

Penn Township Supervisor Meeting

November 5, 2025

Chairman Isaac Ramer Jr. called the 11.5.2025 Supervisor Meeting to order at 5:30 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present included: Supervisors: Isaac Ramer Jr., Mark Strawser, Ross Smoker, Solicitor Jim Bathgate and Township Manager Julie Hartley

Public Present: Bill Kline, Paul Long, Shellie McCurdy, Chad Brandt, Adam Kerstetter, Matt Keller, Cody Keller, Michael Master, Catherine Rice and Dallas Reinard

Public Hearing for Noise Amendments to Principal Solar Energy Systems in the Zoning Ordinance – Isaac turned the meeting over to Jim Bathgate to conduct the hearing on the noise amendments to the Principal Solar Energy System (PSES) section of the Zoning Ordinance. The Snyder County Planning Commission and the township Planning Commission were asked to comment on the amendments. The Penn Township Planning Commission recommended to the Board of Supervisors that they adopt the amendments. Following are the amendments of Section 702 (A) (9) for the Board to consider adopting: 1) A noise study shall be performed and included in the Application for Conditional Use. The noise study shall be performed by an independent noise study expert and paid for by the Applicant. Noise from a PSES shall not exceed 45 dBA, as measured at the property line. 2) Prior to the release of the Applicant's financial security for the construction of the PSES, Applicant shall perform a post construction noise study to confirm that its PSES does not exceed 45 dBA, as measured at the property line. 3) Applicant shall be required to submit additional noise studies every five (5) years thereafter to ensure continued compliance with this Section. Section 702 (A) (9) (i) the following change: 1) All inverters for the PSES shall be surrounded by a sound deadening barrier. Section 702 (A) (9) (ii) the following changes: 1) In the event of any complaints of noise, Applicant shall undertake timely corrective actions. The Board of Supervisors, in their discretion, shall determine the timeframe for any corrective actions and what actions to take. 2) Should the Township hire an independent noise expert to evaluate the noise of the PSES, Applicant shall be initially responsible for paying one-half (1/2) of the costs of the same. Should it be determined that the Applicant is in violation of the noise provisions of the Ordinance, Applicant shall reimburse the Township for the full costs of the same. Jim asked for public comment and there was none. Jim then asked if there were any Supervisors that had a comment and they indicated they did not. **On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Mark Strawser and Board acclamation to close the public hearing at 5:33 pm.** Jim noted that it was advertised that the amendments can be adopted during the regular meeting.

Minutes – **On motion by Ross Smoker, seconded by Mark Strawser and Board acclamation to approve the October 15, 2025 supervisor's meeting minutes.**

Persons Present to be Heard:

Marvin Weaver, Waiver from Land Development – Jim noted that Marvin Weaver is looking to construct a sixty by seventy-two-foot manure storage building. Chad Shaffer reviewed the plans and gave a recommendation to allow the waiver from land development. The Township Planning Commission reviewed the plans and recommended that the Board of Supervisors allow the land development waiver with the following conditions: 1) Documentation showing that the adjoining land owner signed off on having the manure storage building at a thirty-foot setback instead of the two hundred feet. 2) If any stormwater issues occur after construction that they are immediately addressed. 3) Mr. Weaver be responsible for all expenses incurred to process the Waiver from Land Development. Mr. Weaver has paid the expenses occurred by the engineer review and will give the documentation required by condition number one. **On motion by Mark Strawser, seconded by Ross Smoker and Board acclamation to approve the waiver from Land Development for Marvin Weaver's manure storage building if all conditions from the Township Planning Commission are met.**

Keller's Truck Repair, Waiver from Land Development – Jim explained that Keller's Auto Body would like to construct a forty-five by sixty-six-foot addition to their existing building. The construction will not increase impervious coverage or add additional stormwater. It has an existing driveway, water and sewer. The Township Planning Commission

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reviewed the project and made recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to allow the waiver from Land Development with the following conditions: 1) All state, local and federal regulations be followed and 2) Should stormwater concerns arise that they be addressed immediately.

