March 17, 2026

The Franklin Township Supervisors met on the above date at the Franklin Township Administration Building located at 889 Fairyland Road. Township Officials present were Supervisors Nic Storm, Leroy Kemmerer, Fred Kemmerer via phone, and Secretary-Treasurer Cady Guy. Chairman Nic Storm called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m., and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Nic Storm made a motion to approve the February 17, 2026 minutes. Leroy Kemmerer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Secretary Report

Cady Guy stated the following. The Township of Franklin will hold its Organization Meetings at the Administration Building located at 900 Fairyland Road, Lehighton, Pennsylvania. The office has remained in contact with Gworks Engineering regarding sewage and garbage billing, and Gworks recently requested the purchase of Microsoft 365 at a cost of $29 per month to assist in finalizing billing processes. Staff members are also continuing training with an instructor from Numbers Made Easy for QuickBooks to improve financial management and reporting. Additionally, Earl, a financial consultant from the Department of Transportation, visited the office to review Liquid Fuels documentation and provided contact information for any future questions. Dan from DHTCS has installed a new phone system to enhance communication between township departments, which also allows for recording important information when necessary. Please note that the Township office will be closed on April 20th and April 21st during normal business hours so both Secretaries can attend the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors conference. After reviewing the agenda, it is expected that the conference will provide valuable information to help the township operate more effectively. The office will reopen on Wednesday, April 22nd during normal business hours.

The Building Committee's next meeting will be on April 7th 2026 at 7:00pm.

The Board of Supervisor's next meeting will be on April 21st at 6:30pm

The Planning Commission's next meeting will be on April 9th at 6:30pm.

Secretary Report – Leroy Kemmerer made a motion to approve the secretary report. Nic Storm seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Nic Storm amended to include planning commission minutes to agenda. Leroy Kemmerer second the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning Commission – Nic Storm stated there was no minutes from the March meeting due to there being a quorum. Nic Storm made a motion, Leroy Kemmerer second the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Report - Nic Storm made a motion to approve the Zoning Officer Report. Leroy

Kemmerer seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

UCC Building Code Official Report – Nic Storm made a motion to approve the Zoning Officer Report. Leroy Kemmerer seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fire Chief/Fire Police Report – Nic Storm made a motion to approve the Fire Chief and Fire Police Report. Leroy Kemmerer seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Police – Nic Storm made a motion to approve the Police Report. Leroy Kemmerer seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Road Crew – Leroy Kemmerer made a motion to approve the Road Crew Report. Nic Storm seconded this motion. Nic Storm asked Roadmaster Troy Williams if he had anything to add to his report. Troy Williams stated that he attended an 811 Class Excavator Program on March 12, 2026, at 8:00 AM, which covered fundamental procedures and how to respond in various situations. He also reported that during the storm on the night of March 16, 2026, a large tree fell in Phifer's and that cleanup is currently about halfway complete. Motion carried unanimously.

Central Carbon Municipal Authority - Fred Kemmerer talked about the generator was not working currently and they had to manually turn on and off. The CCMA were able to use a refurbished switch to help control automatically. Leroy Kemmerer made a motion to approve the C.C.M.A. Report. Nic Storm seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

SEO Report – Nic Storm made a motion to approve the SEO Report. Fred Kemmerer Jr. seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Communications – None

Citizen Participation – Resident asked about the audit from last meeting. Cady Guy stated that everything was submitted and waiting for approval. Resident than asked when will it be posted. Fred Kemmerer Jr stated that posts are behind because of a certification process. Resident then questioned about the zoning officer and UCC Building Code official report. Nic Storm stated it is the same person. Resident asked about the sawmill inspection for Crazy Trout. Nic Storm stated that there is nothing currently new, there was a meeting however, with the owner about the next steps for building cabins and what inspections and permits are needed.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business -

