

TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

April 7, 2026

SUPERVISORS MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Irene Reed, Chairperson
Brian Eveland, Supervisor
Jeffrey Thompson, Supervisor
Dr. Boyd Wagner, Supervisor
Theresa Stork, Supervisor

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Potts, Township Manager
Diane DeJesus, Secretary/Treasurer
Bobby Turner, Road Foreman
Brett Forry, Chief of Police
Keith Mooney, Esquire
Kent Morey, Engineer
Bradley Pflum, Code Enforcement

CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Wagner moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Balances as of April 7, 2026, General Fund: \$1,723,775.78 State Account: \$698,204.18, PLGIT: \$79,544.22, Certificate of Deposits: \$627,257.41, Expenses: \$118,551.12.

Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lisa Kleinginna, 1128 Upper Van Reed Road – Ms. Kleinginna owns the property at 2648 Bernville Road. Neighbor is Infinity Limousine at 2643 Bernville Road. There is a property dispute between the two properties. Survey and Deed were provided by Ms. Kleinginna and given to Mr. Pflum from LTL Consultants.

Steve Zmroczek, 2691 Leisch's Bridge Road – Mr. Zmroczek wanted it noted about the screening provisions that are not being replaced along Leisch's Bridge Road. Also, expressed concerns about the proposed warehouse and land at the airport. Mr. Zmroczek noted the Supervisors have had limitations on use of this land in the past and turned away development and encourage them to deny the current Conditional Use application.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

Discussion/Approval of Reading One Three Conditional Use Decision – Atty. Mooney asked if there is a motion to deny the relief requested by the applicant pursuant to the recent decision. Dr. Wagner made a motion to deny the relief requested by the applicant, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval to Advertise Ziegler & Park Road Stop Sign Ordinance - Mr. Potts stated this is for the intersection at Ziegler and Park Road. This is a three-way intersection and only has 2 stops signs. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve advertising Ziegler & Park Road Stop Sign Ordinance, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of Planning Commission Ordinance - Mr. Potts stated this is not ready for discussion at this time.

Discussion/Approval to Send Data Center Ordinances to Berks & Bern Planning Commissions for Review and Comment - Mr. Potts noted Atty. Mooney reviewed the ordinances and made no suggested changes. Dr. Wagner made a motion to send the Data Center Ordinances to Berks & Bern Planning Commissions for Review and Comment, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Supervisors received a copy of the report. Mr. Potts added in May the owners of 6 Heather Lane will have their second court date, since this property has not yet been cleaned up from the fire. Also, an estimate was sent to the Supervisors regarding the Fire Station repairs.

Mrs. Reed thanked Diane DeJesus for another smooth DCED audit.

PUBLIC SAFETY & SERVICES

Muhlenberg Township Fire and Rescue - Chief Lupco stated there were 153 calls for service and 31 were for service in Bern Township, with an average of 6.2 personnel per call.

Emergency Medical Services – Reports were received from Western and Northern Berks.

Emergency Management – Mr. Hinkle could not attend this evening, but the report has been provided.

Police Department - Supervisors received a copy of the monthly report.

Discussion/Approval to Send Officer to School Resource Officer Training - Chief Forry stated there will be no cost to the Township for this training, costs will be covered by BCTC. Officer Boyer will be attending this training. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve sending Officer Boyer to School Resource Training, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval to Send Officer to Crash Reconstruction Seminar - Chief Forry noted this training has happened for the last several years and upon approval Officer Mazza will be attending this training. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve sending Officer to Crash Reconstruction Seminar, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Engineer (SSM) – Supervisors received a copy of report.

Planning Commission

Discussion/Approval of Land Development Waiver for Berks County Youth Center – Mr. Potts stated at the March Planning Commission Meeting a waiver was recommended for the Berks County Youth Center due to the proposed addition that will be located over existing paving. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Waiver for Berks County Youth Center, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of Section 154-19.A(2) Plan Scale Waiver for Berks 183 Lots A, F & G - Mr. Potts noted this scale waiver is for the plan itself. Plans sometimes are drawn in a different scale for legibility reasons instead of what the code requires. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve Section 154-19.A(2) Plan Scale Waiver for Berks 183 Lots A, F & G, seconded by Mr.

Thompson **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of Section 154-19.C(6) Plan Scale Waiver for Berks 183 Lots A, F & G – Mr. Potts stated this is for the Plan Scale Waiver showing where the property is located within the Township. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve Section 154-19.C(6) Plan Scale Waiver for Berks 183 Lots A, F & G, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of VA Medical Facility Support Letter- Mr. Potts stated this was briefly discussed at the March meeting. One of the questions was, is this property going to be taxable and the answer is yes. The developer will purchase the land; they will build the building and then lease it to the end user. It is noted that all the procedures and treatments at the facility will be non-invasive. The VA is asking for a letter of support, and they understand they will have to apply for a variance, because medical centers are not permitted in this district. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the VA Medical Facility Support Letter, seconded by Dr. Wagner. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Time Extensions

Bernville Business Center - Dr. Wagner moved that if an extension of time has not been granted by the applicant, prior to the expiration date of May 12, 2026, that the plan be rejected for the reasons set forth in the latest Engineering review letter, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Code Enforcement - Supervisors received a copy of the report.

