

LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES OF Tuesday, October 3, 2023

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 Tuesday, October 3, 2023, was called to order by **Commissioner Dan Vogler**, at 10:00 am at the Lawrence County Commissioners Meeting Room. Deputy Chief Clerk, Vanessa Bayless, called the roll. Those in attendance were **Commissioner Brian Burick**, **Commissioner Loretta Spielvogel**, **Joe Venasco**, **Scott Baldwin**, **Tammy Crawford**, and **Debbie Wachter**, New Castle News. 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 Deputy Chief Clerk at another time, and she 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.

Mr. Vogler asked everyone keep the family of Dick Flannery in their thoughts. He passed away. He was very involved in city council and many activities throughout the County.

ROW OFFICERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

None

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Wilbert Meyers asked about the federal funds that get passed through the County Veterans' Office/Transportation/LCSS. The Commissioners said they will check with our Controller to check the status of payment.

FISCAL/CONTRACTUAL

A. Repository Properties:

RESOLUTION

R-2023-358

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

WHEREAS, Kimberly and Bruce Peterson placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at Ruth Street, Parcel ID No. 31-199100; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at Ruth Street, with a Parcel ID No. 31-199100; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, that the Board is authorized to execute the Bid Acceptance Form accepting the bid made by Kimberly and Bruce Peterson in the amount of \$500.00 for Repository Property located at Ruth Street and having a Parcel ID No. 31-199100, Ruth Street.

RESOLUTION

R-2023-359

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

WHEREAS, Kimberly and Bruce Peterson placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at Ruth Street, Parcel ID No. 31-199000; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at Ruth Street, with a Parcel ID No. 31-199000; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, that the Board is authorized to execute the Bid Acceptance Form accepting the bid made by Kimberly and Bruce Peterson in the amount of \$500.00 for Repository Property located at Ruth Street and having a Parcel ID No. 31-199000, Ruth Street.

RESOLUTION

R-2023-360

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

WHEREAS, Kimberly and Bruce Peterson placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at Harvey Street, Parcel ID No. 31-199200; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at Harvey Street, with a Parcel ID No. 31-199200; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, that the Board is authorized to execute the Bid Acceptance Form accepting the bid made by Kimberly and Bruce Peterson in the amount of \$500.00 for Repository Property located at Harvey Street and having a Parcel ID No. 31-199200, Harvey Street.

RESOLUTION

R-2023-361

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

WHEREAS, Kimberly and Bruce Peterson placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at Harvey Street, Parcel ID No. 31-198900; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at Harvey Street, with a Parcel ID No. 31-198900; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, that the Board is authorized to execute the Bid Acceptance Form accepting the bid made by Kimberly and Bruce Peterson in the amount of \$500.00 for Repository Property located at Harvey Street and having a Parcel ID No. 31-198900, Harvey Street.

RESOLUTION

R-2023-362

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

WHEREAS, Kimberly and Bruce Peterson placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at Harvey Street, Parcel ID No. 31-199400; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at Harvey Street, with a Parcel ID No. 31-199400; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, that the Board is authorized to execute the Bid Acceptance Form accepting the bid made by Kimberly and Bruce Peterson in the amount of \$500.00 for Repository Property located at Harvey Street and having a Parcel ID No. 31-199400, Harvey Street3

RESOLUTION

R-2023-363

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

WHEREAS, MTG & HBM, LLC placed a bid of \$501.00 on property located at Greene Plot Ide, Parcel ID No. 24-028800; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at Greene Plot Ide, with a Parcel ID No. 24-028800; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, that the Board is authorized to execute the Bid Acceptance Form accepting the bid made by MTG & HBM, LLC in the amount of \$501.00 for Repository Property located at Greene Plot Ide and having a Parcel ID No. 24-028800, Greene Plot Ide.

RESOLUTION

R-2023-364

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

WHEREAS, Katrina Allen placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at 160 Westley Lane, Parcel ID No. 24-900625; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at 160 Westley Lane, with a Parcel ID No. 24-900625; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS, that the Board is authorized to execute the Bid Acceptance Form accepting the bid made by Katrina Allen, in the amount of \$500.00 for Repository Property located at 160 Westley Lane and having a Parcel ID No. 24-900625, 160 Westley Lane.

Moved by Ms. Spielvogel, seconded by Mr. Burick to approve Resolutions R-2023-358 through R-2023-364. Motion carried 3-0.

