

BOS MINUTES

Dickinson Township Board of Supervisors

August 5, 2026, Dickinson Township Meeting Room

6:00 pm

Attendance

Board Members:

Chairman Rob Kole, Vice Chairperson Jennifer DeGaetano, Supervisor Robert "Bob" Line III

Absent:

Jason Reichard, Engineer

Staff:

Jill Lovett, Township Manager, Glenn Kelso, Public Works Director, Grace Hogue, Secretary/Treasurer, Ryan Hoover, Zoning/Codes Officer, Matthew Boyer, Solicitor

Visitors:

*Linda Bales – 14 Peyton Drive
Nadeen Bogonos – 13 Peyton Drive
Tamara Frutsche – 21 Peyton Drive
Harold Cooney – 4 Melissa Court
Jeff Swope – Bosler Memorial Library
Charley Westcott – 14 Makenzee Drive
Robin Orner – 85 N West St, Carlisle
David Miller – 1 Walton Drive
Michael Frutsche – 21 Peyton Drive*

Call to Order

Chairman Kole called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Announcements

- a. Reminder that Dickinson Township is seeking volunteers for a couple of open positions (Alternate on Zoning Hearing Board and Planning Commission) on various Boards and Committees. If interested, please contact Jill Lovett at manager@dickinsontownship.org if you are interested.
- b. Dickinson Township is asking residents to sign up for its mass text alert system. This system is used to alert residents of things such as emergency situations, road closures, trash delays, etc. To sign up please go to the Township website and click on the image where it says Mass Text Alert Signup. Fill out the form online and hit submit.

- c. A reminder that more information about our community can be found on our website at www.dickinsontownship.org

Agenda Approval

A motion to approve the agenda for the August 5, 2026 meeting was made by Vice Chairperson DeGaetano. It was seconded by Supervisor Line and unanimously passed.

Public Comment – Agenda Items Only - None

Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the minutes for the July 1, 2026 meeting, to ratify the July 17, 2026 bills of \$39,283.02 and to pay bills of August 5, 2026 of \$56,883.25, authorization to Transfer \$400,000.00 to Capital Reserves Fund from General Fund as budgeted within the 2026 Budget, authorization to Transfer \$300,000.00 to F&M Trust bank account from Mid Penn Bank account (both bank accounts are within the General Fund) to capture higher interest rate savings, acceptance of the resignation of Glenn Kelso, acknowledgement of support letter provided for the Nomination of Mountain Creek Trail System to DCNR, acknowledgement of support letter provided to Friends of Barnitz Mill for grant application to South Mountain Partnership, and approval of a 2-year contract for USPS postage meter was made by Vice Chairperson DeGaetano. Supervisor Line seconded the motion, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Board of Supervisors Report

Chairman Kole reported on his visit to Citizen's Fire Company and expressed his appreciation to the members of the fire company and all that they do. He said he was unable to attend Mount Holly Springs Borough council meeting; however, Manager Lovett did attend. The Borough council voted to join the initiative to form a joint multi-municipal approach for emergency services.

Vice Chairperson DeGaetano shared the Food Processing Residuals (FPR) bills has passed and the next step is rule making process. Within the next 6 months, there is to be a committee formed to start writing those rules and regulations. She provided an update on the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC), from their last meeting on August 4, 2026. The EAC had reached out to local institutions to seek interest in assisting with environmental studies. Currently, Dickinson Township is performing an air quality study currently being performed within the Township. Vice Chairperson DeGaetano stated she received concerns about Burnt House Road and W. Old York Road intersection. There have been multiple accidents at that intersection, and she asked how long ago a study was done on this intersection. Glenn Kelso reported this study was done in 2022. Vice Chairperson DeGaetano asked Charley Westcott if he would gather data to see how often there were accidents at this intersection and what the situation surrounding those were such as running stop signs on Burnt House Road or speeding on W. Old York Road. Charley Westcott said he will report back with information. Vice Chairperson DeGaetano stated she and Manager Lovett discussed some other ideas to add more alerts to the intersection to avoid more accidents.

Public Hearings – None

Plan Review/Conditional Use Hearings

- a. *Consideration of Applicant's Request for Extension of the MPC Decision Deadline – Clinton Weaver Ag Operation*

Ryan Hoover reviewed the plan for Clinton Weaver Ag Operation located on W. Old York Road for the development of 2 chicken barns. He stated due to the amount of comments that was provided by the Township engineer and the size of the project, staff is recommending the approval of the request of the extension of the decision deadline.

Vice Chairperson DeGaetano made a motion to approve the request for the Extension of the MPC Decision Deadline for Clinton Weaver Ag Operation. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Line and passed unanimously.

