

# MOSHANNON VALLEY PROGRESS

Winter Issue

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## FY 2025 MVEDP Board of Directors



**Front Row:** Robert Steward, Jr., Dustin Minarchick, Gene Wardo, Karen Blair, Wanda Ryen, Amber Concepcion, **Back Row:** John Shimko, Steve Lyncha, Ryan Scaife, Eric White, Robert Maltais, Jerry Lese, Rusty Christoff, **Missing from photo:** Bryan Bennett, Jeff Herr, Bill Jones

## Executive Director's Message



I was pleased to be the master of ceremonies at our October 25<sup>th</sup> breakfast event featuring Congressman Glenn Thompson. This event marked the first time for me to be out in public for an MVEDP event since my lower spine surgery of April 1<sup>st</sup>. I missed our annual dinner that was held in May. Dustin Minarchick did a great job of standing in for me at this dinner.

I want to publicly thank staff members Sherrie Beals, Sharon Yingling, and Dave Baughman for their work to keep the MVEDP's business in order in my absence. Thanks too to MVEDP board members and officers Dustin

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## MVEDP Board of Directors Election Results are In

During the month of October each year, the MVEDP conducts an election to determine who will be serving on the board of directors. There were seven candidates this year for the five board seats that were open. The dues-paying members of the MVEDP are who vote for the board of directors. The members were sent ballots for their use in voting for the board candidates.

The candidates for the board this year were incumbents Rusty Christoff, Robert Maltais, and Wanda Ryen while the new candidates included Ryan Scaife, Jerry Lese, Jesse Hanslovan, and Pat Romano.

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

Minarchick, Robert Maltais, and Eric White for their assistance. The Partnership is fortunate to have long-time, dedicated staff and board members that want nothing but the best for the MVEDP and for the economy and communities of this region.

It continues to be very gratifying to work with Don Heaney, Owner, and Andy Shoop, Controllor of Advanced Powder Products on their expansion projects. The growth of this manufacturer is nothing short of phenomenal. I can remember when Don and his partner purchased land in our Regional Business Park in 2002. The company started with two employees but now has 168 people working there, and they continue to hire more people. Congratulations to Don on the success of his manufacturing company.

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### Election Results Continued from Page 1

Ballots were sent to the members of the MVEDP. There were 53 completed ballots returned to the office. Rusty Christoff, Robert Maltais, and Wanda Ryen retained their seats on the board, and the two new board members are Ryan Scaife and Jerry Lese. Thank you to the members that completed the ballot.

Other MVEDP board members for FY 2024/25 will include: Dustin Minarchick, Karen Blair, Gene Wardo, Eric White, Bryan Bennett, Bill Jones, Robert Steward Jr., John Shimko, Jeff Herr, and Steve Lyncha. The MVEDP board is comprised of 15 people from the region.

### Congratulations to Area Elected Officials

The MVEDP wishes to recognize the November 2024 election victories of State Representative Scott Conklin, State Representative Dallas Kephart, State Senator Wayne Langerholc, and U.S. Congressman Glenn Thompson. Their reelection to the state and federal elected positions that they hold is a true testament to the great work that they do for the constituents located within their districts.

### New Officers of the MVEDP Board Named

At the Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> MVEDP board of directors meeting, officers were elected into their positions on the board. The officers for FY 2024/25 will be:

President	Karen Blair
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Gene Wardo
Vice President	Wanda Ryen
Vice President	Eric White
Treasurer	Robert Maltais
Asst. Treasurer	Dustin Minarchick

The officer positions are important to the MVEDP as these board members comprise the Executive Committee, Nominating/Bylaws Committee, and the Personnel Committee. These officers will be in place through November 30, 2025.

