

Venango County **Regional** Planning Commission

Planning **Tomorrow**
Together

Phone: (814) 432-9689
Fax: (814) 432-9679
www.venangocountypa.gov/Planning

1168 Liberty Street
PO Box 831
Franklin PA 16323

AGENDA

August 18, 2026

4:30 PM

1174 Elk Street

Franklin PA 16323

Room 100 | Courthouse Annex Building

- I. Call to Order – Chair**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Approval of Minutes**
 - a. 06/16/2026 Regular Meeting Minutes
- IV. Public Comment on Agenda Items**
- V. Subdivision and Land Development**
- VI. Executive Director and Staff Reports**
- VII. Special Purpose Matters – Executive Director**
 - a. SALDO Amendment Discussion
 - b. Annual Report
- VIII. Officer and Committee Reports**
 - a. COG Representatives
- IX. Public Comment (General)**
- X. Adjournment**

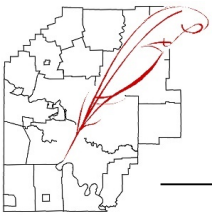
Chair: Jim Miller

Executive Director: Joshua Sterling

Vice-Chair I: Tracy Jamieson

Vice-Chair II: John McClelland

Vice-Chair III: Frank Pankratz



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into the present.*

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Board Meeting Minutes June 2026

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Monthly board meeting called to order by Jim Miller, at 4:30 PM.

II. **ROLL CALL** – Those present at the public meeting of the Venango County Regional Planning Commission on 06/16/2026, held in-person at 1174 Elk Street (Courthouse Annex) in Room 100, Franklin PA :

Members Present:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☒ Jim Miller (Chair) | ☒ Nick Melnick |
| ☒ Tracy Jamieson (Vice-Chair I) | ☐ Kathy Cochran |
| ☒ John McClelland (Vice-Chair II) | ☒ Ben Porter |
| ☒ Frank Pankratz (Vice-Chair III) | ☒ Glenn Speer |
| ☒ Larry Baughman | ☐ Megan Weber |
| ☒ Ken Bryan | ☒ Amy Whitehill |
| ☒ Anita Fuchs | ☒ Keith Klingler |
| ☐ John Neidich | |

Guests Present (List):

- 40 guests (see attached list)

Staff Present:

- ☒ Joshua Sterling
- ☒ Jenna Dillion
- ☒ Alexandria Shreffler

Quorum Present: ☒ Yes ☐ No

The attendance of 12 board members (of the 15 current appointees) was accounted for by Alexandria Shreffler.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. 05/26/2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

- ✓ Motion to approve the minutes made by Ben Porter, seconded by Frank Pankratz. All approved.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

- Numerous members of the public acknowledged their attendance of the meeting to voice concerns over plans for the development of a data center in Scrubgrass Township, which had been circulating on the internet and in social media circles. Several members of the public expressed concerns of the potential impacts to the community and surrounding area. The Commission confirmed that no application for land development or preliminary plans had been submitted to indicate any details of the proposal. The Commission also encouraged anyone with concerns to approach or potentially petition Scrubgrass Township, as they have the land use authority and would be better positioned to regulate compared to the County and the Commonwealth.
- Bill Prichard, Scrubgrass Creek Watershed Association (SCWA) – A representative of the SCWA expressed appreciation to the Commission for support in developing the 2026 assessment of the South Sandy watershed.

V. SUBDIVISIONS AND LAND DEVELOPMENTS – None

VI. SPECIAL PURPOSE MATTERS

- a. **Annual Report Draft** – a final draft version of the 2025 Annual Report was presented by Staff with notes on revisions which had already been identified for correction. Staff requested conditional approval with any other feedback or revisions due by the end of the month before final printing on the first of July.
- ✓ Motion to move forward with the report with potential revisions made by Keith Klingler, second by Frank Pankratz. All approved.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF REPORTS

- **Executive Director, Joshua Sterling** – provided an update on the status of engineering plans for the project design of the Moody Park Architectural Barrier Removal (ABR), which is anticipating completed design by early July. The contract for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding year 2025 grant is currently awaiting signatures for execution.
- **Deputy Director, Jenna Dillion** – shared that the Grand Valley Manufacturing land development proposal in Cherrytree Township has not yet responded to comments made by the County's engineering firm to comply with

the County Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance (SALDO). She also provided an update on the AutoZone land development in Cranberry Township, which has resubmitted plans in response to comments.

- **Geospatial Analyst, Alex Shreffler** – had a main focus on finishing the draft of the Annual Report, and nothing else to report.

