

# Branch Communicator

June 2010

## Supervisors Meeting Notes

### Telephone Numbers

#### Supervisors:

John Purcell 544-5890  
Robert Yeager 449-5226  
Joseph Wank 544-3183

### Township Offices

Branch Police 544-2901  
Township Garage 544-3557  
Secretary/Treasurer Joyce Beach  
Township Manager 544-4283  
John Andruchek 544-4283  
Sewage  
Tina Williams 544-1764  
Kim Krasinski 544-1764

### Police Report

The Police officers traveled 2882 miles in patrolling the townships using 4 police vehicles. 58 Incidents, Assists or Complaints were handled by 3 officers. They attended 7 hearings at District Judges offices. 5 Traffic citations were issued and there were 6 Criminal Arrests.

The report covered the period 5/1/10- 5/31/10

### Wings and things

The Good Intent Hose company of Llewellyn is serving Wings every Tuesday from 6PM until all are gone. They will also serve clams and peel and eat shrimp. Come out and support the Hose company while enjoying a tasty dinner.

The Branch Communicator is a privately published newsletter to provide residents of the Township with information on governance by their elected and appointed Township officials. Opinions expressed are those of the Publisher and do not reflect the opinions of Sponsors nor officials. Questions and comments should be directed to Norm Bertasavage 544-6583.

### Branch Township School Reunion

A reunion of those who attended Branch Township schools will be held on October 2nd at the Good Intent Hose Company in Llewellyn. Everyone who attended Branch Township Schools including those who attended in Dowdowntown or later went on to graduate in Minersville after the closing of the Llewellyn school are invited to join former class mates at this reunion. The cost will be \$20.00 per person and reservations must be made by August 15th. Call Jim Spangler at 570-544-4394 for tickets and further information.

### Garbage Hauler Problems

Kreitzer, the current garbage hauler, has been guilty of poor service to Branch Township residents. Complaints of missed pickups, erratic schedule completions and leaving resident's garbage containers on the road instead of the property are to be addressed in a letter to the hauler. These complaints may be viewed as breach of contract if action to correct the problems are not taken by the hauler.

### Speaking of Garbage

The listing of delinquent garbage payers is lacking one year for completion of legally enforceable collection efforts. The number of residents who failed to pay the garbage assessment for 2009 was 98. This means that more than 10% of the township's residents have failed to pay. If these were all single occupant payers the total would be \$6,615.00 uncollected for 2009. The total for non paid households would be \$13,203. This is money the Township has to make up. Action will be taken to relieve this burden from those of us who pay our assessment on time!!

### Timbering Permit Request.

A request from Fort Jackson Logging to timber the area near the Branch Booster Club facility was examined. The permit request did not address the clean-up of the residue from the logging operation. The permit will be granted after a letter addressing the clean up is received.

### Co-Operative Police Agreement

The ordinance addressing the cooperation between Minersville, Branch, Cass and Reilly police forces was adopted by the supervisors. This will allow these police forces to cooperate in law enforcement while protecting the officers in case of injury suffered in the line of duty.

### Police Assistance Request

Saint Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Church has requested the assistance of the Branch/Reilly Police during its banquet to be held on June 27. The Police will assist in traffic control and parking during the event.

### Memorial Day Accolades

The Supervisors expressed their thanks to the committee who organized the celebration. Letters of appreciation will be sent to Admiral Lescavage for her contribution to the success of the event. Letters of thanks will also be sent to Lisa Paul, Gloria Capik, and Jim Spangler for their efforts in the annual salute to our veterans. Special thanks is due also to the Minersville Navy Club, the Minersville High School Band and Reverend Judith Fretow for making the day a success.

### Branch Township History

Two Signs that used to be visible on entering Llewellyn were a historical marker displaying information on the founding of Llewellyn and the name of the founder, David Llewellyn. This sign was located on the North side of Bunting Street just above the junction of Route 209 and the Minersville-Llewellyn Highway.

A second sign, a Veterans Memorial sign listing the names of those who served in the military, was located in front of the old school building/ factory at the corner of Bunting and Taylor Streets. Both of these signs have disappeared. Any one with knowledge of their location should contact Secretary Joyce Beach or myself.

We are also interested in historical information on Branch Township. It seems there was a history of the township printed several years ago but copies can not be located.

