



MOSHANNON VALLEY PROGRESS

Winter Issue

Volume 20 Issue 4

SEASON'S GREETINGS



MVEDP FY 2021/22 Board of Directors



Front Row: Karen Blair, Dr. Bob Steward, Jr., Bryan Bennett, Steve Lynch, Dustin Minarchick, Wanda Ryen, Jim Pollock. Second Row: Fritz Smith, Mark Higgins, John Shimko, Rusty Christoff, Tom Scott, Laura Koshko, Gene Wardo, Jeff Herr, Bill Jones. Due to the COVID 19 virus and variants, the MVEDP did not meet in person for the December 21st board meeting. The staff was unable to take a new photo of the board. Not pictured are Joe Kelly, Jr., and Josiah Jones who took Fritz Smith and Tom Scott's board seats for FY2021/22.

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Joe Kelly Joins MVEDP Board of Directors



Joe Kelly, Senior Vice President, Regional Commercial Executive for Riverview Bank has joined the

MVEDP's board of directors. Joe tied with Josiah Jones for the top number of votes in the October board of directors election. He will serve a new three-year term.

Joe manages a team of Commercial Relationship Managers throughout Riverview Bank's western

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A Message from the Executive Director



Without question, the most important thing that I have to say at this time is how very pleased we are with the reopening of the GEO Moshannon

Valley facility as a federal ICE detention/ processing center. I can remember back in January when we learned that the federal government was not going to renew the lease with GEO. We were stunned, angry, and disappointed.

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**Executive Director’s Message
Continued from Page 1**

When the GEO facility was first closed, we learned of a similar closing in a rural county of North Carolina. We also found out that the GEO Group and that county were working to secure an ICE detention/processing facility there. We contacted the county manager and learned from him that county government would be a very important component of such an arrangement. We very much wanted to duplicate what was happening in that rural NC county.

Thank you Clearfield County Commissioners for stepping up to the plate and making the ICE facility here a reality. Over 270 jobs will be available at the GEO facility. As we testified at the public hearing held by the Commissioners on November 3rd, it has always been about the jobs, the living-wage jobs that would be available at GEO. To the GEO Group leadership, thank you for your efforts to finalize the contract with Clearfield County government and for bringing the good jobs back to this region. We could not have asked for a better Christmas present. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**Joe Kelly Joins MVEDP
Continued from Page 1**

region. He is also responsible for his own portfolio of select clients with commercial lending relationships.

Kelly holds a degree from Penn State University and is a graduate of the PBA School of Commercial Lending. Dedicated to the growth and success of his local community, Kelly holds multiple board positions including Chairman of the Board for Clearly Ahead Development (retiring December 2021), Treasurer of the Joint Operating Committee for the Clearfield County Career and Technology Center, a board member of Clearfield County Area Agency on Aging, a board member of Central Pennsylvania Community Action, Inc., and a board member of the Clearfield County Rails to Trails Association. He also serves on the loan committee for the North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning & Development Commission and on the advisory committee for the NCPA Launchbox. Kelly currently resides in Clearfield with his wife, Shannon and son, Joseph.

**GEO Facility Reopens as ICE
Processing Center**



Through the diligent work of the GEO Group leadership, and the support of the Clearfield County Commissioners, the GEO facility has reopened as an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) processing center. The Partnership cannot say emphatically enough how pleased it is with the federal government’s decision to have this ICE facility here at the site of the former GEO Moshannon Valley facility.

FY 2021/22 MVEDP Board Members

	<u>First Year</u>	<u>Tenure Thru Nov. 30,2022</u>
Bill Jones	1988	34 Years
Jim Pollock	1988	34 Years
Robert Steward, Jr.	1991	31 Years
Jeff Herr	1999	23 Years
John Shimko	2004	18 Years
Gene Wardo	1998-2011	13 Years
	2019	3 Years
Karen Blair	2007	15 Years
Rusty Christoff	2011	11 Years
Steve Lyncha	2012	10 Years
Laura Koshko	2014	8 Years
Bryan Bennett	2014	8 Years
Dustin Minarchick	2016	6 Years
Wanda Ryen	2018	4 Years
Josiah Jones	2020	2 Years
Joe Kelly	2021	1 Year

