

LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES OF Tuesday, October 22, 2024

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 22 2024, was called to order by **Commissioner Daniel 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 Dan Kennedy, Commissioner Chris Sainato, Amy McKinney, Tish Foster and Debbie Wachter from the 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.

ROW OFFICERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

None

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

FISCAL/CONTRACTUAL

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| A. Repository Property: | None |
| B. Advertise for bids/proposals: | None |
| C. Receipt for bids/proposals: | None |
| D. Warrant Registers: | |
| 1. October 15, 2024 | |
| 2. October 16, 2024 | |
| 3. October 17, 2024 | |

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

MINUTES AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Approval of Minutes:
1. October 15, 2024

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

B. Presentation of Written Communications:

1. Amerikhol Aggregates to renew zoning permits for facilities and infrastructure for Moscipan North Mine (Shenango Twp.)

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

REPORTS

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| A. Staff Reports: | None |
| B. Commissioner Reports | DV, DK, CS |

Mr. Vogler stated last Thursday all (3) Commissioners attended the Lawrence County Career & Technical Center's twice a year Community luncheon and meeting. It was a great event. Today there is a Prison Board meeting at 12:00 Noon. Yesterday and tomorrow, the Commissioners, along with the County's engineering firm, Taylor Engineering are touring the County's 27 bridges.

Mr. Kennedy toured Flowline last week. The company is backlogged with orders until 2028-2029 which is great news for the business. They are a great company in the County. He also attended the Lawrence County Career & Technical Center's meeting. They are doing well with enrollment at an all time high. Last night was the United Way's Taste of the Town, which was very nice.

Mr. Sainato attended the Lawrence County Career & Technical Center's meeting. It was very nice to interact with the students and watch them show off what they've learned. He is excited about the bridge tour, as it has been a great learning experience to find out where all the County bridges are.

NEW BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION R-2024-317

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence has received notification from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community and Economic Development of the availability of funding in the projected amount of **\$615,118.00** - \$257,461.00 for the County of Lawrence, \$127,304.00 On Behalf of the Township of Shenango, \$104,144.00 On Behalf of the Township of

Union and \$126,209.00 On Behalf of Ellwood City Borough) for the provision of services eligible under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); and

WHEREAS, the County of wishes to engage in the provision of services eligible under the Community Development Block Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Shenango, the Township of Union and Ellwood City Borough have directed and agreed on the purpose of the CDBG funds set aside for their community; and

WHEREAS, the First Public Hearing was advertised and conducted on July 29, 2024 (at the County of Lawrence, at and On Behalf of Ellwood City Borough, at and On Behalf of Shenango Township and at and On Behalf of Union Township). The second public hearing was advertised and conducted on September 26, 2024 (County of Lawrence and On Behalf of Shenango Township, Union Township and Ellwood City Borough) as required by the CDBG regulations, to obtain citizens views and comments concerning the proposed use of these funds.

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

1. The County shall prepare and submit a grant in the projected amount of \$615,118.00, to the Department of Community and Economic Development.
2. The County has chosen to allocate their allocation to the following eligible projects:
 - a. Housing Rehabilitation \$125,000.00 in non-entitlement communities
 - b. Street Improvement \$77,265.00
 - c. Removal of Architectural Barriers \$30,000.00
 - d. Program Administration \$25,196.00
3. The County of Lawrence on Behalf of Shenango Township has chosen to engage in Parks and Recreation and Program Administration.
4. The County of Lawrence on Behalf of Union Township has chosen to engage in Housing Rehabilitation and Program Administration.
5. The County of Lawrence on Behalf of Ellwood City Borough has chosen to engage in Street Improvements, Housing Rehabilitation and Program Administration.
6. The said program activities will be administered in accordance with all State and Federal Regulations.
7. The Chairman Commissioner shall have the authority to execute all documents required by the

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania pertaining to the application and administration of the 2024 CDBG Program.