STORMWATER MANGEMENT

MS4 Stormwater Report-Mr. Potts added we are trying to get ready for the next permit, but DEP has not offered any directions thus far.

ROADS

The Supervisors have a copy of the report.

Mrs. Reed congratulated Mr. Turner on coming in under budget for the recent bids.

Discussion/Approval of DEP Section 902 Grant Application - Mr. Turner stated this grant will be used to replace the oldest truck that was purchased in 2009. Mr. Turner is applying to have DEP cover 65% of the truck instead of 50/50, because our percentage use for the truck has increased. Mr. Turner is looking for approval to move forward with the application. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve moving forward with the DEP Section 902 Grant Application, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval to Ratify Sourcewell Membership - Mr. Turner stated this is another source, like CoStar (Cooperative Purchasing Program) but it is for used equipment. Dr. Wagner made a motion to ratify the Sourcewell Membership, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval to Purchase Paving Machine – Mr. Turner provided an escrow fund analysis about a month ago. The road department is looking at purchasing a 2017 LeBoy 8515E model with roughly 2,000 hours on it. With the Sourcewell discount of \$10,002.00 the machine would cost \$70,000.00. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Purchase of Paving Machine, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of Road Contract #1 – Mr. Turner stated this contract is for asphalt paving. H&K Group came in as the lowest bid at \$206,957.69. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve Road Contract #1, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of Road Contract #2 - Mr. Turner noted this contract is for seal coat, and Asphalt Maintenance Solutions won this bid at \$185,871.20. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve Road Contract #2, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

SEWER/WATER/BERN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Mrs. Reed stated due to the rising costs from Western Berks Water, commercial properties will increase. For residential customers the charge for going over the monthly minimum gallons would increase by \$.56.

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMISSION

Monthly Report.

Discussion/Approval to Ratify Cogle’s Consent of Contract Assignment Letter- Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Ratify Cogle’s Consent of Contract Assignment Letter, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION

Discussion/Approval to Ratify Water Resource Development Act Grant Support Letter for Berks County Wastewater Treatment Plant Project – Mr. Potts stated support letters were sent to the Honorable Madeleine Dean and John Fetterman. This involves the Berks County Sewage Treatment Plant, and they are asking for a Grant to make improvements to the plant. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve to ratify the water resource development act grant support letter,

seconded by Mr. Thompson **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval to Send Solicitor to Zoning Hearing – Mr. Potts noted this is for the Riverfront Federal Credit Union property at the corner across from CVS. Revised plan shows no entrance or exits onto W. Leesport Road or Rt.183. The two issues they are seeking relief on are having an open area free of structures and paving at least 20’ along the side and rear plot lines. The second is for the drive-through service, which is not permitted in this district. No motion.

Discussion/Approval to Accept Vacancy Board Chairman Resignation- Mr. Potts stated this resignation comes from Craig Priebe. Dr. Wagner made a motion to accept the Vacancy Board Chairman resignation, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of Appointment to the Four-Year Alternate Planning Commission Position – Mr. Potts stated Lou Bunnick, who was involved with BTMA in the past, is interested in serving in this position. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the appointment of Lou Bunnick to the Four-Year Alternate Planning Commission position, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of Teamsters Healthcare Letter of Agreement - Mr. Potts stated the increased cost for healthcare varies between 3.7% and 4.1%, which seems reasonable. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Teamsters Healthcare Letter of Agreement, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of Land Donation Agreement with the BCIDA – Mr. Potts stated this is not ready for discussion at this time.

Discussion/Approval of Road Foreman Waiver to Use Compensatory Time within 6 Months instead of 3 Months for 2025/2026 Winter Season- Mr. Potts stated due to the winter storms this season, Mr. Turner is requesting to the use his compensation time within 6 months instead of 3 months. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Road Foreman Waiver to use Compensatory Time within 6 months instead of 3 months, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval to Accept Auditing Quotation from Maillie – Mr. Potts noted at the end of every contract the Township asks the auditor to provide a 3-year quote. Maillie’s quote for the first year is 5.8 % increase, second year is 3.1% and third year is 3%. Their contract just ended this year with the 2025 audit. Dr. Wagner made a motion to accept auditing quotation from Maillie, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of Signage Agreement with September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance – Mr. Potts explained this trail comes up the Tulpehocken Trail, goes out Swiftwater

Lane to Palisades Road, continues to County Welfare Road to W. Leesport Road, runs all the way across to Rickenbach Road to Cross Keys Road, and continues onto Washington Road until it is no longer in our Township. The Alliance wants to install signage along this path, in the same way as the Schuylkill River Greenway Association erected their signs. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Signage Agreement with September 11th National Memorial Trail Alliance, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of Vacancy Chairperson Appointment – Mr. Potts stated Kiana Khuangthilath is interested in the Vacancy Chairperson position. Dr. Wagner made a motion to appoint Kiana Khuangthilath to the Vacancy Chairperson position, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mrs. Stork, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Next Meeting- The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at 7:00 PM at the Bern Township Municipal Building.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane DeJesus, Secretary/Treasurer