MVEDP Work Summary for FY 2020/21

Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park

- * Lot #6 was sold to Ridge & Valley Holdings

GEO Moshannon Valley

- * Participated with numerous other local officials to help stimulate a reuse
- * Submitted to GEO an Option Agreement to purchase some of their land

New Leases - MVEC

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| * CIU10 | warehouse | mo. to mo. |
| * CIU 10 | office, headquarters | 10/1/21 - 9/30/22 |
| * Cutting Edge Bullets | office | 9/1/21 - 11/30/21 |
| * Centre Co. YMCA | food distribution warehouse | mo. to mo. |

Renewed Leases - MVEC and MVRBC

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| ChemStation | 3-year extension at MVRB | 1/1/21 - 12/31/24 |
| AHP Billing | 3-year extension at MVEC | 9/1/21 - 9/31/24 |
| AHP Customer Serv. | 3-year extension at MVEC | 11/1/21 - 10/31/24 |
| PolyK Technologies | 3-year extension at MVEC | 11/1/21 - 10/31/24 |
| Drucker Company | 3-year extension at MVEC | 2/1/21 - 1/31/24 |
| EC Power | 1-year extension at MVEC | 4/1/21 - 3/31/22 |
| Concrete Simplicity | 6-month extension at MVEC | 11/1/21 - 4/30/22 |
| Creotek | 6-month extension at MVRBC | 7/1/21 - 12/31/21 |

Revolving Loan Fund Program

- * Approved a loan to Genna Ice for new equipment
- * Approved a loan to Walker Lumber Company for new machinery and equipment
- * Received approval from Federal EDA to have our RLF released from future federal oversight

Mid-State Airport

- * Assisted the airport in hosting developers Donald Abbey and Bob Poole

Philipsburg Area Commerce Park

- * MVEDP extended the agreement of sale with Graystone Philipsburg by 6 months

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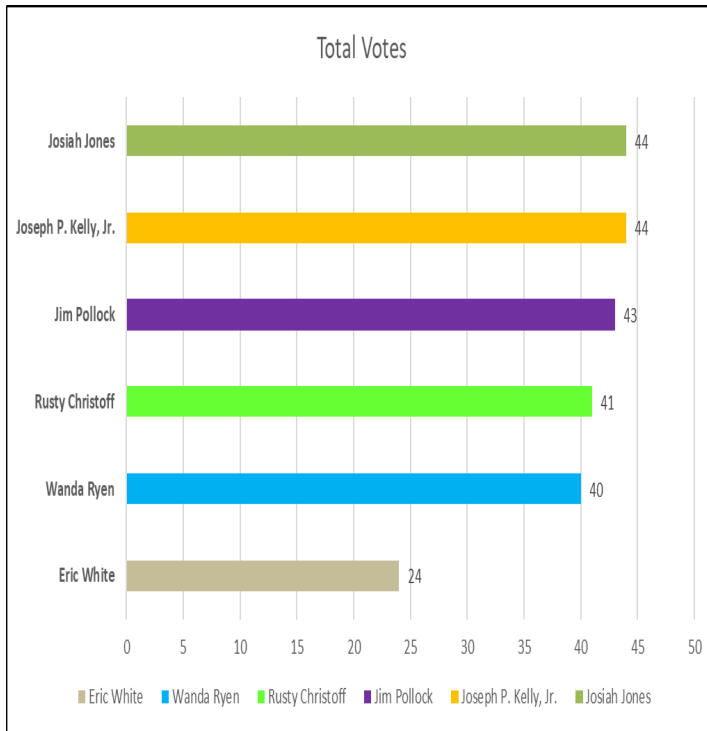
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Board of Directors Election Results



MVEDP Board of Directors FY 2022

Bryan Bennett	President
Dustin Minarchick	1st Vice President
Wanda Ryen	Vice President
Karen Blair	Vice President
Laura Koshko	Treasurer
Jim Pollock	Assistant Treasurer
Steve Lyncha	Board Member
Jeff Herr	Board Member
Bill Jones	Board Member
Dr. Robert Steward, Jr.	Board Member
John Shimko	Board Member
Gene Wardo	Board Member
Rusty Christoff	Board Member
Josiah Jones	Board Member
Joe Kelly	Board Member

MVEDP Elects Officers for FY 2022

At their board meeting on Tuesday, November 16th, the MVEDP’s board of directors installed new officers for FY 2022. The board unanimously agreed to keep the current slate of officers in place.

