

Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
Monday, April 6, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

A regular monthly meeting of the Cherrytree Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, April 6, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., at the township building. In attendance were Jim Waugh, Rob Kellogg, and Shari Nelson, Supervisors, and Christine Kurelowech, Secretary-Treasurer.

**Call to Order**

Jim Waugh called the meeting to order.

**Pledge**

**Moment of Prayer**

Jim Waugh led those in attendance in a moment of prayer.

**Public Comment**

Katherine Donaldson expressed concern regarding ATVs, side-by-sides, and snowmobiles on township roads. She said that ATVs and side-by-sides frequently fishtail around the two sharp curves near her home on Breedtown Road and that people rode snowmobiles in her fields (private property) last winter. Additionally, her vehicle was nearly pushed off of the road near her home by a side-by-side and she recently saw a young person, approximately 14-years old, doing wheelies on Cherrytree Road. The Oil Region ATV Association has been trying to persuade the Supervisors to pass an ordinance legalizing ATV, side-by-side, and snowmobile use on township roads and Katherine Donaldson noted that she feels there is no way to enforce such an ordinance.

Chrissie Kurelowech read a statement aloud, submitted by Scott Anderson, regarding ATV, side-by-side, and snowmobile use on township roads:

*Dear Township Supervisors and Planning Commission,*

*I have lived in Cherrytree Township for 64 years. While I have never owned an ATV or unlicensed motorcycle, many of my friends and neighbors have used them over the years. In my experience, these vehicles are frequently driven at high speeds, are obnoxiously loud, and create significant dust, especially during dry periods. We have had several near-misses on our roads when ATVs and dirt bikes have come dangerously close to our vehicles. Despite this, we have always taken a "live and let live" approach. We have never called the police or filed complaints, viewing these negative experiences as one of the trade-offs of rural life. However, we strongly oppose allowing an organized ATV group to use our roads and trails. Doing so would import additional noise, dust, and safety risks into our township. We have young grandchildren and dogs who regularly use our roads and property, and we do not want to increase the chance that they could be struck by these vehicles. We would be opposed to this proposal even if it offered some clear benefit to Cherrytree Township. The fact that it offers none makes the idea particularly unwise.*

*Sincerely,*

*Scott J. Anderson*

## **Minutes/Treasurer's Report**

The minutes, from the regular monthly meeting held on Monday, March 2, 2026, were read, accepted, and approved, on a motion made by Shari Nelson, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously.

The treasurer's report, for March of 2026, was read, accepted, and approved, on a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Shari Nelson, and carried unanimously.

## **Correspondence**

PSATS – Proposed Resolutions and Nominations Report

*The Pennsylvania Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) has provided proposed resolutions and nominations that will be considered at the PSATS Annual Conference, which is scheduled to take place from April 19, 2026 to April 22, 2026. Shari Nelson plans to attend the conference.*

PennDOT Newsletter

PSATS Newsletter

## **Zoning**

### **Permits**

Z-2026-01    Aaron Carver    1184 South Perry Street    security building and privacy fence

### **Zoning Report**

There was no "Zoning Report".

## **Administrative Action**

### **Financial Update**

Chrissie Kurelowech briefly went through the current financial situation. She said that, based on current account balances and last year's expenses, she estimates that there is \$387,170.00 available for road maintenance (materials and projects) during 2026. However, after subtracting estimated costs for the gravel (no tailgating of 2RC), the grader payment, salt, and salt brine, she estimates that \$165,971.00 will be left to pave Cherrytree Road (1.29-mile from Buxton Road to Fairview Road) and to put a seal coat on the new pavement. Since the township has been awarded \$30,000.00 in 2025-2026 County Liquid Fuels Aid to be put towards paving Cherrytree Road, there is actually an estimated \$195,971.00 available for paving and seal coating. However, based on recent bid results for paving that she has seen, the price for the Cherrytree Road paving project could come in significantly higher than the price that was estimated several months ago. If that is the case, the Supervisors might want to consider delaying the paving and seal coating until next year.

### **2026 Stone RFO – Review Quotes and Vote**

Quotes for stone from Allegheny Mineral Corporation, Cooperstown Sand & Gravel, Hasbrouck Sand & Gravel Inc., IA Construction Corporation, and Hillside Stone, LLC were reviewed by the Supervisors. The lowest bidders and prices for each item appear in the table below. On a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to reject Item #1 (2RC Gravel- Tailgate Delivery, 5,000 tons), to award Item #2 (2RC Gravel – Stockpile, 2,000 tons), Item #3 (AASHTO#57 Type C – Stockpile, 600 tons), and Item #4 (AGGREGATE,#8,AASHTO,TYPE C – Stockpile, 1,800 tons) to the lowest bidder, Hasbrouck Sand & Gravel Inc., and to award Item #5 (2A Limestone – Stockpile, 150 tons) to the lowest bidder, Allegheny Mineral Corporation. The

total for the items that were awarded is \$71,033.50. The full RFQ (Request For Quote) results are attached.