B. Advertise for bids/proposals: None

C. Receipt for bids/proposals: None

D. Warrant Registers:

1. September 26, 2023

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Ms. Spielvogel to approve and file said warrant register. Motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES AND CORRESPONDENCE

A. Approval of Minutes:

- a. Tuesday, September 26, 2023

Moved by Ms. Spielvogel, seconded by Mr. Burick to approve said minutes. Motion carried 3-0.

B. Presentation of Written Communications:

1. The Hillcrest Group-PA DEP Air Quality Plan Approval Application for RW Holding Company, Inc. West Pittsburgh Operation @ Rundle Road (Taylor Twp.)
2. RAR Engineering-Acts 14, 67, 68 and 127 for Keystone Compliance, LLC (City of New Castle)
3. Gannett Fleming-Acts 14, 67, 68 and 127 for Pennsylvania American Water Company, New Castle Water Treatment Plant (Neshannock Twp.)

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Ms. Spielvogel to file written communication(s). Motion carried 3-0.

REPORTS

A. Staff Reports

None

B. Commissioner Reports

Mr. Vogler reviewed the meetings throughout the week. The Commissioners attended the Beaver-Lawrence Farm Bureau, the Cray Open House, the Salute to Pastor Young, Representative from Senator Fetterman's Office, Open House for Jimini Enterprises, the Scott Township Open House and next week the Commissioners will attend the Northwest County Commissioners' Meeting.

Ms. Spielvogel stated it is very encouraging to know the County is open and lots of activities are going on. There are many small businesses opening up.

Mr. Burick stated It was great to see the grand opening of another new business in Lawrence County this past Saturday. On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, I attended the ribbon cutting ceremony that was held at Molinaro Fuel Bar on Mercer Rd in Neshannock Township. We congratulate them on their new business, thank them for their investment in Lawrence County and wish them well.

Last week I took advantage of the nice weather and hiked at McConell's Mill State Park. It is one of the jewels of Lawrence County and I encourage all Lawrence County residents and others from our region to visit and take advantage of the beauty and wonder of the park, especially over the next few weeks as the leaves continue to change.

NEW BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION R-2023-365

WHEREAS the Mental Health and Developmental Services is responsible for the diagnosis, care, treatment, and rehabilitation of the mentally disabled, and

WHEREAS Lawrence County, through its Mental Health and Developmental Services desires to contract for certain services; and

WHEREAS the Mental Health/Intellectual Disability Act of 1966 and the Department of Public Welfare fiscal regulations provide for the purchase of office equipment and services, and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners, that:

1. The agreement listed in item 2 shall be approved starting July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024
2. Authorization is hereby given to execute the following addendum:

Mercy Life Center Corp. - as detailed in attachment designated 2023-2024 Program description and rates are also listed within the attachment.

Be it further resolved those payments be made from the MH/DS fund.

Moved by Ms. Spielvogel, seconded by Mr. Burick to approve said Resolution.
Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R- 2023-366

WHEREAS, The Lawrence County Register and Recorder has established a goal of lowering the costs when requesting a retrieval of a record from Access.

WHEREAS, The Register and Records Office is currently using Access Information Management of Wisconsin LLC for storage and retrieval of records. The cost for retrieval of stored records is normally \$65.88 per record. This becomes quite costly when requesting more than one record.

WHEREAS, Access Information Management of Wisconsin LLC offers Access Unify which is a Digital Delivery service with a flat rate billed at \$79.00 per month. This fee includes up to three (3) retrievals per month. If one month there are not three (3) retrievals, they will carry over to the next month. On average, the Register and Records Office requests 3 retrievals per month. We will save an average of \$128.00 per month implementing Access Unify. This is a savings of \$1,536.00 per year.

WHEREAS, The term of this Contract shall be for one (1) year.

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

1. Access Information Management of Wisconsin, LLC 500 Unicorn Park Drive, Woburn, MA 01801 and the Lawrence County Register and Records Office will enter into this agreement for retrieval of records stored at the Access Facility.
2. Terms shall be identified in the attached agreement.

Moved by Ms. Spielvogel, seconded by Mr. Burick to approve said Resolution.
Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2023-367

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is permitted to assist in funding projects completed by local municipalities with regard to improvements; and

WHEREAS, on July 9, 2023, a flash flood caused significant damage to areas throughout Wayne Township, Lawrence County; and

WHEREAS, Taylor Engineering has been working very closely with Wayne Township to help assess all the damage from the storm throughout the Township; and

WHEREAS, Taylor Engineering is estimating the damage total at \$37,630.00, which includes repairs to the new bridge on Greenhouse Road and damage to roadways and drainage; and

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Commissioners can allocate 33 1/3% from Liquid Fuels and/or the Fees for Local Use Fund; and

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; that \$11,290.00, which is 33 1/3% of the total damage amount from the storm damage, be allocated to Wayne Township from Liquid Fuels and/or the Fees for Local Use Fund.

