

LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES OF Tuesday, September 22nd, 2026

The Lawrence County Commissioners' Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a Moment of Silence.

The Lawrence County Commissioners' Meeting of September 22nd, 2026, was called to order by **Commissioner Dan Vogler**, at 10:00 AM at the Lawrence County Commissioners' Meeting Room. **Office Manager Colleen Daughtry** called the roll. Those in attendance were **Commissioner Dan Kennedy, Commissioner Chris Sainato, County Administrator Joseph Venasco, Amy McKinney, John Emerson, and Jim Bish**. It was stated for the record that the meeting is being taped. Those wishing to speak shall be given five minutes. If they need more time, they are to see the Chief Clerk at another time, and he will arrange for them to meet with the Commissioners. Those speaking are to state for the record their names, addresses and the nature of their business.

ROW OFFICERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

None

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

FISCAL/CONTRACTUAL

A. Repository Properties:

RESOLUTION R-2026- 239

WHEREAS, all bids made to purchase property from the Lawrence County Tax Claim Bureau Repository must be approved by the taxing municipality; and

WHEREAS, Hunters Renovations LLC – Kevin Hunter placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located on Raymond Street, Parcel ID No. 04-001800; and

WHEREAS, the City of New Castle approved the above-referenced bid for the property located on Raymond Street, Parcel ID No. 04-001800; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above-referenced bid; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that the Board is authorized to execute the Bid Acceptance Form accepting the bid made by Hunters Renovations LLC – Kevin Hunter in the amount of \$500.00 for the Repository Property located on Raymond Street, Parcel ID No. 04-001800, City of New Castle.

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve said minutes. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2026-240

WHEREAS, all bids made to purchase property from the Lawrence County Tax Claim Bureau Repository must be approved by the taxing municipality; and

WHEREAS, Laurie Feitl placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located on Patterson Street, Parcel ID No. 34-049600; and

WHEREAS, Union Township approved the above-referenced bid for the property located on Patterson Street, Parcel ID No. 34-049600; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above-referenced bid; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that the Board is authorized to execute the Bid Acceptance Form accepting the bid made by

Laurie Feitl in the amount of \$500.00 for the Repository Property located on Patterson Street, Parcel ID No. 34-049600, Union Township.

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to approve said minutes. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2026-241

WHEREAS, all bids made to purchase property from the Lawrence County Tax Claim Bureau Repository must be approved by the taxing municipality; and

WHEREAS, Dylan Olinger placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located on Wampum Road, Parcel ID No. 36-135800; and

WHEREAS, Wayne Township approved the above-referenced bid for the property located on Wampum Road, Parcel ID No. 36-135800; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above-referenced bid; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that the Board is authorized to execute the Bid Acceptance Form accepting the bid made by Dylan Olinger in the amount of \$500.00 for the Repository Property located on Wampum Road, Parcel ID No. 36-135800, Wayne Township.

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve said minutes. Motion carried 3-0.

Advertise for bids/proposals: None

Receipt for bids/proposals: None

Warrant Registers:

1. September 11th, 2026

2. September 16th, 2026

3. September 17th, 2026

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve and file said warrant register(s). Motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES AND CORRESPONDENCE

A. Approval of Minutes:

1. September 15th, 2026

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to approve said minutes. Motion carried 3-0.

B. Presentation of Written Communications: None

VI. REPORTS

REPORTS

A. Staff Reports: None

B. Commissioner Reports: DV, DK, CS

Commissioner Vogler reported receiving notice that the Lawrence County Assistance Office will close its 108 Cascade Galleria location after September 25 and open at 2656 Ellwood Road, Suite 103, New Castle, on September 28. The correspondence is expected to be placed on a future agenda.

The Commissioners reported attending the annual Forward Lawrence State of the County breakfast at Westminster College. The event included presentations from the Commissioners and the area's

state legislators. The Commissioners discussed the County's strong financial condition, ongoing cooperation with the future plans for the former St. Joseph the Worker property. They also noted they will be attending the upcoming Salute to Wise dinner on September 23rd at the Villa, where the late William Humphrey would be honored.

The public dedication of the William Humphrey Memorial Bridge on Stoughton Road in Scott Township was announced for Saturday, September 26, 2026. The Commissioners thanked the Scott Township Supervisors, Scott Township Fire Chief Mike Rodgers, Sheriff Vince Martwinski and the Sheriff's deputies for assisting with the ceremony and traffic control.

The Commissioners recognized the passing of former Lawrence County Treasurer Robert Shaffer, who served three terms as County Treasurer. The courthouse flags were lowered to half-staff in his memory, and condolences were extended to his family.

Commissioner Kennedy reported attending Old-Timers Day and recognizing the veterans in attendance. Special recognition was given to World War II veteran Wally King.