<i>Item #</i>	<i>Item Description</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cost Per Ton</i>	<i>Total Cost</i>	<i>Vendor</i>	
1	2RC Gravel – Tailgate Delivery	5,000	\$14.49	\$72,450.00	Hasbrouck Sand & Gravel Inc.	<b>Rejected</b>
2	2RC Gravel – Stockpile	2,000	\$14.00	\$28,000.00	Hasbrouck Sand & Gravel Inc.	<b>Awarded</b>
3	AASHTO#57 Type C – Stockpile	600	\$15.89	\$9,534.00	Hasbrouck Sand & Gravel Inc.	<b>Awarded</b>
4	AGGREGATE,#8,AASHTO, TYPE C – Stockpile	1,800	\$16.09	\$28,962.00	Hasbrouck Sand & Gravel Inc.	<b>Awarded</b>
5	2A Limestone – Stockpile	150	\$30.25	\$4,537.50	Allegheny Mineral Corporation	<b>Awarded</b>

**Salt Brine – 150,000 Gallons – Vote to Seek Bids**

On a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Shari Nelson, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to put 150,000 gallons of salt brine out for bid and plan to use it as dust suppressant. The salt brine must not be regulated by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) and must contain at least 25% chlorides. Bids will be opened and reviewed at the next regular monthly meeting (Monday, May 4, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.).

**Paving – Cherrytree Road**

On a motion made by Shari Nelson, seconded by Rob Kellogg, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to seek bids to pave an approximate 1.29-mile stretch of Cherrytree Road, from Buxton Road to Fairview Road. Bids will be opened and reviewed at the next regular monthly meeting (Monday, May 4, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.). The township has been awarded \$30,000.00 in 2025-2026 County Liquid Fuels Aid to put towards the project.

**Seal Coating – Cherrytree Road**

On a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Shari Nelson, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to seek bids to put a seal coat on an approximate 1.29-mile stretch of Cherrytree Road, from Buxton Road to Fairview Road. Bids will be opened and reviewed at the next regular monthly meeting (Monday, May 4, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.). The seal coat would be put on later in the summer, after the new pavement is down.

**Water Damage – Repair Quotes**

One quote was received for repairs that must be made to the township building to recover from the damage caused by a burst water pipe in January. The insurance adjuster provided a list of repairs by room/area and a cost estimate for each repair. The repairs include: replacing the drywall and insulation that was removed, replacing the insulation in the ceiling that was damaged by the water, replacing all of the ceiling tiles in both hallways, replacing the baseboards in both

hallways and in the hallway closet, priming and painting both hallways and the hallway closet, cleaning the carpet in both hallways and in the meeting room, and cleaning, stripping, and waxing the floors in both the women's restroom and the men's restroom. The estimate provided by the insurance adjuster is \$3,742.61. A quote was received from Tim Snyder for \$3,291.04, which includes items covered by the insurance (with the exception of cleaning the carpet in both hallways and in the meeting room, cleaning, stripping, and waxing the floors in both the women's restroom and the men's restroom, deodorization, and removal of furniture), and a quote was received from Tim Snyder for \$1,800.00, which includes an item not covered by the insurance, replacing the wood in the area where drywall was removed in the hallway. Near the bottoms of the boards, there is evidence of water damage that came from seepage (most likely water running off of the roof). The siding on the outside of the building will need removed, the sheathing will need removed, replaced, and sealed, and the siding will need installed. Chrissie Kurelowech said that she was told by the insurance adjuster that the damage from seepage will need replaced because it is in a public building. However, the adjuster said that the seepage could not have occurred as a result of the burst water pipe and, consequently, the insurance company will not pay to repair it. Austin Armstrong, VFD Fire Chief, said that the VFD might be able to replace the damaged wood for less money than it would cost to hire a contractor, but that the VFD would need to discuss it at its next meeting (Monday, April 13, 2026). On a motion made by Jim Waugh, seconded by Shari Nelson, and carried unanimously, the Supervisors voted to accept Tim Snyder's quote of \$3,291.04 to make the repairs covered by the insurance company (with the exception of cleaning the carpet in both hallways and in the meeting room, cleaning, stripping, and waxing the floors in both the women's restroom and the men's restroom, deodorization, and removal of furniture). At its next meeting (Monday, April 13, 2026), the VFD will discuss replacing the damaged wood in the hallway. At the next regular monthly meeting, the Supervisors will decide whether to have the VFD replace the damaged wood (if the VFD has an interest in doing it) in the hallway or to hire Tim Snyder to do it at a cost of \$1,800.00.