Nic Storm made a motion to approve the request from Pohopoco Rod and Gun Club in requesting the use of ponds one and two for our May 9 event. Note that proper signage will be timely placed at both ponds reminding participants that both ponds are under the 15 years and under restriction and the 30 day exclusion of adult fishing. We have had too many participants to safely have 70 or 80 youths fishing in only one pond. Leroy Kemmerer seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Nic Storm made a motion to approve for workers compensation for Frank Buonaiuto from 02/28/2026-03/13/2026. Fred Kemmerer briefly went over the altercation and as to why Frank was off of work. Fred Kemmerer seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Nic Storm summarized how Anthony Frantz was elected as Auditor, noting that Anthony was unaware he had won the vote and had not been sworn into the position. As a result, he was not permitted to vote at Planning Commission meetings. Wishing to remain active on the Planning Commission with full voting privileges, Anthony chose to step down from the Auditor position and subsequently submitted his resignation. Nic Storm made a motion to approve Anthony Frantz's resignation from auditor. Leroy Kemmerer seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Nic Storm approved the 2026 Electronics Recycling Event April 4th from 9am-11am. Fred Kemmerer seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Nic Storm explained that because the Planning Commission meeting had a quorum, the Board of Supervisors must hold a special meeting to either approve or deny the matter. He stated that the meeting will be scheduled in a timely manner to allow the engineer, solicitor, and members of the public to attend. The Supervisors will also need to arrange a phone conference with Engineer Greg Haas to determine which date works best for all parties involved. Nic Storm made a motion to approve the scheduling of a special meeting regarding the Phifer Rentals matter; however, a specific date and time have not yet been set. Leroy Kemmerer seconded this motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Nic Storm made a motion to amend the agenda to include Tyler Poole and to extend his probationary period. Tyler Poole asked on what grounds the extension was being requested, noting that the Union contract states probation is six months long and does not require him to obtain his CDL by age 21. A resident inquired when he would turn 21, and Tyler Poole stated December of this year. The resident then asked whether he needed his CDL for the work he is currently performing. The Supervisors responded that he did not; however, during the interview process, Jason Frey had noted that Tyler would not be able to obtain a CDL until age 21 in Pennsylvania. After further research, it was clarified that the minimum age to obtain a CDL is actually 18.

Fred Kemmerer commented that Tyler Poole is a valuable asset to Franklin Township and expressed a desire to retain him as an employee. The resident pointed out that under the Union contract, Supervisors cannot extend probation without Union approval. Tyler Poole noted that he has a scheduled appointment on March 18, 2026, at 3:30 PM to begin the CDL process. Troy Williams, Road Master, mentioned that another union employee had attempted to contact the union representative 10–15 times without success. Leroy Kemmerer suggested allowing Tyler Poole to continue working. Nic Storm stated that he needed to ensure proper procedures were followed regarding Union rules.

Nic Storm then motioned to move into an executive session to discuss the matter further, Fred Kemmerer seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Nic Storm made a motion to amend the agenda to include removing Tyler Poole from probation, which Leroy Kemmerer seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Nic Storm then made a motion to officially approve taking Tyler Poole off probation, with Fred Kemmerer seconding. Fred Kemmerer added that for future employees, the requirement to have a CDL may need to be established during the interview process and tied to a specific period of employment. The motion carried unanimously.

Nic Storm made a motion to amend the agenda to include authorizing Tom Nanovic to create and finalize contract for Transfer station bids and send out the contract. Fred Kemmerer motioned. Leroy Kemmerer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Nic Storm motioned to approve Tom Nanovic to create and finalize contracts for Transfer Station bids and to send out the contracts. Fred Kemmerer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Citizens Questions –

A resident asked how Franklin Township plans to handle data centers attempting to establish operations in the area. Tom Nanovic responded that a zoning ordinance is needed. He explained that the previous zoning group's efforts to create an ordinance were unsuccessful, and a new ordinance needs to be developed. Currently, data centers can effectively dictate their location, so it is important to adopt a zoning ordinance as soon as possible to protect the township. A resident then asked whether the ordinance is actively being revised. Fred Kemmerer stated that he plans to call Carson tomorrow to verify the ordinance details, ensure everyone is on the same page, and provide an update at the next meeting to keep the process on track.

A resident inquired about the previous meeting, specifically regarding how items and township-owned land for sale would be listed and where that information would be posted. Nic Storm explained that, due to other ongoing matters, this task had not yet been completed and that a list still needs to be compiled. The resident clarified that their main interest was in which parcels of land are available for purchase. Nic Storm stated that by the next meeting, the Supervisors will compile and provide a list of parcel numbers for all available properties.

A resident asked about fire safety for the Phifer's Rental building, noting that any structure 39 feet or higher needs to be signed off by the Fire Chief. They asked whether the Lehighton Fire Company would accompany the Franklin Fire Company during any fires because they would need an extended ladder and, if so, that both should sign off together. The resident also stated that in the saldo it noted that the building should have sprinklers, divider walls, and a fireproof roof. The resident pointed out that there are no designated fire lanes and asked if that is an issue. Nic Storm stated that these concerns will be brought to Engineer Greg Haas. Additionally, the

resident noted that for every ten parking spots, there should be one landscaped island, and the current blueprints do not show this. Landscaping should also extend 15 feet around the building, which is also not reflected on the plans.

Fred Kemmerer brought up the topic of Parks and Recreation meetings, expressing his desire to restart them on a monthly basis beginning next month. He stated that the meetings will follow the same format as in the past and that notices will be posted 24 hours in advance, consistent with other township meetings.

Nic Storm motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Fred Kemmerer seconded the motion. The meeting concluded at 7:58 PM.