RESOLUTION R-2026- 242

WHEREAS, the County administers a County Surplus Food Program for the residents of Lawrence County; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank has been designated as the County's lead agency for the Surplus Food Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that:

1. That Resolution R-2021-199 be amended, and the agreement is extended and will now expire on September 30, 2027.

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2026-243

WHEREAS, Lawrence County solicited bids for the Humphrey Center and bids were opened on September 15, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Gibson Thomas reviewed the bids and reported the following:

1. Massaro Corporation, 120 Delta Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15238, was the lowest responsible bidder for Contract No. 1: General/Mechanical/Plumbing Construction, with a bid of \$2,397,000.00.
2. McCurley Houston Electric, Inc., 2429 Eastbrook Road, New Castle, PA 16105, was the lowest responsible bidder for Contract No. 2: Electrical Construction, with a bid of \$627,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that:

1. Massaro Corporation is awarded the bid for the completion of Contract No. 1 for a total amount not to exceed \$2,397,000.00;
2. McCurley Houston Electric Inc. is awarded the bid for the completion of Contract No. 2 for a total amount not to exceed \$627,000.00;
3. The Chairman is authorized to execute all documents related to this contract.

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato, to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2026-244

WHEREAS, County Ordinance No. 203 of 1996, titled *Increasing the Recording Fees of Deeds and Mortgages to Support and/or Enhance the County of Lawrence Local Affordable Housing Efforts*, authorized the Recorder of Deeds to increase the fees charged for recording deeds and mortgages; and

WHEREAS, Resolution R-2026-58 was approved on April 7, 2026, and shall be amended as follows; and

WHEREAS, DON Enterprises shall be changed to Disability Options Network; and

WHEREAS, Disability Options Network intends to charge a \$200 administration fee per grant, e.g., approximately \$3,600.00 will be identified for the administration of the program and a total of approximately \$22,568.00 will be available for the approved participants of the program; and

WHEREAS, approximately 11 new homebuyers or prospective homeowners will benefit from the program and Disability Options Network expects the funding will be expended within 24 months of its initiation and Disability Options Network would be willing to accept the sum of \$25,000.00 to hold for eligible participants; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that Resolution R-2026-58 be amended from DON Enterprises to Disability Options Network with the above-mentioned payment methods.

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2026-245

WHEREAS, it is recommended that Jon Natale and Thomas Biasucci be appointed to the Lawrence County Airport Authority for five-year terms commencing on June 1, 2026, and expiring on September 21, 2031.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that:

1. Jon Natale (Shenango Township) be reappointed to a five-year term with the Lawrence County Airport Authority, effective June 1, 2026, through September 21, 2031.
2. Thomas Biasucci (City of New Castle) be reappointed to a five-year term with the Lawrence County Airport Authority, effective June 1, 2026, through September 21, 2031.

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato, to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2026-246

WHEREAS, budgets cannot always anticipate every extraordinary, ordinary, or contingency situation which arises throughout the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, Section 1784 of the County Code permits the Commissioners by resolution to authorize budget transfers from any encumbered balance; and

WHEREAS, the need to provide additional appropriations to certain accounts now exists; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that:

1. Authorization is hereby given to the appropriate administrative officials to transfer a total of \$14,000.00, described in detail on the attachment(s) designated as T-2026-07.

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2026-247

WHEREAS, budgets cannot always anticipate every extraordinary, ordinary, or contingency situation which arises throughout the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, Section 1784 of the County Code permits the Commissioners by resolution to authorize budget transfers from any encumbered balance; and

WHEREAS, the need to provide additional appropriations to certain accounts now exists; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that:

1. Authorization is hereby given to the appropriate administrative officials to transfer a total of \$4,529.00, described in detail on the attachment(s) designated as T-2026-08.

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato, to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

TRANSFER (ADMINISTRATIVE)

- a. Human Resources from materials and supplies to minor equipment for \$6,000.00.
- b. Commissioners from contingency to arbitration/legal fees for \$7,005.20.
- c. Tax Claim from salary of overtime to travel and training for \$200.00
- d. Tax Claim from salary of overtime to land/building rental for \$2,000.00.
- e. MDJ Amodie from contingency to lease/rental for \$1,000.00.
- f. MDJ Amodie from maintenance and repair to postage for \$2,000.00.
- g. District Attorney from materials and supplies to office minor equipment for \$10,000.00.
- h. District Attorney from vehicle expense to office minor equipment for \$1,983.95.
- i. MDJ Russo from contingency to materials and supplies for \$700.00.
- j. MDJ Russo from contingency to maintenance and repairs for \$1,467.00.
- k. MDJ Russo from property insurance to maintenance and repairs for \$2,100.00.
- l. Public Safety from Radio Tower Systems PSAP to Radio Tower Site Maintenance for \$43,200.00.
- m. Public Safety from Vehicle Expense to Hauling Refuse for \$1,100.00.
- n. Maintenance from Other Minor Equipment to Exterior Repair for \$1,000.00.
- o. Maintenance from Contingency Account to Maintenance & Repairs for \$ 3,320.00.

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy, to approve said administrative transfers. Motion carried 3-0

ORDINANCES

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| A. Discussion: | None |
| B. On the Table: | None |
| C. For Introduction: | None |
| D. For Final Action: | None |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Commissioners stated that a decision regarding the September 29, 2026, public meeting would be made after the deadline for submitting agenda items at 10:00 a.m. on September 25, 2026. The Commissioners confirmed that the following regularly scheduled meeting would be held in October.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gibson-Thomas representative thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity to work in Lawrence County. He said the firm appreciated working with the County and hoped to continue doing so. The Commissioners thanked him and his colleagues for their professionalism.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to adjourn the Lawrence County Commissioners' meeting dated Tuesday, September 22nd, 2026 @ 10:41 AM. Motion carried 3-0.