## **Committee Reports**

### **VFD**

Austin Armstrong, VFD Fire Chief, reported that there were 18 calls since the last meeting. Of the 18 calls, 5 were EMS, 2 were dispatched and canceled, 1 was an MVA, and 10 were public service.

### **EMA Office**

There was no report.

### **Road**

Lew Staub, Roadmaster, reported that the road crew plowed and put antiskid down twice, put antiskid down 3 times (no plowing), spent 1 day patching holes, spent 11 days repairing storm damage, spent 3 days blowing leaves, and spent 2 days opening pipes. They also had loggers put gravel in bad spots on Pioneer Road.

As for equipment, spreader bearings were changed on the 2002 International, the 2009 International, and the 2014 Dodge (1 per truck). Work was performed on the leaf blower bearings (2). The oil and filters were changed on the 2017 Massey Ferguson tractor. Five Star Equipment worked on the grader brakes for 2 days. All of the trucks were pressure washed. The plows (faces) were oiled.

## Old Business

### Local Share Account (LSA) Grant Update

The township has been awarded a Local Share Account (LSA) grant, through the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), for approximately \$179,543.00, to be used to purchase new radio equipment for the VFD. Chrissie Kurelowech reported that she has been working with DCED to determine the steps that the township will need to follow in order to purchase the radios. She said that Jim Waugh and Shari Nelson electronically signed a contract with DCED, but once she was able to get a copy of the contract, she realized that there could be a problem with Jim Waugh signing documents related to the grant because he is Vice-President of the VFD. She contacted DCED and was advised to have Shari Nelson and Rob Kellogg sign a new contract. Once Shari and Rob signed a new contract, Chrissie Kurelowech read it and made a list of several questions for DCED. Her contact at DCED was able to answer most of the questions and the project is much less complicated than Chrissie Kurelowech originally thought it would be (after reading the contract). The quote that was submitted with the LSA grant application was from Mobilcom, which is a COSTARS (Pennsylvania's cooperative purchasing program) vendor. This means that no bidding will be necessary. Mobilcom has written a new quote that has the COSTARS contract number on it and COSTARS pricing. The quote is also in the name of the township, not the VFD, as this is a requirement of the LSA grant. Additionally, the new quote has a higher price for installation because this is a prevailing wage project. Since the COSTARS pricing is lower (with the exception of labor) than the pricing on the quote that was submitted with the LSA application, the new quote is \$17,480.46 less than the original quote. Mobilcom suggested adding warranties to make up the difference and Tom Huffman suggested adding spare batteries for the radios. However, according to the LSA contact, LSA will not pay for warranties, quantities of items cannot be increased from the original quote, and new items cannot be added to the original quote. Chrissie Kurelowech has given the new quote to Austin Armstrong (VFD Fire Chief) and Tim McGrath (VFD President) to take to the next VFD meeting for review. The original quote included "first year warranty support" for \$1,200.00 and since LSA will not cover warranties, the VFD will need to pay the township \$1,200.00 if it wants to purchase the "first year warranty support". The VFD will need to add the equipment to its insurance policy before delivery and installation. If, after the VFD reviews the quote, no changes are needed, Chrissie Kurelowech will have Shari Nelson and Rob Kellogg sign the quote and will send it back to Mobilcom, which will send an invoice to the township. Chrissie Kurelowech will then use the invoice to request 50% from LSA because Mobilcom requires 50% down before the equipment can be ordered. Once Mobilcom receives 50% of the invoice amount, the equipment will be ordered and it usually takes about 90 days for the equipment to arrive and be fully installed. Chrissie Kurelowech will request the final 50% from LSA once all of the equipment is installed. The equipment upgrade is necessary to make the VFD's radio system P25 compliant since Venango County is upgrading its system. Included in the upgrade are 8 radios for the trucks, 2 radios for the station, 20 handheld radios, 20 pagers, 20 chargers, a 6-unit charger for the VFD's engine, antennas, cables, and an apparatus for the station.

## **New Business**

### **2025 Municipal Audit**

The Board of Auditors (Stacey Armstrong, Roger Patterson, Nick Matkozych) has finished the 2025 Municipal Audit and filed the 2025 Municipal Annual Audit and Financial Report with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (PA DCED). The report has also been filed with Venango County. There were no findings. Chrissie Kurelowech presented the Supervisors with a copy of the report.

### **Sewage Inspections**

Chrissie Kurelowech told the Supervisors that she was recently contacted by Todd Fantaskey, Sewage Enforcement Officer, because there are two properties in the township that have unpaid balances from sewage inspections. If the property owners do not pay for the inspections, Todd Fantaskey will not be able to continue to perform required inspections and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) could revoke the permits for the systems. Chrissie Kurelowech said that she has contacted the property owners, via registered mail, in an effort to get them to pay their balances.