President	Bryan Bennett
1 st Vice President	Dustin Minarchick
Vice President	Karen Blair
Vice President	Wanda Ryen
Treasurer	Laura Holden
Asst. Treasurer	Jim Pollock

Philipsburg Revitalization Corporation Installs New Board Members and Officers

The Partnership’s sister organization is the Philipsburg Revitalization Corporation and it manages the revitalization of the Philipsburg downtown area. The PRC was back in business in 1996/97 when the Partnership re-established this organization to handle the new Philipsburg Main Street Program. The business community backed this downtown revitalization effort when they provided \$100,000.00 to match the state Main Street Program funding. Without the local match, there would not have been an official state-recognized Main Street Program in Philipsburg.

PRC Board & Officers

Eric Rusnak, President	Amy Doran
Elliott Lauder, V.P.	Rebecca Inlow
Phil Rossi, Secretary	Karen Blair
Wanda Ryen, Treasurer	LeAnn Richards
Eric Kelmenson	Courtney Jo Beitz
Teresa Mull	

Faith Maguire, Event Coordinator

MVEDP Board of Directors Agrees To Support University Park Airport

At their board meeting on September 21st, the MVEDP's board of directors agreed to provide a small matching grant to University Park Airport. Centre County government leaders and officials of the airport are working to put together an incentive package to American Airlines in hopes of bringing flights from Charlotte, North Carolina to the airport. The Centre County Commissioners have approved \$250,000 of its American Rescue Plan Act funds to this cause. Other local governments in Centre County have also committed funds to this effort. The funds that have been committed to bring the flights to and from Charlotte will be restored to the contributors if American Airlines does not commit to the new flights. The Partnership believes that by making a contribution, it is showing leadership and backing its belief that the additional flights will result in new economic development in Centre County.

Sewer Catt Building Completed on Lot #3 at the Regional Business Park



Sewer Catt, LLC has completed its new building located on Lot #3 at the Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park. The company selected this location because it fit their needs given that they work throughout the Philipsburg, Centre and Mifflin County areas. John Moore, Tim and John Decker are the owners of the company.

Welcome New Members

Central PA Institute of Science & Technology

540 N. Harrison Road
Pleasant Gap, PA 16823
814-359-2793
Contact: Todd Taylor

Morris Township

1189 Oak Grove Road
Morrisdale, PA 16858
814-342-4411
Contact: James Williams, Josiah Jones,
John Saggese

Chamber Member Benefits

- ChamberChoice:
 - Group Health Insurance -Dental
 - Life/Disability Insurance -Vision
- OnDemand Energy Solutions:
 - Electric Savings Program
- Free listing in our online business directory
- Invitation to all MVEDP events
- Email blasts to chamber members.
- E-communications concerning:
 - Seminars
 - Training opportunities
 - Export opportunities
 - Marcellus Shale natural gas business opportunities
- Voting rights for MVEDP board of directors
- Quarterly newsletter which provides information about potential new business opportunities
- Free advertising in the MVEDP's newsletter
- Sponsorship opportunities which is inexpensive advertising
- The benefit of the MVEDP's work to lobby for pro-business causes
- The benefit of the MVEDP's business connections to state and federal agencies

Thank You Members!

The Moshannon Valley Economic Development Partnership thanks you for your support of our economic & community development efforts!