Boards, Committee, and Authority Reports

- a. **Planning Commission** – Supervisor Line reported the Planning Commission has completed the draft of the data center ordinance and it is before the Board tonight.
- b. **Parks & Recreation** – Manager Lovett stated there was not a July meeting, however the committee has been planning a Children's Fishing Derby at Stuart Park for September 19, 2026. The committee also discussed doing a Christmas Tree Lighting event for the holiday season.
- c. **Zoning Hearing Board** – Ryan Hoover reported there was a hearing at July's meeting to request a variance for a short-term rental located on Peach Glen Road with an individual that currently has 2 short-term rentals within the Township. The variance relief being requested, which was granted by the Board, related to the property owner not living at the property.
- d. **Municipal Authority** – Nothing to report.
- e. **Environmental Advisory Council** – Nothing to report.

Staff Reports

Manager's Report – Manager Lovett reported the equipment evaluation report was included with her report and the Board has an action item to render a decision on for a new single axle dump truck. Within the equipment evaluation report it is recommended the need for replacement due to rust. She stated she has met with DCNR and reviewed grant strategies for future planning. Chairman Kole asked if the recommendations with the equipment evaluation report for rust prevention would be considered as well. Manager Lovett confirmed that it would be.

Treasurer's Report – Nothing to report. Chairman Kole referenced the continued increase in interest.

Emergency Services Report – Charley Westcott presented to the Board the June 2026 incident report. Call totals for June were as follows: Citizens Fire Company – 26 calls, Union Fire Company – 6 calls, and Penn Fire Company – 5 fire calls & there is no EMS report at this time.

Charley Westcott reported on the incident on July 4, 2026, at Mountain Creek Campgrounds. The severe storm caused extreme damage to the campground which caused two fatalities and injuries. The tree damage throughout the County made it difficult to access the campground. Charley Westcott expressed appreciation to the Township's Public Works staff and other municipalities' assistance to get the emergency vehicles through roadways covered in downed trees. He explained how each emergency service company provided service during the storm damage calls. The 911 communication center had 1700+ calls from the storm on that day.

Vice Chairperson DeGaetano asked if the campground is open yet. Charley Westcott answered the campground is open and has been cleaned up and repaired with community help.

Chairman Kole requested everyone to take a moment of silence for the victims passing during this incident in the Township that night.

Public Works Report – Manager Lovett commented on Glenn Kelso’s resignation in the consent agenda. She shared her gratitude and appreciation towards Glenn Kelso and all he has done for the Township.

Zoning Officer’s Report – Nothing to report.

Engineer’s Report – Nothing to report.

Solicitor’s Report – Solicitor Boyer provided an update about the 161 N. Dickinson School Road property. Notice of intent was provided to show the Township’s interest in the property, along with title search and commitment was obtained. His office is preparing the deed and there is a statutory requirement for a reverter clause that if it ceases to be used for municipal purposes, it reverts to the Carlisle Area School District. He will provide information for Board of Supervisor’s authorization at next meeting. Closing could be scheduled as early as September. Chairman Kole asked Manager Lovett when the awarded grant for acquisition is available for use. Manager Lovett stated it is contracted with Cumberland County and available at any time for reimbursement.

New Business/Request for Board Action

- a. *Seeking authorization to request co-star proposals for the purchase of a new single-axle dump truck to replace the 2003 Freightliner single axle dump truck.*

Chairman Kole asked if the item was within the budget for 2026. Manager Lovett confirmed so.

Vice Chairperson DeGaetano made a motion to authorize the township to request co-star proposals for the purchase of a new single-axle dump truck to replace the 2003 Freightliner single axle dump truck. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Line and passed unanimously.

- b. *Seeking approval to submit Request for Proposal for Auditor Services for 2026 – 2029 with 2-year optional extensions.*

Manager Lovett explained that the contract with Hamilton & Musser ended with the 2025 Financial Audit. She recommended instead of a 5-year contract going with a 3-year contract, with 2-year optional extensions.

Vice Chairperson DeGaetano made a motion to approve staff to submit Request for Proposal for Auditor Services for 2026 – 2029 with 2-year optional extensions. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Line and passed unanimously.

- c. *Discussion and seeking approval to advertise Ordinance 2026-03, amending the Dickinson Township Zoning Ordinance to define and add specific requirements for Data Center and Battery Energy Storage Systems.*

Beth Kikla, of the Planning Commission, presented the draft of the data center ordinance. She referred to Section 2, paragraphs 2 through 4 to explain the intent and purpose of the ordinance. Beth Kikla recommended constituents read those prior to the public meeting to help get a good understanding prior to reviewing the more technical information. She highlighted several parts of the ordinance amendment

are water, power, emergency services, emergency management response, building design and setbacks, decommissioning, environmental impact, mitigation to name a few which provide the Township the ability to regulate. The Township listed in the ordinance to provide information, specifically explaining the section of Battery Energy Storage Systems which could be an integral part of day-to-day operations in commercial, agriculture, and mining enterprises. Beth Kikla explained that the ordinance provides a use of a data center within the Township in the Business Industrial Zone and is in line with the Comprehensive Plan of the Township while preserving the rural characteristics of the Township. She referenced helpful assistance and input from Emergency Services, the solicitor, and the Municipal Authority. She also expressed appreciation towards the staff for their assistance and responsiveness.

