

**Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation Board of Directors &
Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission Executive Committee
SPC Offices – Terminal Building & Teams Meeting
August 24, 2026
3:00 p.m.**

The three hundred and ninety second meetings of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation Board of Directors was called to order by Chair Commissioner Vicites.

SPC Board Members present: Tony Amadio, Bonni Dunlap, Rich Fitzgerald, Sara Innamorato, Dan Kennedy, Betsy McClure, Corey O'Connor, Leslie Osche, Nick Sherman and Vince Vicites.

Executive Committee Members present: Tony Amadio, Bonni Dunlap, Rich Fitzgerald, Sara Innamorato, Dan Kennedy, Betsy McClure, Kristin Mulkerin, Corey O'Connor, Leslie Osche, Johnna Pro, Nick Sherman, Laura Sohinki, and Vince Vicites.

Others: Brandon Leach, PennDOT Central Office, Mark Gordon, Butler County Department of Economic Development; Jason Rigone, Westmoreland County Department of Economic Development; Dusty Kirk, Reed Smith LLP; Chuck Kolling, Buchanan Ingersoll; Tom Joyce, City of Pittsburgh appointee, John Timney, Allegheny Conference; and Ernest Rajakone, Sara Innamorato's Office.

Staff: Cate Aaron, Belachew Ayele, Kristin Baum, Mary Brangan, Kirk Brethauer, Melissa Brown, Faith Collins, Mason Fish, Lillie Gabreski, Ryan Gordon, Chuck Imbrogno, Daniel Kukula; Jennifer Lasser, Jen Liptak, Jeremy Papay, DJ Ryan, Mason Secretti, Evan Schoss, Ailisa Sobien, and Devon White.

1. Call to Order

Commission Vicites welcomed members and called the meeting to order.

2. Action on Minutes of June 22, 2026, Board of Directors and Commission Executive Committee Meeting

A.

Action on June 22, 2026, meeting minutes of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee were approved on a motion by Commissioner Osche which was seconded by Commissioner McClure. The affirmative vote was unanimous.

3. Public Comment – None.

4. Message from the Executive Director – Rich Fitzgerald, Executive Director

- Policy Conference – Thank you!
- DC Fly-In September 29 and 30
- Commercial Street Bridge opening
- Upcoming projects:
 - Banksville Rd.
 - Bathtub
- Rural Healthcare
- BBB Regional Challenge Grant
- Data Centers – Steamfitters symposium and Governor's Executive Order

5. Policy Update – DJ Ryan, Director of Communications and Strategic Initiatives

House Bill 522:

- Introduced by Rep. Tarah Probst from Northeast PA
- Would require MPO and RPO boards to have elected officials compromise a majority of their members
- “Elected official” in this context means municipal official, NOT county.
- SPC letter to Chairman Neilson, Rep. Probst, Rep. Benninghoff, and cosponsors
- Indications are that the bill will not be moving
- Other MPOs and RPOs have sent identical or similar letters

Federal Reauthorization:

- The federal government appears to be heading toward a continuing resolution at least past election day.
- This would maintain level funding for SPC’s federal projects for the time being.
- Work continues on several long-term proposals
 - BUILD America 250 Act in the house
 - Senate package has not yet been released yet
- We will hopefully learn more at the DC Fly in

DC Fly-In September 29 and 30:

- County Commissioners/Exec/Mayor are all invited to attend
- September 29th – Kickoff event and Reception
- September 30th – Spotlight event and meetings on your own (if desired)
- Invitation from SPC and Allegheny Conference
- Please contact me if you have questions

Executive Order on Data Centers:

- Gov. Shapiro signed an executive order on August 18th
- Requires data center developers to:
 - Bring their own electricity and pay all associated costs
 - Work with local governments early in the process
 - This is where a strong Community Benefit Agreement (CBA) Comes in!
 - Hire and train local workers
 - Conserve water and other resources
 - Condition of DEP permit Approval

Other Policy Matters:

- Army Corps of Engineers Realignment
 - Pittsburgh to Baltimore District
 - Rep. Deluzio working to fix with WRDA amendment
- Keystone Transportation Funding Coalition
 - Expected to start advocacy in earnest next session
 - No plans for major organized visit to Harrisburg this fall

Commissioner McClure moved to enter Executive Session. Commissioner Osche seconded. The affirmative vote was unanimous.

Executive Session

Commissioner Sherman moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Osche seconded. The affirmative vote was unanimous.

6. ACTION ITEM on Corporate Loan Resolution 06-26 was unanimously approved.

7. Other Business

Reminder of DC Fly-In on September 29 and 30

8. Reminder of Next Meeting

- Monday, October 26, 2026

9. Adjourn – 3:35 p.m.