### **Ken Bryan – Data Centers and Oil Region ATV Association**

Ken Bryan, Venango County Commissioner, was in attendance to share information on two topics, data centers and the Oil Region ATV Association.

Ken Bryan told those in attendance to contact the county before doing anything if they are approached by companies looking for property to be used for data center development. He said that the county has many resources, including attorneys. The newest county commissioner, Tim Heffernan, has a strong artificial intelligence (AI) background. Additionally, the county has been working with Dan Brockett, of Penn State Extension, to gain knowledge on data center development. Ken Bryan issued a warning that property owners need to make sure that they are dealing with the right people when approached by companies interested in data center development. He said that people should not “pigeon hole” data centers because there are both positives and negatives associated with data center development. Data centers are used to house information, some are 3 – 5 football fields in size, some use a lot of water for cooling, some use a lot of electricity, and some do not use electricity because they use gas instead and convert gas to electricity. Ken Bryan said that he feels data centers are coming to the county and, most likely, there will be more development closer to I-80. Any information that the county receives will be shared with the municipalities.

Ken Bryan told those in attendance that, when he became a county commissioner, he took over the push to legalize ATV, side-by-side, and snowmobile use on all roads within the county. The process is evolving and, two years later, he is still working on it. He presented letters of support, from both PennDOT and Senator Scott Hutchinson, to the Supervisors. He said that, if the township were to pass an ordinance legalizing off-road vehicles (ATVs, side-by-sides, and snowmobiles) on township roads, anyone wishing to ride an off-road vehicle on a public road within the township would need to obtain a permit through the Oil Region ATV Association. The cost of the permit would be \$50.00 per year. Of the \$50.00, \$22.00 would go to the Oil Region ATV Association for signs, support, etc., \$20.00 would be split between the participating townships (based on Liquid Fuels mileage and could be spent on anything), and \$8.00 would go to the

county. He said that any rider must be at least 16 years old and must follow the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) guidelines. The county makes sure that permit holders have insurance. He told those in attendance that Elk County, Somerset County, and West Virginia have similar programs and people are following the rules. He also told those in attendance that legalizing off-road vehicles on township roads would not increase the township's liability. He encouraged people to do research and see that "the data supports that this makes sense". He said that small businesses in the township would benefit if the Supervisors passed an ordinance legalizing off-road vehicles on township roads and that it would also help first responders with fundraising. Katherine Donaldson questioned enforcement, noting that, currently, it is difficult to get the state police to address complaints regarding off-road vehicles. Ken Bryan said that the Venango County Sheriff's Office, the state police, park rangers, and the Pennsylvania Game Commission could enforce the regulations, but admitted that there will always be people who break the rules. He said each off-road vehicle that is permitted will have a sticker and, someone wanting to file a complaint can get the permit information from the sticker and report it to the county or the Oil Region ATV Association. Either the county or the Oil Region ATV Association will be able to contact the permit holder in an effort to resolve the issue. Additionally, sometimes a description of the vehicle can help the county and the Oil Region ATV Association find a permit holder who is breaking the rules. Also, he said that the members of the Oil Region ATV Association will police it themselves. He noted that the Oil Region ATV Association has over 500 members and that the average member age is 52 years old. Ed Zdanko asked if the permit fee is annual and Ken Bryan said that it is annual and that a permit holder gets a lot for the money. He noted that Seneca and Oil City are considering legalizing off-road vehicles on their roads/streets, but that it is going to be difficult to get Franklin to do it. Sarah Goodman said that many of the off-road vehicles are very expensive and people who can spend a lot of money on off-road vehicles will follow rules because they will not want to damage their vehicles. Jim Waugh asked Cherrytree Township residents in attendance to raise their hands and then asked Cherrytree Township residents in favor of legalizing off-road vehicles on township roads to put their hands down, demonstrating that there were far more Cherrytree Township residents in the room who were opposed to legalizing off-road vehicles on township roads than those who were in favor. Mark McDowell noted that, even without Cherrytree Township legalizing off-road vehicles on township roads (current situation), the state police, park rangers, and the Pennsylvania Game Commission can enforce the laws regarding ATVs, side-by-sides, and snowmobiles on township roads. Sue McDowell asked if the Oil Region ATV Association is a non-profit organization and someone in the room responded by saying that it is a non-profit organization. Tracy Zdanko was concerned about enforcement, noting that she lives on a dead-end road far from the Pennsylvania Game Commission, and that there is really no way to stop people who are violating the rules.

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

The bills were reviewed by the Board of Supervisors.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine C. Kurelowech, Secretary-Treasurer