VIII. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. **COG Representatives** – Report was given by Ben Porter. The upcoming Council of Governments (COG) meeting on Thursday June 18th is to be held at the Frenchcreek Township building at 7:00 PM.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL

- Tracy Jamieson, Franklin City Resident – expressed clarification that the SALDO would not be an effective method of regulating data centers. Staff confirmed, and provided additional information about the concerns regarding noise as an expected nuisance from this type of land development. Zoning was also discussed as the preferable method of regulation, and it was noted that Commission Staff intend to support Scrubgrass Township in pursuing zoning at the municipal level, including by reviewing their ordinance and providing feedback on potential considerations. There was general discussion amongst the Board members about protocol and strategies for handling inquiries regarding data centers.

X. ADJOURNMENT

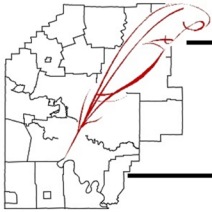
- ✓ Motion to adjourn by Glenn Speer, seconded by Tracy Jamieson at 5:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexandria Shreffler, Geospatial Analyst

Guests Present:

- Scott Gearhart, Scrubgrass Township Citizen
- Candace Gearhart, Scrubgrass Township Citizen
- Michael R. Hill, Scrubgrass Township Property Owner
- Cathy Kentzel, Property Owner
- Paul Kentzel, Property Owner
- Debra O'Neil, Rockland Township
- Terry O'Neil, Rockland Township
- Susan B. Webb, Rockland Township
- Heidi Swasy, Rockland Township
- Karen Danko, Scrubgrass Township Resident
- Justin Danko, Scrubgrass Township Citizen
- Bill Prichard, Scrubgrass Creek Watershed Association
- Jeanmarie Boyd, Scrubgrass Township Resident
- Wayne Boyd, Scrubgrass Township Resident
- Jacob Bowen, Scrubgrass Township Resident
- Sandra McStaw, Venango County Resident
- James McStaw, Venango County Resident
- Amy Coinkel, Venango County Citizen
- Irene McCobe, US Citizen
- Tim Heffernan, Venango County Commissioner
- Sarah Fye, Citizen
- Barbara Gross, Citizen
- John Ferketic, Resident
- Paula Yobe, Resident
- Martin Kaminski, Resident
- John Apitsch, Resident
- Kara Pfingstl, The Derrick
- Julie Halligan, Resident
- Marcie Wilding, Kennerdell Resident
- James Wilding, Kennerdell Resident
- Olivia Schuab, Resident
- Gini Wheelzenel, Resident
- Aubrie Pecore, Resident
- Cassandra Artman, Resident
- Richard Mechley, Resident
- Mallory Piercey, Resident
- K Ferninger, Resident
- Tristen Bowler, Resident
- Sean Greenwood, Resident
- Diane M. Miller, Resident



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August 17, 2026

TO: Venango County Regional Planning Commission Board

RE: VCRPC Annual Report (2025)

Dear esteemed colleagues,

You are receiving the enclosed copy of the Venango County Regional Planning Commission's (VCRPC) Annual Report for the 2025 calendar year because you demonstrated and shared with us your commitment to improving the present and future of Venango County and its surrounding area, either as a valued local community partner or a regional/state representative. We hope our report provides you with valuable insight about our projects and initiatives, and adds context to how your work contributes with others in the betterment of the region.

This report reflects a year of commitment and dedication, whether it was through your provision of information about your organization's projects, your direct involvement with our department as a local municipality, or service through an office in a regional and county planning office or in state government. On behalf of Venango County, we appreciate your efforts.

Going forward, we would like to invite you to provide us with information about your projects in any stage of progress which may relate to the goals outlined in our Comprehensive Plan. A convenient reporting form has been developed and published online (accessible at www.VenangoCountyPA.gov/Comp-Plan) which collects basic information about these projects. This same form can also be used to request a review for consistency with the Plan, which may be used to accompany and support applications for project funding. Our goal is to provide you with the most convenient access possible so that we can bridge the gap traditionally present in communicating the implementation of plans that have an impact on the community at-large. Likewise, please let us know how we can support your work as we all strive to improve coordination and shed light on our combined efforts. If you have any questions, please reach out to our office anytime.

Kindest Regards,

Joshua Sterling
Executive Director
Venango County Regional Planning Commission
Joshua.Sterling@VenangoCountyPA.gov

Enclosure(s): VCRPC Annual Report (2025)

Chair: Jim Miller

Executive Director: Joshua Sterling

Vice-Chair I: Tracy Jamieson

Vice-Chair II: John McClelland

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