RESOLUTION R-2023-368

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is permitted to assist in funding projects completed by local municipalities with regard to improvements; and

WHEREAS, on July 9, 2023, a flash flood caused significant damage to areas throughout Shenango Township, Lawrence County; and

WHEREAS, RAR Engineering has been working very closely with Shenango Township to help assess all the damage from the storm throughout the Township; and

WHEREAS, RAR Engineering is estimating the damage total at \$69,871.95, which includes repairs to Lower Boyd School Road Bridge/Culvert Replacement, Various Roads Shoulder Restoration and Various Roads Stormwater Repairs; and

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Commissioners can allocate 33 1/3% from Liquid Fuels and/or the Fees for Local Use Fund; and

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; that \$20,964.00, which is 33 1/3% of the total damage

amount from the storm damage, be allocated to Shenango Township from Liquid Fuels and/or the Fees for Local Use Fund.

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Ms. Spielvogel to approve Resolutions R-2023-367 and R-2023-368. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2023-369

WHEREAS, Section 1784 of the County Code, *Supplemental Appropriations Transfer of Funds; Appropriation Limits*, authorizes the Board of Commissioners, by resolution, to make supplemental appropriations for any lawful purpose from any funds on hand or estimated to be received within the fiscal year and not otherwise appropriated; and

WHEREAS, it the intent of the Board of Commissioners to adjust the existing FY2023 Budget; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS to amend the 2023 Lawrence County Budget as follows:

INCREASING Prior Year Balance APO Admin Revenue Fund Account: 53390000.342000 by \$60,000.00; and

INCREASING APO Admin Expense APO Admin Expense Fund Account: 53423500.999900 by \$60,000.00 and;

Reason: Purchase of Tasers

Moved by Ms. Spielvogel, seconded by Mr. Burick to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2023-370

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 \$10,182.50 described in detail on the attachment(s) designated as T-2023-33.

Moved by Ms. Spielvogel, seconded by Mr. Burick to approve said Resolution.
Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2023-371

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 \$10,000.00 described in detail on the attachment(s) designated as T-2023-34.

Moved by Ms. Spielvogel, seconded by Mr. Burick to approve said Resolution.
Motion carried 3-0.

TRANSFERS (ADMINISTRATIVE)

- a. Public Defender from Contingency to Attorney Fees for \$200.00
- b. Juvenile Probation from Contingency to Vehicle for \$1,000.00
- c. Commissioners from Contingency to Maint & Repair for \$7,175.00
- d. Commissioners from Contingency to Cable for \$300.00
- e. Voters from Election Integrity Grant Contingency to Election Integrity Grant Postage for \$7,000.00.
- f. APO from Contingency to Vehicle Expense for \$510.00

RESOLUTIONS ON THE TABLE

1. Resolution for discussion and possible approval to designate Lawrence County Economic Development as the Industrial Development Organization of Lawrence County.

The resolution was left on the table.

ORDINANCES

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. The next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.
- B. The Lawrence County Opioid Board meeting is CANCELLED today, October 3, 2023 at 12:00PM.
- C. There will be a Lawrence County Planning Board meeting on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at the Washington Township Municipal Building.
- D. The Courthouse will be closed on Monday, October 9, 2023 in observance of Columbus Day.

Moved by Ms. Spielvogel, seconded by Mr. Burick to approve said administrative transfers. Motion carried 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Debbie Wachter apologized for being late, as she was at the Ag Fair this morning.

Mr. Burick stated the Commissioners will attend the West Central Job Partnership meeting next Tuesday at the Mercer County Courthouse. He further encouraged everyone to get out and vote in the local level candidacies.

Mr. Burick also stated he wants to pay tribute to an individual that I admired greatly. Jean Rogan of New Castle passed away last week. She was actually the First Lady of New Castle twice. First, when her husband Francis Rogan was Mayor of New Castle many decades ago and later when she was voted First Lady for her many charitable works she performed in the community. I especially admired and appreciated her as the founder of the New Castle Chapter of a group called People Concerned for the Unborn Child. She led the Lawrence County bus to the March for Life in Washington DC for over two decades and the work of that organization she started helped many women in Lawrence County who faced unplanned or difficult pregnancies and saved the lives of many babies who may otherwise have been aborted. She was a personal hero of mine and a great public figure in Lawrence County, so I wanted to mention her passing and extend my condolences to her family.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Ms. Spielvogel to adjourn the meeting of the Lawrence County Commissioners meeting dated Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at 10:50

AM.