# Sewage Authority

## Financial Data

Jun , 10

<b>Income</b>		
<b>Court Income</b>	112.84	
<b>General Receipts</b>	2,638.81	
<b>Other Income</b>	1,815.09	
<b>Tax Income</b>	173,434.21	
<b>Total Income</b>	178,000.95	
<b>Expense</b>		
<b>advertising</b>	117.00	
<b>Building Inspector</b>	190.74	
<b>Contractors</b>	540.61	
<b>dues</b>	165.00	
<b>Electric</b>	3,329.09	
<b>Fire Companies</b>	2,800.00	
<b>Garbage</b>	7,997.65	
<b>Insurance</b>		
<b>Health Insurance</b>	4,657.67	
<b>Insurance - Other</b>	5,072.10	
<b>Total Insurance</b>	9,729.77	
<b>Misc</b>	167.00	
<b>Office Expense</b>	375.00	
<b>Payroll Expenses</b>	12,584.26	
<b>Payroll Taxes</b>	3,628.78	
<b>Police</b>	1,256.77	
<b>postage</b>	20.00	
<b>Road Work</b>	1,485.56	
<b>Sewage</b>	174.00	
<b>Solicitor</b>	210.00	
<b>Supervisors</b>	147.12	
<b>Tax Collections</b>	7,148.83	
<b>Telephones</b>	298.70	
<b>Truck &amp; Equipment</b>	853.56	
<b>Utilities</b>	710.45	
<b>Total Expense</b>	53,929.89	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>124,071.06</b>	

## Delinquencies Down

There was a slight decrease in delinquencies in the month of May due to the efforts of Tina Williams and Kim Krasinsky. Letters of intent to lien did encourage some residents to pay up. With the upcoming transfer of the Authority to The Schuylkill County Municipal Authority, some residents who are on payment plans are warned that SCMA doesn't offer payment plans. The advice to these are to continue to pay as per your payment plan until notified otherwise by SCMA.

## Plant Operations

The treatment plant continues to operate within specifications with no reported grinder pump problems noted in May.

## Citizens Complaints

A Cass resident asked the Authority for compensation for payments made to a contractor to remedy damages caused to a water line by the original Authority Contractor during installation. After discussion of the legal responsibilities and statutes of limitations the Authority concluded it had a moral obligation for the correction of the problem.

## Update on the Closing

Solicitor Rattigan reported on the progress of the transfer to SCMA. Paper work by BCRSA and SCMA has been completed that will relieve Branch and Cass Townships of the Authorities debts. Since these actions were done individually and not at a face to face meeting, the paper work will now be sent to PENNvest for final closing. This will bring the estimated transfer closing in mid July. After that, we will no longer have the wonderful services of Tina and Kim. Oh sadness!!!!

cont' from page 1 History

Any one with information on the location of a copy of this history or any other Historical information on the township can contact Mrs. Beach or me.

Among your family's photos you may find photos of the County tennis Tournaments held at the Dando Pool, programs, or old letters that may reveal information on our history.

Some of our older citizens may have memories of activities and events within the township in their youth such as having attended Dowdowntown school where former Judge Current was a teacher, the opening of Dando's Pool and it's hall in Llewellyn where many wedding receptions were celebrated including my uncle Steve Dronick's marriage to Betty Whery. Walter Barnhart was among the

political "young turks" who had an impact on the political situation in Pennsylvania and other memories that will make the history of the township live for future generation. Please contact me or Joyce to have these events preserved in writing.

## Celebrate Independence Day

The Fourth of July marks the birthday of our Nations founding. The signing of the Declaration of Independence marked the beginning of a new Idea of human freedom. An ideal that is fast disappearing. To all our citizens who have worked to keep us free: Thank you. To the new generations, pick up the torch and carry it forward into the future for generations to come.

**Up Coming Events** : The next supervisors meeting will be *July 19th* . Planning Commission July 6th . Public meetings start at 7PM . Sewage Authority meeting will be Thursday July 15th 4:30 PM.

Note: Branch Communicators are available on line at [www.normbert.com/](http://www.normbert.com/)

## News letter Sponsors

**Enbee Tax Service, Federal and State E-filing Service** available  
[544-6583](tel:544-6583)

**Don's Classis Restoration & Auto Body Inc**  
[544-8209](tel:544-8209)

## Patrons:

Jerry Rizzard  
Pothering Generators

## Phoenix Park Happenings

The Phoenix Park fire company will be sponsoring weekly bingo games. The games will be held on **Mondays starting at 6:30PM at the Fire Company.** All are invited to play.

## Good Intent Hose Co

7-2 Boot Drive  
7-17 Hose and barrel Contest