,018.42	1.00%
PLGIT Prime Savings:	\$30,184.03	PLGIT yields
PLGIT Checking/Liquid Fuels:	\$137,980.61	can change on
Fed Shared Revenue Entitle-ARPA:	\$9,426.30	a daily basis.
Total Checking/Savings:	\$464,974.18	
PLGIT Alumni Assoc.:	\$5,609.59	
Total:	\$470,583.77	

- **Financial Report was amended from the agenda to reflect the correct amount that is in the Fire Escrow Account.**

A *motion* by: Supervisor Rohrbach, seconded by: Supervisor Lupcho, to approve the financial report.

All in favor.

Bills: Payment of bills, as presented.

A *motion* by: Supervisor Rohrbach, to approve the bills as presented, and to pay any and all bills in all funds that become due before the next general meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Lupcho; Yes, Rohrbach; Yes, Tombasco; Yes.

Correspondence: None.

Reports:

Zoning Report: Zoning/Codes Officer, Ed Wenger sent a zoning report which was reviewed by Supervisor Rohrbach.

Fire Company: Fire Chief Joe Lescowitch was absent and did not submit a report.

Emergency Management: William Singley Jr. submitted a report which was reviewed by Supervisor Rohrbach.

Roadmaster Report: Reviewed by Chairwoman Rohrbach.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

1. Resolution for Chicken Permit Fee

A *motion* by: Supervisor Rohrbach, seconded by: Supervisor Lupcho, to approve a resolution to set the chicken permit fee to \$20.00. The permit fee is only for lots a half an acre or less and is to be paid every two (2) years, on the odd numbered years.

All in favor.

2. Ratifying the promotion of Jennifer Hall from Temporary Secretary to Part-Time Secretary

A *motion* by: Supervisor Rohrbach, seconded by: Supervisor Tombasco, to approve ratifying the promotion of Jennifer Hall from Temporary Secretary to Part-Time Secretary.

All in favor.

3. Disposing of old files

A *motion* by: Supervisor Rohrbach, seconded by: Supervisor Lupcho, to approve disposing of old files that exceeded their retention time.

All in favor.

4. Chicks Lane Low Volume Road Maintenance Grant through Luzerne County Conservation District awarded - \$125,000.00

- The awarded grant money will allow for a quarter mile of road to be repaired.

5. Mountain Laurel Trail Dirt, Gravel Road Grant through Luzerne County Conservation District awarded - \$131,972.50

- This grant will revert the road back to dirt and gravel. The road will be resurfaced with Driving Surface Aggregate which is highly promoted by Penn State and the Luzerne Conservation District.

6. Barnes Run Box Culvert Grant (\$300,680.00) not Awarded – Awarded \$172,000 in 2021

- Unfortunately, the Township was not awarded additional funds for the culvert.

7. Park Street Culvert Expenses as of May 31, 2023 - \$68,915.18 (\$59,600.00 of Grant Money)

- This is not a complete total of expenses as most of the bills have not come in yet. Half of the grant money was received up front.

Review Public Comment from last meeting:

- Everyone's questions were addressed at the last meeting.

Solicitor Comment:

- Solicitor Sean Logsdon explained that an accusation was made of Black Creek Foreman, John Ross, claiming that he had utilized Township funds, time, and resources to install gates on the Rohrbach property. Solicitor Logsdon was asked to step in, completed an investigation, and determined that such claims were unsubstantiated and John Ross did no such thing.

Supervisor Comment:

- Supervisor Rohrbach shared that she and John Ross took a class to become certified in Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Roads in order to apply for multiple grants. Supervisor Rohrbach shared that she had met her goal of reaching one million dollars in grant money before she left office. She has met that goal with a total of \$1,132,284.95 of grant money.
- Supervisor Rohrbach gave an update on the Park Street Box Culvert, which was from a grant that gave the Township \$119,200.00. The Township will have to most likely contribute additional funds. An inspector from Trout Unlimited said that the Township's culvert was the most accurately placed culvert he had ever seen.
- Supervisor Rohrbach addressed recent rumors of state inspections of the Township fleet. She shared that all of the state inspection places that the Township

Public Comment:

- Gary Rohrbach, Hilltop Drive, addressed the comment Solicitor Logsdon made about John Ross and the gates on the Rohrbach property. Gary Rohrbach explained how he had purchased all of the gates and stone and he can prove it. He is tired of lies being spread about himself and his family online throughout the Township.
- Kent Ems, Sugarloaf, wanted to thank the supervisors for all of the good work that they have been doing. He also wanted to compliment the road crew and the office staff.

The next Regular Meeting will take place on Thursday, June 1st, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Final Announcement(s)

- Solicitor Logsdon shared that the Township will be working on adjustments to the SALDO ordinance.

- Supervisor Rohrbach shared that she would like to get rid of the permit application requirement for political signs since there is no fee with it and it costs the Township money to approve an application without a fee.
- There is a Planning Commission meeting on June 6th at 6:00 pm.
- There is a Zoning Hearing Board appeal on June 28th at 6:00 pm.

Adjournment:

A *motion* by: Supervisor Rohrbach, seconded by Supervisor Lupcho, to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 pm.

All in favor.