### MVEDP Board of Directors Tenure

	<u>First Year</u>	<u>Tenure Thru Nov. 30,2025</u>
Bill Jones	1988	37 Years
Robert Steward, Jr.	1991	34 Years
Jeff Herr	1999	26 Years
John Shimko	2004	21 Years
Gene Wardo	1998-2011	13 Years
	2019	6 Years
Karen Blair	2007	18 Years
Rusty Christoff	2011	14 Years
Steve Lyncha	2012	13 Years
Bryan Bennett	2014	11 Years
Dustin Minarchick	2016	9 Years
Wanda Ryen	2018	7 Years
Eric White	2023	2 Years
Robert Maltais	2023	2 Years
Jerry Lese	2024	1 Year
Ryan Scaife	2024	1 Year

## Advanced Powder Products Pursues Major Expansion Project



In early December, the PA Industrial Development Authority approved nearly \$3.0 million in loans to Advanced Powder Products located in the Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park. Two loans were approved, one for the construction of new manufacturing space, and the other for the acquisition of new machinery. The total cost of the project is \$7.47 million.

State PIDA loans must be administered by Certified Economic Development Organizations located within Pennsylvania. The MVEDP has always prided itself on being the CEDO for all of Centre County, and portions of eastern Clearfield County.

APP is a manufacturer of metal parts using their metal injection molding processes, and 3D printing. The goal of the company is to be America's best and biggest Metal Injection Molding company.

## State Government Approves Local Share Account Program Funding for MVEDP

State Representatives Scott Conklin and Dallas Kephart were both pleased to announce recently that the MVEDP was approved for a state grant through the new Local Share Account Statewide Program. The source of this funding is gaming revenues, not taxes paid by state residents. The MVEDP's grant will be \$100,000.00 through the Commonwealth Financing Authority. This funding will be targeted to important improvements to be made to the MVEDP's Moshannon Valley Enterprise Center, including roof replacement, HVAC unit replacement and asphalt repairs.

## Revolving Loan Fund Program Available to Area Businesses

The MVEDP has administered a revolving loan fund program since 1990. The MVEDP likes to partner with the banking professionals on projects that will strengthen local companies. Funds can be used for land and building projects, working capital, and machinery and equipment purchases. The MVEDP offers a below-market interest rate in exchange for job retention and job creation. Contact the MVEDP office if we can assist you with a very competitive loan for your project.

## MVEDP Approved for Federal USDA Grant

The MVEDP was recently approved for a federal grant through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, through the Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG) program. The MVEDP received the maximum amount that can be distributed through that program, \$99,900.00. Program dollars through the RBDG program are intended to foster business development, entrepreneurial opportunities, and job creation or retention.



Pictured: Tom Mallison, Pres., Drucker Diagnostics, Allen Hopkins of USDA, Patricia Treaster, Vice President of Madison Medical

Recently, two USDA officials were at the Enterprise Center to tour this important multi-tenant business development facility. Hobart "Allen" Hopkins and Tom Wellington toured the MVEC on Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. The MVEDP was notified in July that a grant had been approved for the Phase II Moshannon Valley Enterprise Center Renovation Project. This is the same project that was targeted with the State Local Share Account funding.



## PolyK Technologies Expands at Moshannon Valley Enterprise Center



One of the eleven businesses currently located within the MVEDP’s Moshannon Valley Enterprise Center is a business named

PolyK Technologies. PolyK was founded by Shihai Zhang, a Penn State alumnus who got his Ph.D. in polymer science in 2003. The company has its roots in Penn State’s materials research facilities, and it manufactures specialty piezoelectric films for piezo sensor companies both locally and around the world.

PolyK Technologies started with two people and approximately 2,000 square feet of space but now has 13 employees and over 22,838 square feet of manufacturing and research/development space.

PolyK is on the MVEDP’s “List of 26.” This list identifies the twenty-six people who had a connection to the Happy Valley/State College/PSU region that decided to bring their businesses to the greater Philipsburg/Moshannon Valley region since 1991.

