



January 6, 2021

Latest News

Reminder: Looking for DCED Forms? Annual Mailing Sent via Email

Township officials preparing for the numerous state filings due this month should be aware that the state Department of Community and Economic Development sent its annual mailing via email on November 5. The mailing was sent to the email address provided by each municipality through the “Contact” position on their 2020 Report of Elected and Appointed Officials.

If you did not receive the email, please check your spam folder. Alternately, you may contact the Governor’s Center for Local Government Services toll-free at 888-223-6837. Tip sheets and e-filing tutorials for the required forms are also available by [clicking here](#).

Natural Gas Impact Fee Estimates Released

The state’s Independent Fiscal Office estimates that shale gas impact fee collections for calendar year 2020 will be \$144.9 million, a \$55.9 million decrease compared to 2019. The drop is due to lower gas prices, fewer wells being drilled, and reduced payments from aging wells that pay lower fees. This is the amount that producers are expected to remit to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) by April 2021. [Click here](#) for more.

The PUC is not expected to release Act 13 impact fee distribution information for individual municipalities before mid-June. Once distributions are calculated, townships will find this information [here](#). Note that the distribution for calendar year 2020 will be made to townships around July 1, 2021.

Legislation & Policy



House and Senate Swear in New Members

Yesterday, January 5th, marked the beginning of the 2021-22 legislative session. Both chambers convened for the swearing in of new members and voted on their respective session rules.

Notably, the Senate voted to not seat the Senate District 45 seat which remains pending the outcome of a federal court decision.

Senate Elects President Pro Tempore

Senator Jake Corman (R-Centre) was formally elected as the President Pro-Tempore of the Senate of Pennsylvania. Corman was first elected to the Senate in 1998 and most recently served as Majority Leader.

House Elects Speaker

Representative Bryan Cutler (R-Lancaster) was unanimously re-elected Speaker of the House. Cutler was first elected to the House in 2006 and was first elected as Speaker in June of last year.

House Republicans announce committee chairs for 2021-22 legislative session

House Speaker Bryan Cutler (R-Lancaster) announced the members of the House Republican Caucus who will serve as chairs of the standing committees for the 2021-22 legislative session:

- Aging and Older Adult Services Committee: Rep. Gary Day (R-Lehigh/Berks)
- Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee: Rep. Dan Moul (R-Adams)
- Children and Youth Committee: Rep. Sheryl Delozier (R-Cumberland)
- Commerce Committee: Rep. Brad Roae (R-Crawford/Erie)
- Consumer Affairs Committee: Rep. Jim Marshall (R-Beaver/Butler)
- Education Committee: Rep. Curt Sonney (R-Erie)
- Environmental Resources and Energy Committee: Rep. Daryl Metcalfe (R-Butler)
- Finance Committee: Rep. Mike Peifer (R-Pike/Wayne)
- Game and Fisheries Committee: Rep. Keith Gillespie (R-York)
- Gaming Oversight Committee: Rep. Sue Helm (R-Dauphin/Lebanon)
- Health Committee: Rep. Kathy Rapp (R-Warren/Crawford/Forest)
- Human Services Committee: Rep. Frank Farry (R-Bucks)
- Insurance Committee: Rep. Tina Pickett (R-Bradford/Sullivan/Susquehanna)
- Judiciary Committee: Rep. Rob Kauffman (R-Franklin)

- Labor and Industry Committee: Rep. Jim Cox (R-Berks/Lancaster)
 - Liquor Control Committee: Rep. Jeff Pyle (R-Armstrong/Butler/Indiana)
 - Local Government Committee: Rep. Carl Walker Metzgar (R-Somerset/Bedford)
 - Professional Licensure Committee: Rep. David Hickernell (R-Lancaster/Dauphin)
 - State Government Committee: Rep. Seth Grove (R-York)
 - Tourism and Recreational Development Committee: Rep. David Millard (R-Columbia)
 - Transportation Committee: Rep. Tim Hennessey (R-Chester/Montgomery)
 - Urban Affairs Committee: Rep. Jerry Knowles (R-Schuylkill/Berks/Carbon)
 - Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee: Rep. Karen Boback (R-Luzerne/Lackawanna/Wyoming)
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Learn

[Webinar - Stormwater Management - What To Expect In 2021 - 1/27/21](#)

Stormwater will continue to be the most pressing environmental issue facing most municipalities in 2021. Compliance with MS4 permits, minimum control measures, water quality requirements and, in many cases, TMDLs and Chesapeake Bay requirements will be among those challenges facing municipalities. This webinar, presented by attorney Steve Hann, will update municipalities on their latest compliance obligations (including urban runoff), the impact of new federal and state initiatives, and the critical economic issues and financial challenges facing municipalities in addressing their stormwater obligations. This webinar will also cover the creation of stormwater authorities, stormwater fee litigation, and the recent developments on the availability of grants for municipal infrastructure needs. Eligible for 1 PMGA Public Works point. Eligible for 1 CLE credit. [Click here](#) to register.



CDL - Probable Cause Training For CDL Supervisory Personnel - Virtual Training - 1/19/21

State and federal regulations require every employer who has CDL employees driving vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating or operating weight of more than 26,001 pounds used on public roads to participate in a drug and alcohol testing program. These same regulations also require that such employers train all personnel who supervisor employees with commercial driver's licenses (CDLs) in handling suspected on-the-job drug or alcohol use. This workshop addresses these federal requirements by providing supervisory personnel with a working understanding of the federal CDL regulations, including on-the-job probable cause procedures. In addition to those supervisory personnel required to attend, all township CDL employees should attend this workshop to ensure that everyone is on the same page regarding this important public safety training. Eligible for 3 PMGA Public Works points. [Click here](#) to register.



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