Renewals 4th Quarter

Advanced Powder Products
 Ameri Serv Bank
 Anergia, LLC
 Beard Law Company
 Bloom Electric Heating & Plumbing
 Carpet One
 Central Intermediate Unit 10
 Citiclean, Inc.
 Clearfield County Career & Technology Center
 Clearfield Chamber of Commerce
 Clemmer Fire Protection, Inc.
 Custom Castings Northeast
 Decatur Township
 First National Bank
 Healthcare Billing Consultants
 Hrenko Insurance Agency
 Jefferson County Development Council
 King Coal Sales, Inc.
 Moore Fire Protection, Inc.
 Moshannon Valley YMCA
 Nittany Clothiers, Inc.
 Penn Highlands Philipsburg
 Pre-Cut Lumber
 Ricotta Jewelry
 Rush Township
 Sharon Foreman Beauty Shop
 Skills of Centra PA
 Sneath Fire Safety Equipment, Inc.
 Stone Valley Construction, LLC
 The GEO Group, Inc.
 UMI Performance, Inc.
 Vaux Electronics

MVEDP 2021/22 Work Summary

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Moshannon Valley Emergency Medical Services

- * A significant amount of assistance provided to MVEMS to help them with their proposed ambulance headquarters building project

Diamondback Truck Covers

- * Worked with Diamondback leadership and Rush Township to assist with a zoning change needed on property to be purchased by Diamondback for an expansion that is being considered

Field of Dreams



In July 2001, the MVEDP's board of directors and staff were very proud to have a ribbon cutting event for their Regional Business Park located along Rt. 322 in Rush Township. This past July, the Business Park

reached its 20-year anniversary of providing ready-to-go sites to existing businesses, entrepreneurs, and outside businesses wanting to locate here.

Within a month of opening, a Moshannon Valley resident wrote a letter to the editor that the Business Park was nothing more than a "field of dreams." She wrote: "talk about a field of dreams. It is amazing how someone can take acres of land, strip it of all vegetation, animals and dirt, pave roads to nowhere on this land, add water and electricity, and all for the hopes that someone, some year will come and help pay back to the community all the money spent on this dream."

Twenty years later, the Business Park is currently the home to 14 businesses, and there have been 14 lot sales. There is only one lot remaining for sale, Lot #11 at 4.9 acres. There have been a total of 24 businesses located at the Business Park at one time or another. The MVEDP calculated the money that the businesses have spent on buildings and machinery and equipment and have estimated costs of \$44 million. The sales tax of 6% on this amount is \$2.64 million which is over a million

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Field of Dreams

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dollars more than the taxpayer-provided grants of \$1.45 million that were made available to build the Business Park. To say nothing of the 400 jobs, the property taxes being paid, payroll taxes, and the spin-off economic impacts including the businesses that do business with the companies in the Business Park. Field of Dreams? Not by a long shot, instead, one of the most impactful projects ever completed by the MVEDP.

A big THANK YOU to the Philipsburg-Osceola Area School District, and the Centre County and Rush Township governments for their support of the Keystone Opportunity Zone designation which significantly increased the marketability of the Business Park.

Now it can be understood why the MVEDP is seeking to buy another property for the development of another business park that will serve this region for the next 20-25 years.

CCRTA and HVAB Consider Establishment of New Philipsburg Heritage Tourism Center



Josiah Jones, Executive Director
Clearfield County Recreation &
Tourism Authority)

The MVEDP staff and board of directors were pleased to learn of the efforts to establish a Philipsburg Heritage Center in our area. Josiah Jones, Executive Director of the CCRTA and Fritz Smith, President and CEO of the Happy Valley Adventure Bureau in Centre County are working together to establish this heritage center in the very near future.

The MVEDP has always believed in regional cooperation. Municipal officials in Rush, Morris, and Decatur Townships were instrumental in finding the site on Troy Hill for Cornell Companies, now the GEO Group ICE facility.

For many years, the MVEDP has known of and talked about the traffic that comes through Philipsburg, much of which is either on its way to the Happy Valley region or passing through to the Clearfield County area. To have the CCRTA and the HVAB working together to try and bring some of that traffic to the downtown area is a most noble and appropriate effort.



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Have a Safe & Happy Holiday Season!