

**RICE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - MINUTES**  
**REORGANIZATION MEETING**  
**3000 Church Road, Mountaintop, PA**  
**JANUARY 2, 2024**

The duly advertised reorganization meeting of the Rice Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at the Rice Township Municipal Building, 3000 Church Road, Mountaintop. Copies of the Agenda were available to the public. Attorney Kristyn Giarratano Jeckell from the Township Solicitor's office called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. It was announced that the meeting was being recorded for preparing the minutes. Interior cameras were also recording the video.

ROLL CALL: Arnold           - here  
              Pipech           - here

Also present were: Please see attached sign in sheet.

The Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session on December 27th at 3:45 p.m. at the Township Building, 3000 Church Road, to discuss personnel matters.

Magistrate Webby administered the Oath of Office to supervisor-elect Tom Romanyshyn; Bryan Brown, EMC; Dave Allen, Planning Commission member; Felicia Bierzynski and Scott Dane, Auditors; and Secretary/Treasurer Beck.

Solicitor Jeckell announced that the regular meeting of the Supervisors would be held immediately following the reorganization and called for nominations for temporary Chair..

**MOTION** by Romanyshyn, second by Pipech, to name Rick Arnold as temporary Chair.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes                           Pipech - yes                           Romanyshyn - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Arnold, second by Romanyshyn, to name Jeffrey Beck as temporary Secretary.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes                           Pipech - yes                           Romanyshyn - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Pipech, second by Romanyshyn, to name Rick Arnold as Chairman for the year 2024.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes                           Pipech - yes                           Romanyshyn - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Arnold, second by Romanyshyn, to name Bob Pipech as Vice-Chairman for the year 2024.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes                           Pipech - yes                           Romanyshyn - yes

MOTION CARRIED.

**MOTION** by Arnold, second by Pipech, to name Jeffrey D. Beck as Secretary/Treasurer for the year 2024.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - yes                           Pipech - yes                           Romanyshyn - yes

MOTION CARRIED.



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**BUSINESS MATTERS Cont.:**

**MOTION** by \_\_\_\_\_, second by \_\_\_\_\_, to make the following appointments:  
Planning Commission: David Allen (4-year term)  
Zoning Hearing Board: Jeffrey Held (3-year term)  
UCC Appeal Board: VACANCY (5-year term)  
Vacancy Board: Albert Bierzynski (annual)  
UCC Appeal Board: VACANCY (5-year term)  
Emergency Management Coordinator: Bryan Brown (annual)  
Flood Plain Administrator: Regional Municipal Services LLC (annual)  
Flood Plain Administrator Alternate: Bryan Brown (annual)  
ROLL CALL: Arnold - \_\_\_\_\_ Pipech - \_\_\_\_\_ Romanyshyn - \_\_\_\_\_  
MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION** by \_\_\_\_\_, second by \_\_\_\_\_, to adopt Resolution 2024-2, appointing Pam Heard as the Primary TCC voting delegate.  
ROLL CALL: Arnold - \_\_\_\_\_ Pipech - \_\_\_\_\_ Romanyshyn - \_\_\_\_\_  
MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION** by \_\_\_\_\_, second by \_\_\_\_\_, to adopt Resolution 2024-3 appointing Jeffrey D. Beck as Chief Administrative Officer of the Pension Funds.  
ROLL CALL: Arnold - \_\_\_\_\_ Pipech - \_\_\_\_\_ Romanyshyn - \_\_\_\_\_  
MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION** by \_\_\_\_\_, second by \_\_\_\_\_, to name Jeffrey D. Beck the Rice Township Open Records ("Agency Open Records ") Officer for the year of 2024.  
ROLL CALL: Arnold - \_\_\_\_\_ Pipech - \_\_\_\_\_ Romanyshyn - \_\_\_\_\_  
MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION** by \_\_\_\_\_, second by \_\_\_\_\_, to appoint Pat Davis as backup secretary/treasurer at \$29.00 per hour, if and when needed, for 2024.  
ROLL CALL: Arnold - \_\_\_\_\_ Pipech - \_\_\_\_\_ Romanyshyn - \_\_\_\_\_  
MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION** by \_\_\_\_\_, second by \_\_\_\_\_, that the IRS mileage rate of 67 cents per mile for 2024 be paid for Township matters to Township employees and officials.  
ROLL CALL: Arnold - \_\_\_\_\_ Pipech - \_\_\_\_\_ Romanyshyn - \_\_\_\_\_  
MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION** by \_\_\_\_\_, second by \_\_\_\_\_, to name First Keystone Community Bank as the depository for Rice Township funds for the year 2024, checks to be signed by any two supervisors and the treasurer, and the treasurer is authorized to make interim payments and to transfer money between funds.  
ROLL CALL: Arnold - \_\_\_\_\_ Pipech - \_\_\_\_\_ Romanyshyn - \_\_\_\_\_  
MOTION CARRIED?

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**BUSINESS MATTERS Cont.:**

**MOTION** by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, to authorize the Treasurer to pay any bill prior to the monthly Board of Supervisors' Meeting if such payment will prevent a late fee, service charge, or cancelation of service, such payment to be reported in the bills to be paid as listed on the check register report at the next Board of Supervisors Meeting.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - \_\_\_\_\_ Pipech - \_\_\_\_\_ Romanyshyn - \_\_\_\_\_  
MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION** by \_\_\_\_\_, second by \_\_\_\_\_, to pay yearly dues to the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors in the amount of \$1,625.00, based on Township population, which is a \$26.00 increase from last year.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - \_\_\_\_\_ Pipech - \_\_\_\_\_ Romanyshyn - \_\_\_\_\_  
MOTION CARRIED?

**MOTION** by \_\_\_\_\_, second by \_\_\_\_\_, to approve attendance of the 2024 PSATS Annual Conference in Hershey, PA from April 14th to the 17th at the expense of the Township, open to Supervisors and personnel, and to name Jeffrey D. Beck as the Voting Delegate.

ROLL CALL: Arnold - \_\_\_\_\_ Pipech - \_\_\_\_\_ Romanyshyn - \_\_\_\_\_  
MOTION CARRIED?

The Board of Supervisors is currently accepting applications for two UCC Appeal Board positions (5-year term). Residents may submit applications to the Township or call the Supervisors if interested.

Treasurer's Bond in the amount of \$1,200,000 is in effect from January 2, 2024 to January 2, 2025.

The Board of Supervisors officially recognizes the Wright Township Volunteer Fire Department as the Primary Fire Protection Service for Rice Township and assures that volunteers are covered by municipal policy as it applies.

The regular meeting follows immediately.

Motion by Romanyshyn, second by Pipech, to adjourn the reorganization meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:04 PM..

Respectfully submitted:

  
Jeffrey D. Beck, Secretary/Treasurer