



**RANSOM TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
LACKAWANNA COUNTY**

July 7, 2025  
Supervisors' Monthly Meeting

Chairman Bird called the Meeting to Order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Chairman Bird and Supervisor Scott - present – Quorum declared

In attendance: Robert Lukasiewicz, Jerry Blackwell, Vito Castelgrande, Jonas L Crass II, Paul Macknosky, James Kashuba, Jodi Kashuba, Barbara Wetzel, Veronica Kobal, Joseph Kobal, Susan Bernoski, Charles Samsock, Artie and Angelika Mercado, Howard Felker, Donna Urbaniak, Bev Pellegrino, Lynne Huggler and Sergeant Snyder.

Minutes from the June 2, 2025, meeting were read by Secretary – Supervisor Scott made a motion to accept the minutes as read – 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chairman Bird – all in favor – motion carried

**POLICE REPORT:** Sergeant Snyder reported police activity including traffic stops, property checks, and other investigations. The missing quad is currently under investigation. The police have made the decision not to chase down ATVs as those drivers who try to elude police often suffer severe consequences. If you observe an issue with a quad, take careful note of the quad and driver description so that you can provide the police with accurate information.

**FIRE REPORT:** Responded to 6 EMS calls.

**TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS:** Chairman Bird shared that Paul Macknosky who is with the PA DCED was present to share information regarding government responses to flood impacted areas.

**SOLICITOR:** Solicitor Conaboy affirmed that Pivot Energy has filed an appeal contesting the Supervisor's decision. This decision will go before a judge to determine if the supervisor's had received enough compelling evidence to deny the solar application. Solicitor Conaboy will gather the record and provide the court with the denial documentation. Those residents wishing to be involved can file as an intervener in the case. This action allows for the submission of documents in support of or against the solar farm.

**SUPERVISORS:** No report.

**ZONING:** No report.

**STAFF REPORT:** Chairman Bird reported on the following:

1. Treasury Report:
  - General Fund: \$1,951,112.73
  - Liquid Fuels: \$1,571,249.42
  - Revenues: \$15,175.98
  - Expenditure: \$77,604.75
2. Recycling for June was 4.74 tons. This month's recycling date will be July 25.

Next Planning Commission Meeting will be Monday July 21,2025 @ 6:30 pm at the Township Building. Next Supervisor's Meeting will be Monday, August 4,2025 @ 6:00 pm at 2435 Hickory Lane.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Macknosky of DCED took center stage and shared his platform with those in attendance. Since water is unstoppable, his purpose was to inform us of governmental assessment of and potential responses for residents, homes and property located in areas prone to flooding. He broke it down into two response categories: Emergency and Mitigation. Emergency involves real and immediate threats to loss of life and property and may have a threshold of loss incurred to reach to receive financial aid. Mitigation involves study and analysis which results in planning and preparation for future flooding events. He highly recommended that Ransom Township work with Lackawanna County as they contemplate a countywide assessment, addressing micro issues to form a macro response to the waterways connecting and affecting multiple municipalities. This big picture look would have specific targeted areas. Streams are systems whereby fixing one area can cause problems for someone else. He fielded questions and offered to assist the township going forward.

In other business, Barbara Wetzel asked about the homes around the post office and the surrounding area stating it appears it could be a fire hazard in which someone could be killed. Chairman Bird will let Donny know so he can inspect it. Vito Castelgrande who lives by Lindy Creek on the other side of the mountain also has had issues with excess water seeing the damage that can be incurred from flooding. Donna Urbaniak would like residents to remove litter that may have accumulated along the roadway. She would also like to see if residents are interested in clearing some growth from the Main Street cemetery

Having no further business, Dave motioned to adjourn the meeting and Jerry second it. Meeting adjourned at 7:16pm.

Respectfully submitted:



Julie Kelly  
Secretary