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February 28, 2023

Township Video News



TVN's Roulette | PSATS members set the Association's policy at the Annual Conference!

The PSATS standing resolutions serve as the framework for the Association's policy, and the Business Meeting at the Annual Conference is when members get to vote upon those positions. Let's take a closer look at how members set the legislative policy for PSATS in this episode of TVN's Roulette.

Latest News

PSATS Mini Boot Camp for Township Officials

Mini Boot Camps Coming in March! If you have been appointed as a supervisor or staff member in the last year or since the 2021 election and are looking to get caught up on your new township responsibilities, join PSATS for one of three one-day Mini Boot Camps in March. Sessions will be offered in Lewisburg and Allentown on **March 18**. This course will cover the authority and powers of township boards, personnel management, the Right-to-Know Law, Sunshine Act and Ethics Act, public safety/emergency management, basic budgeting/finance, internal and external communications, and more.

[3/18/23 - Lehigh County](#)

[3/18/23 - Union County](#)

Pa. Broadband Authority Seeking Input on Stakeholder Engagement Process

The Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority is asking Pennsylvanians for input on its stakeholder engagement process for developing two state plans until March 10. Follow-up meetings will be held March 16 to discuss the feedback. The State Digital Engagement Plan will focus on engaging the following required groups: aging individuals, incarcerated individuals, veterans, individuals with disabilities, English learners, individuals with low literacy, members of an ethnic or racial minority, and individuals living in rural areas. [Click here](#) to learn more and to submit input.

More Counties Added to Pennsylvania's Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine Zone

The state Department of Agriculture has added six counties to Pennsylvania's spotted lanternfly quarantine zone ahead of the 2023 spring hatch. With this addition, the quarantine zone for this invasive pest is now at [51 counties](#). Butler, Clearfield, Clinton, Fayette, Lawrence, and Somerset are the newly added counties.

"Spotted lanternfly is an invasive pest that is disruptive and damaging to our agriculture commodities and a nuisance pest for all Pennsylvanians," says Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding. "Through collective and intentional efforts, including instituting quarantine zones, we continue to slow the spread of this insect, and I call on all Pennsylvanians to assist. This time of year, before the eggs hatch in spring, do your part to help manage the pest by scraping egg masses and reporting where they are found. Each egg mass destroyed eliminates 30-50 lanternflies before they have an opportunity to hatch and spread."

The quarantine strictly prohibits the movement of any spotted lanternfly living stage, including egg masses, nymphs, and adults, and regulates the movement of articles that may harbor the insect. The Department of Agriculture's website has resources to help you [learn more about the quarantine](#) and [learn more about the spotted lanternfly](#) and why it is a major problem for Pennsylvania. Also check out the [Penn State Extension resources](#), including detailed pictures and management techniques for this very annoying pest. More information is available in the Department of Agriculture's [press release](#).

Commonwealth Creates Train Derailment Dashboard

To provide information on how the commonwealth is addressing the East Palestine, Ohio, train derailment and its impacts on Pennsylvania, PEMA has developed the [Train Derailment Dashboard](#). The tool contains state and federal resources for people impacted by the train derailment.

In addition, the state Department of Environmental protection announced that it has completed well testing for known residential wells within a mile radius of the derailment. Results are expected next week. See the DEP website for a [news release about the testing](#).

Legislation & Policy



The state House of Representatives returns to voting session today at 11 a.m. and is expected to consider rules of procedure this week for regular session, including [changes proposed](#) by Speaker of the House Mark Rozzi. The Senate will also meet in voting session today at 1 p.m. [Click here](#) to view the proceedings.

The following bills were reported from the Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee yesterday:

[SB 211](#) would establish statewide requirements for the **decommissioning and bonding of solar energy facilities**, which would preempt local decommissioning regulations. Bonds and a decommissioning plan would be required to be filed with the recorder of deeds. PSATS has concerns with the preemption language.

[SB 144](#) would prohibit the use of **Class B firefighting foams** that contain PFAS from being used in training exercises. Class B firefighting foam could be used for emergency firefighting and fire prevention.

Learn

PSATS educational events will be listed as follows: Mondays – All webinars;

Tuesdays – Administrative; Wednesdays – Planning/Zoning; Thursdays – Public Works; Fridays – Public Safety.

The Next Chapter: Building Confidence In Your Administrative Role - 3/21/23 - Chester County

You may have taken PSATS' Basic Training for Secretaries and Administrators class and are wondering "now what?" If so, then this course is for you. Some of you believe that there is no free lunch, which is true, but you can share a day, including lunch, with three experienced municipal administrators where you can enhance your knowledge base and become more confident in your administrative role. In addition to providing best practices for financial security procedures, agenda and meeting practices, land development procedures, liquid fuels reports, and the administrative role in coordinating with fire and EMS services, there will be two roundtable discussions for you to bring your concerns and questions.



Engaging The Public - Agendas, Minutes, Public Comment & RTKL Requests - Virtual Class - 3/23/23

In this virtual class, we will cover a series of common, but challenging, issues that township administrators face when working with and responding to members of the public and media and highlight ways to effectively address them.



5 Keys To Being The Kind Of Leader People WANT To Follow - 4/23/23 - Dauphin County

In this class, we will explore five fundamental and timeless principles (you could even call them laws) that hold the key to becoming the kind of leader that people on your team WANT to follow. You will be provided with the principles and the tools that will enable you to become the kind of leader people willingly, voluntarily, and enthusiastically WANT to follow. This class will be done in a fun, engaging, and highly interactive format.



2023 Solicitors Spring Seminar - 4/24/23

This seminar will cover a wide variety of emerging and important trends and issues vital to the practice of every municipal solicitor. Don't miss this opportunity to hear from experts and network with your peers from around the state.



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

David M. Sanko, Executive Director
4855 Woodland Drive
Enola, PA 17025