## FY 2024 Program of Work & Accomplishments

**Land acquisition** --land was not acquired in FY 2024; the MVEDP has now made six offers to purchase land and none of those were successful

**Funding applications** --the MVEDP was approved for two grants during the year: USDA grant and Local Share Account Statewide grant

**Impact analysis of the Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park** --the MVEDP completed the survey of the businesses in the MVRBP, and then compiled data of some of the financial impacts of the business park

**Drucker Diagnostics lease agreement** --the MVEDP was able to work with Drucker officials to finalize a new lease agreement

**Leases renewed** --the MVEDP had 15 leases that needed to be renegotiated; 13 of the leases were renewed

**Modification to the MVEDP lease agreement** --the MVEDP worked with its attorney to revise the lease regarding responsibility for HVAC repairs and replacement

**Advanced Powder Products expansion** --the MVEDP worked with company officials on a state loan application to secure almost \$3.0 million for their expansion project

**PolyK Technologies expansion project** --the MVEDP worked with company officials to expand their manufacturing space at the Enterprise Center

**ShipItDone, LLC expansion project** --the MVEDP worked with company officials to expand their warehousing/distribution facility at the Enterprise Center

**MVEDP administration of the Local Share Account Statewide grant** --the MVEDP was approved for this grant and the contract will be available in FY 2025

**Events featuring elected officials** --the MVEDP held its annual dinner in May; a breakfast event featuring Congressman Glenn Thompson was held late in the year

**Witness the two major projects to happen at the MVEDP’s Philipsburg Area Commerce Park** --the MVEDP expected the Graystone Philipsburg project and the MVEMS new ambulance facility construction to be underway in FY 2024; those projects were delayed until 2025

**Moshannon Valley Enterprise Center** --the MVEDP continued the Phase II renovation project at the MVEC that involved roof replacement, HVAC unit replacement, asphalt repairs, and interior renovations; the total cost of the renovation work was \$201,405 and the balance of the improvements will be completed in FY 2025

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## MVEDP FY 2025 Program of Work

### **Moshannon Valley Enterprise Center & Mo. Valley Regional Business Center**

- complete the MVEC renovation project
- secure the \$100,000 state LSA program grant and allocate these to the project; roof and HVAC work, and other improvements
- secure the final \$24,361.73 from USDA for the project
- pavement maintenance work needed at the MVRBC
- renew the 8 leases that come due in FY 2025
- begin the use of “Marketplace” to market/advertise the space available
- continue to provide responsive customer service to our business tenants
- assist CIU10 with their expansion at the MVEC

### **Revolving Loan Fund Program**

- generate 1-2 loans through the RLF program

### **Land search**

- continue the search for a property that could be developed into a new business park

### **Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park**

- finalize and release the impact survey

### **Watch with pride the Graystone and MVEMS developments at the MVEDP’s Philipsburg Area Commerce Park**

### **Partners for Regional Economic Performance (PREP)**

- continue our participation in this program with the numerous other service providers that are our partners in economic development in the region

### **Determine if there are any dilapidated properties in the area that could be acquired and renovated for economic development purposes**

**Continue to fulfill our “chamber” mission** by maintaining our services to our members, adding new members, holding our annual dinner event, reviewing the offerings to our members to determine if any voids or new services needed, organize any committee meetings that might be needed to address any topics important to the MVEDP

**Address the IT services void** that the MVEDP deals with periodically during the year; we must identify and hire the IT professionals needed to address our computers and Internet service

## Executive Director's Message Continued from Page 2

Elsewhere in this newsletter is an article about our work to determine some of the financial impacts of our Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park. We received surveys back from the businesses in the Park and it was revealed that over \$5.2 million per year is generated in tax revenue back to the taxpayers from the employees and employers located there. A special thank you to the business people that returned the surveys: Clay Passarelli of Creotek, David Reid of David Reid, Inc., Don Heaney of Advanced Powder Products, Ben Eltz of Diamondback Truck Covers, Josh Helke of Organic Climbing, Andrew Nissley of Nittany Laser, Jake Genna of Genna Ice, and Jennifer Smilnak of PMG Pennsylvania.

## Congressman Glenn Thompson Featured at Recent MVEDP Breakfast Event

On Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, Congressman Glenn Thompson was the MVEDP's guest speaker at a breakfast event held at the Philipsburg Elks Lodge and Country Club. Twenty-five people were in attendance to receive a Washington update from GT.



## Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park Financial Impacts Revealed

In early 2024, the MVEDP decided to calculate some of the financial impacts of the Moshannon Valley Regional Business Park. The goal of this work is to be able to identify to the federal and state governments the money that is generated back to the taxpayers from this business park.

A survey document was developed by MVEDP staff and then sent to the businesses located within the Business Park, including the tenants of the MVEDP's Mo. Valley Regional Business Center. The survey asked the business owners or their representative to identify the number of full-time and part-time employees, the gross compensation paid to employees, and the property taxes paid annually. The MVEDP did not include District Justice Allen Sinclair's office nor the DEP office in the survey.

Of the eleven surveys that were mailed, eight were received back. Three small businesses in the Business Park did not respond to the survey. From the eight returned surveys, the MVEDP learned the following:

- there are 491 full-time employees and 47 part-time employees working at those businesses
- the gross compensation paid to all employees is \$26,927,390 per year
- the current property taxes paid annually: \$142,128 (will increase when KOZ expires)

The MVEDP's office manager Sherrie Beals calculated certain payroll taxes that are paid by both the employees and employers. Based upon the gross compensation and employment numbers that were provided, there is minimum of **\$5.2 million per year** being paid back to the taxpayers to our governments.

The cost to construct the Business Park was \$2.2 million and there was \$1.4 million in grants from the taxpayers available for the project. At a rate of \$5.2 million per year, in just five years, over \$26 million is being returned to the taxpayers from the businesses located there.

## Thank You Members

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

### Renewals 3rd Quarter

Advanced Powder Products  
 Ameri Serv Bank  
 Anerga, LLC  
 Beard Law Company  
 Belding & Mull, Inc.  
 Bloom Electric Heating & Plumbing  
 Carpet One  
 Central Intermediate Unit #10  
 Central PA Institute of Science & Technology  
 Certified Builders Wholesale  
 Chester Hill Borough  
 Choice Bumper, Inc.  
 Clearfield Chamber of Commerce  
 Clearfield Co. Rec. & Tourism Authority  
 Clemmer Fire Protection, Inc.  
 DA Stryker Trucking & Excavating  
 Diamondback Automotive  
 First National Bank  
 Foxpro, Inc.  
 Habitate for Humanity Greater Centre Co.  
 Heath Funeral Home  
 Healthcare Billing Consultants  
 Hi-Way Pizza  
 Jefferson County Development Council  
 Keith M. Folmar, State Farm Insurance  
 Keller Engineers  
 King Coal Sales, Inc.  
 Lewis Paving & Sealing, Inc.  
 Lumadue Excavating, LLC  
 Mid Penn Bank  
 Moore Fire Protection, Inc.

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## MVEDP Board President Passing of the Gavel



Dustin Minarchick current MVEDP board of directors president passed the gavel to the new president Karen Blair at the December 2024 board of directors meeting.

## 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            -Funding 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

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Morris Township  
 Moshannon Valley Processing Center  
 Moshannon Valley YMCA  
 Nittany Clothiers, Inc.  
 Nittany Office Equipment, Inc.  
 Philipsburg Electric  
 Philipsburg Beverage, Inc.  
 Philipsburg Journal  
 PolyK Technologies, LLC  
 Pre-Cut Lumber  
 Ricotta Jewelry  
 Sharon Foreman Beauty Shop  
 Sneath Fire Safety Equipment, Inc.  
 Stone Valley Construction  
 Thompson Law Office, LLC  
 Truss Tech, Inc.  
 UMI Performance, Inc.

## FY 2024 Program of Work & Accomplishments

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**Revolving Loan Fund Program** --the goal was to generate new loans through this program; one new loan was approved: a loan to assist Moshannon Valley EMS with the purchase of a new ambulance

### Other

- Funding provided to the Houtzdale Revitalization Association
- Spotlight on Business features focused on Organic Climbing & Skills
- MVEDP newsletters were created and sent to the membership
- Successful annual dinner event held in May, GT breakfast in October



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