On motion by Mark Strawser, seconded by Ross Smoker and Board acclamation to allow the Waiver from Land Development with the two conditions recommended by the Planning Commission.

New Business:

Advertise 2026 Budget – On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Mark Strawser, and Board acclamation to advertise the 2026 budget.

Tim Thomson Resignation – On motion by Ross Smoker, seconded by Isaac Ramer Jr., and Board acclamation to accept the resignation of Tim Thomson from the Road Crew.

Recycling & Compost 2026 Permit Rates – Discussion was held regarding the 2026 Recycling and Compost rates. After discussion the following motion was made: On motion by Ross Smoker, seconded by Mark Strawser and Board acclamation to set the 2026 Recycling and Compost permits at \$25.00 each or if both are purchased at the same time it would be \$45.00 for both.

SEDA COG bike/pedestrian Counter at East Snyder Park – On motion by Isaac Ramer Jr., seconded by Ross Smoker and Board acclamation to allow the installation of the bike and pedestrian counter on one of the paths at East Snyder Park for one year and SEDA COG is responsible for the unit.

Route 204 Leaf Pickup – Discussion was held about the dangers involved with trying to collect leaves along Route 204. After discussion the following motion was made: On motion by Ross Smoker, seconded by Mark Strawser and Board acclamation to discontinue collecting leaves and Christmas trees along Rte. 204 because of safety concerns.

Zoning Ordinance Amendments to PSES Noise Section – On motion by Mark Strawser, seconded by Ross Smoker and Board acclamation to adopt the PSES noise section amendments to the Zoning Ordinance.

Old Business: None

Reports:

- Julie Hartley, Township Manager, Report Provided
- Adam Kerstetter, Roadmaster, Report Provided – Isaac asked that more details be included in the Road master reports.
- Julie Hartley, Zoning Officer, Report Provided
- Colin Rice, Emergency Management Coordinator
- James Bathgate, Township Solicitor – Jim said that he checked to see if two Supervisors could be on a seven-member Planning Commission and the law states that two employees or Supervisors may serve. Jim also noted that extensions for the Sissy Boy Trucking Land Development and PTMA Subdivision/Land Development will soon need extension letters

FYI:

- ACH Payroll Report 10.30.25
- Check Register from 10.15.25 to 11.5.25

Land/Subdivision:

- Sissy Boy Trucking Land Dev., filed 6.23.25, due 12.18.25

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- PTMA Well Site Subdivision/Land Development, filed 9.22.25, due 12.19.25
- PTMA Well Site Conditional Use, filed 10.7.25, due 12.8.25, hearing 12.3.25 at 5:30 pm
- Selinsgrove Fair Association Inc., filed 10.14.25, due 12.15.25, variance hearing 12.10.25 at 7 pm

Public Comment:

Shellie McCurdy, REC – Shellie gave a thank you note and some photos of the Truck-R-Treat to the Board for the candy donation. She continued by reporting that one thousand and fifteen check-ins occurred during the month of October with sixty-two as the high and the daily average was forty-four. There were two hundred and seven registered with fifteen new students. Visits from dogs and baby goats happened this month and during the Late-Night Shopper's event in Selinsgrove the REC will offer ten-dollar babysitting.

DH&L Ambulance – The DH&L ambulances had two hundred and five calls during the month of October with seventy-three being from Penn Township. Ambulance 82 is currently getting a new engine and transmission installed and 81 has electrical issues. Ambulance 84 was in an accident on a bridge in Freeburg that partially collapsed. They are currently working on a local share grant to seek a new ambulance. Isaac offered a letter of recommendation from the Township for their grant. They submitted financials to the Board of Supervisors and invited them to do a ride along. The new intermediate unit is performing well and freeing up the paramedics for more serious calls.

Approval of Accounts Payable (State and General Funds)- **On Motion by Ross Smoker, seconded by Mark Strawser and Board acclamation, to pay bills.**

Adjournment - **On motion by Ross Smoker, second by Mark Strawser and Board acclamation the November 5, 2025 Supervisor's Meeting was adjourned at 6:14 PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Hartley
Manager