Vice Chairperson DeGaetano expressed gratitude towards Beth Kikla and the Planning Commission for their comprehensive and proactive work on this endeavor, noting that their efforts will help keep the Township prepared to address future inquiries. Supervisor Line also commended the Planning Commission, emphasizing the intensity of the proposed use and the importance of protecting Township residents in relation to that use. Chairman Kole commended the Planning Commission on the excellent work and thoughtfulness of placement and protecting the agricultural areas of the Township.

Vice Chairperson DeGaetano made a motion to approve the advertisement of Ordinance 2026-03, amending the Dickinson Township Zoning Ordinance to define and add specific requirements for Data Center and Battery Energy Storage Systems. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Line and passed unanimously.

- d. *Discussion and approval to schedule a special meeting of the Board of Supervisors September meeting.*

Manager Lovett explained that with the approval of advertising Ordinance 2026-03, the next regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors in September did not provide an allotted 30-day review period for Cumberland County for review of the Ordinance. She discussed options and recommended scheduling a special Board of Supervisor meeting for the public hearing, unless the Board preferred to wait for the October meeting. There was a preference to get the special meeting scheduled rather than wait for the October meeting for the public hearing of the Ordinance. Solicitor Boyer discussed the timing needed after Cumberland County's review for any changes to be incorporated.

Vice Chairperson DeGaetano made a motion to approve a special meeting of the Board of Supervisors for the public hearing on Ordinance 2026-03 on September 8, 2026 at 6 p.m. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Line and passed unanimously.

Manager Lovett clarified there will still be a regular meeting on September 2, 2026, and the special meeting on September 8, 2026 will be for the public hearing on the ordinance.

Old Business - None

Closing Announcements

Glenn Kelso announced with his departure, he has appreciated his time with the Township.

Public Comments - Non-Agenda Items Only

Jeff Swope – Bosler Memorial Library – Mr. Swope presented updates from the library. There has been increases in the number of participants through their summer reading program across all age ranges. He also provided information on the Library of Things, especially the museum passes. Mr. Swope explained the additions to their library that was a result of grant funding.

David Miller – 1 Walton Drive – Mr. Miller shared his past expressed concerns with the plan for Lindenwood Park to be built. His concerns consisted of the same as in the past meetings, lighting, courts position, multi-use fields, and increased setbacks to reduce ball intrusion. He expressed his concern about how the current plan would negatively impact the neighboring community. Mr. Miller asked to receive answers to the questions and concerns that have been shared and expressed to the Township.

Chairman Kole acknowledged the communication with Mr. Miller and presented his comments below:

“Thank you, Mr. Miller, for your comments and for your continued engagement in this process. I also want to thank the residents of Lindenwood Estates and everyone else who has taken the time to provide input.

This is an important project for Dickinson Township. The Board recognizes that the residents who live closest to the park will naturally have concerns about how it may affect their neighborhood. Those concerns are legitimate, and we have heard them.

Lindenwood Park belongs to every resident of Dickinson Township. As Supervisors, our responsibility is to ensure it serves the entire community while being as respectful as possible to those who live nearby.

The Board's responsibility is not to approve or deny individual requests in isolation, but to make decisions that are in the best interest of Dickinson Township as a whole after considering all public input, engineering recommendations, safety, cost, and the long-term needs of our community.

The plan before us is still a concept. As we move through the engineering and design process, we will continue evaluating opportunities to reduce impacts on neighboring properties where practical and where doing so does not compromise the purpose, function, or long-term vision of the park.

With respect to the specific requests that have been raised tonight, we are not in a position to make commitments on each individual design element at this stage. Those decisions will continue to be evaluated as the project progresses with input from our engineers, consultants, funding partners, and the public.

I want to assure everyone that your comments have been received, they are part of the public record, and they will be considered as we continue refining the project.

Our goal is to build a park that Dickinson Township can be proud of while also being a good neighbor to the surrounding community. We will continue working toward that goal as the project moves through the design process.”

Executive Session

Solicitor Boyer requested an Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. to discuss personnel matters. The Executive Session ended at 7:18 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Vice Chairperson DeGaetano and seconded by Supervisor Lined and passed unanimously to adjourn at 7:19 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace Hogue

Grace Hogue
Secretary/Treasurer

