

**LETORT REGIONAL AUTHORITY  
415 Franklin Street  
Carlisle, PA 17013**

**MINUTES OF THE LETORT REGIONAL AUTHORITY  
August 21, 2025**

The meeting was held on Thursday, August 21, 2025, at the Stuart Community Center. Andy called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Members / Reps Present Bob Ackerman, Ben Mummert, William Harner, Heather Novack, Andy Parker, and Avery Walters

Member/Rep Absent Michael Jean, Bradley Mitchell

Staff Present Kathy Russell

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – None

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**CONSENT AGENDA** –

Heather made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Ben seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Andy reported that ALLARM's water quality data indicates elevated nitrogen.

**PRESENTATIONS** – Our guest speaker, Todd Hurd, a Shippensburg University professor, gave an interesting and very informative presentation on the Letort Source Tracking Investigation involving groundwater flow patterns and protection of the Eco system.

Brooke Weary, Watershed Specialist - Conservation Analyst for the Cumberland County Conservation District, also joined our meeting.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**Administrator** – Kathy Informed board members of the South Mountain Partnership's upcoming 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Power of Partnership Celebration scheduled for September 12<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to be held at the King's Gap Environmental Education Center. There is a \$25.00 registration fee and interested parties should pre-register. Andy plans to attend.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Budget & Finance** - Michael Jean

**Bills & Receipts**

**Checking Account:**

|                                                       |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance .....                               | \$4,627.67  |
| Transfer from MMA.....                                | +\$9,000.00 |
| Plan Review .....                                     | +\$100.0    |
| Administrator fee .....                               | -\$360.00   |
| TMH Tracing.....                                      | -\$2,000.00 |
| Payment to Andy (resurface trail, rental, seed) ..... | -\$8,240.94 |
| Payment to Heather (paint & supplies).....            | -\$401.22   |
| Ending Balance .....                                  | \$2,725.51  |

**MMA**

|                            |             |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance \$.....  | \$85,265.27 |
| Transfer to checking ..... | \$9,000.00  |
| Interest 4% .....          | \$ 281.55   |
| Ending Balance .....       | \$76,546.82 |

TOTAL FUNDS \$79,272.33

**PayPal** \$1,550.00

A PayPal donation is still pending. No response from Andy's letter to PayPal. Andy will follow up.

We may want to investigate other options available for donating.

Bills submitted for approval

- PennPrime Insurance - \$1,416.66
- Administrator - \$360.00

Bill made a motion to pay the bills totaling \$1,776.66, Avery seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**Budget Report** – No report

**Friends of the Letort –**

- Database of Friends for Volunteer Opportunities – continues to be updated.

**Grants – Bob Ackerman**

- Cumberland County Land Partnership grant - status – Ben
  - Grant closure date extended until June 2025
- CAEDC Local Share Accounts Grant – Replacement of Bonnybrook Bridges – Status
- CCCD Mini Grant – Source Tracing
  - Andy spoke with Brooke – she has everything she needs to close out this grant.
- Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) Grant - source tracing –
- NFWF Grant awarded to POWR –
  - Watershed Partner Meeting - 8/25
  - This is an opportunity for us to meet with Land Studies.
- Dickinson Grant – Mural –
  - PennDOT Application submitted and waiting for approvals.
  - Heather presented sketches of Sprocket Mural Works artwork proposed for the mural.

**Audit –** No report

**Information and Education – Ben Mummert / Bob Ackerman**

- Recent press releases, Facebook page updates, Next-Door – continues to be updated.
- Website and Facebook updates – Heather continues to request photos from board members.

**Nature Trail – Ben Mummert**

Brad asked Ben to let us know to expect a letter regarding data center ordinance review.

- Bridge maintenance - We had a volunteer who did Superstructure staining, Construction mat infill, tree removal, and trimming (not completed – Letort Park bridge; rust repair, abutment palling, footer scour)
- Trail vegetation management and planting schedule.
- I-81 Bridge graffiti – no new graffiti reported.
- Mowing needed on grass shoulders along the trail
  - Ben requested that we not ask SMT to do the mowing due to experience where they spread creeping thistle and other nasty invasives.
  - Spraying schedule for the future.
- Drainage along South Spring Garden Street
  - Andy met with SMT regarding drainage on Spring Garden Street. They are aware of this issue.
  - The contractor had last year had done some extensive spraying that was not approved resulting in bank erosion sending sediment along the stream. The contractor will now mow instead of spraying.
  - Discussed the possibility of SMT installing a cross drain (need to coordinate with CPC). They have a swale that runs down between Spring Garden Street and their new parking lot and their new ADA accessible trail. Proposing installing an inlet up near the intersection Bonnybrook and taking at least some of the water and crossing it over into the swale on the CPC property. SMT will investigate it.
  - Also discussed where the swale is crossing the trail and causing trail washout, putting either a pipe or drop inlet under the trail to control waterflow. SMT will investigate whether there is enough elevation.
  - Bonnybrook Road pipes will be cleaned out.
- Trash bags being left along the trail

**Long Range Planning & Easement** - Andy Parker

- Sally Shambaugh CPC Easement Transfer by August

**Stream Ecology** – (need new chair)

- Trees and Debris in Letort behind Porter Avenue –
  - This is private property.
  - Working with Carlisle Borough MS4 coordinator, Rebecca, to come up with a consistent response.
  - Property owners are responsible for taking care of the trees and debris.
- Trees across stream at Lamberton MS, upstream south of I-81, and Bonnybrook.
- Biddle Mission Park Riparian Buffer construction underway, October completion.

**Project Review**

- Keystone FC Lisburn Road Phase 1, SMT – Andy will review.

**Old Business**

- Memorial Bench – Bob is coordinating with SMT Parks and Rec to determine placement of the bench.
- Quarry Development – No report

- Frog & Switch Redevelopment – No report
- E-Bikes (Solicitor input?) – We encourage courteous use of the trail

**New Business –**

- Board Turnover and Vacancies
  - Ben is waiting to be reappointed by Cumberland County
  - North Middleton and Middlesex Townships are still vacant
- Cumberland County Land Partnerships Plan Public Comments are Due 9/5 – [www.cumberlandcountypa.gov/5098](http://www.cumberlandcountypa.gov/5098)
- Buffer Action Team Landowner Interest Form

Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Heather seconded the motion and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

NEXT MEETING The next regular meeting of the Letort Regional Authority is scheduled for Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

*Dr. William E. Harner*  
Dr. William E. Harner, Secretary

9/18/25  
Date Adopted