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

RESOLUTION R-2024-318

WHEREAS, the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission is the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization representing the counties of Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington, Westmoreland, and the City of Pittsburgh, and the region's Local Development District Organization; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has entered into a Service and Operating agreement dated January 1, 1999 which authorizes the Corporation, inter alia, to administer and carry out contracts and grants for the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has entered into an agreement with PADOT, whereby the Commission is to perform planning as stipulated in the Unified Planning Work Program 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that authorization is given to execute documents related to the Agreement by and between Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation on behalf of the Southwestern Planning Commission and the Lawrence County Planning Department for the amount of fifteen thousand seventy five dollars (\$12,060.00 with \$3,015.0 In-Kind Service Match) for contract 24-04J.

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

RESOLUTION R-2024-319

WHEREAS, the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission is the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization representing the counties of Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington, Westmoreland, and the City of Pittsburgh and the Local Development District; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has entered into a Service and Operating agreement dated January 1, 1999, which authorizes the Corporation, inter alia, to administer and carry out contracts and grants for the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has entered into an agreement with PADOT, whereby the Commission is to perform planning as stipulated in the Unified Planning Work Program 2024-2025 Unified Planning Work Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that authorization is given to execute documents related to the Agreement by and between Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation on behalf of the Southwestern Planning Commission and the Lawrence County Planning Department for the amount of \$18,750,000 (\$15,000.00 grant and \$3,750.00 In-Kind Services), Contract No.24-02.

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

RESOLUTION R-2024-320

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence (County) is eligible to apply to the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency for the Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Fund (PHARE), which includes the Marcellus Shale Impact Fee, Realty Transfer Tax and the National Housing Trust Fund funding sources; and

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Blight Removal Program is a high funding priority for the County and the County wishes that the Marcellus Shale Funds be used for the support of this application; and

WHEREAS, the County, in partnership with the Lawrence County Redevelopment Authority, local municipalities and other county agencies, will use these funds to assist municipalities with neighborhood stabilization efforts, site preparation of blighted or vacant property demolition and housing rehabilitation to ensure resources are used in an effective and efficient manner to meet the housing needs of the County; and

WHEREAS, if awarded the above mentioned funds, the Chairman of the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners will sign off on all related documents.

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners agree to apply to PHARE for targeted neighborhood stabilization efforts, site preparation and blighted or vacant property demolition, façade improvements and housing rehabilitation to ensure resources are used in an effective and efficient manner to meet the housing needs of the County.

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to approve Resolutions R-2024-317 up to and including Resolution R-2024-320. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2024-321

WHEREAS, properties were listed to be sold free and clear of all municipal claims at the Judicial Tax Sale held on April 26, 2024 ; and

WHEREAS, certain properties remain unsold and are currently on Lawrence County's Repository list.

WHEREAS, the 2024 county, road and school taxes on these properties remain unpaid and the properties must be removed from the current tax roll;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that the 2024 county, road and school taxes on the attached list are to be exonerated for 2024 and removed from the current tax roll.

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

RESOLUTION R-2024-322

WHEREAS, properties were sold at the Judicial Tax Sale held on April 26, 2024; and

WHEREAS, by the law these properties were sold free and clear of all municipal claims; and

WHEREAS, after all delinquent taxes are paid, the county and road taxes are to be paid at face for the current year.

WHEREAS, after all delinquent taxes were paid and there were no additional proceeds, the county and road taxes on the attached list are exonerated for 2024

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; that the county and road tax be exonerated for 2024.

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

RESOLUTION R-2024-323

WHEREAS, properties were sold at the Judicial Tax Sale held on April 26, 2024; and

WHEREAS, by the law these properties were sold free and clear of all municipal claims; and

WHEREAS, after all delinquent taxes are paid, the county and road taxes are to be paid at face for the current year.

WHEREAS, because the properties were sold for \$500.00 and there were no proceeds to pay 2024 taxes, the county and road taxes on the attached list of properties are exonerated for 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; that the county and road tax be exonerated for 2024.

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

RESOLUTION R-2024-324

WHEREAS, properties were sold at the Judicial Tax Sale held on April 26, 2024; and

WHEREAS, by the law these properties were sold free and clear of all municipal claims; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the proceeds paid all delinquent taxes and part of the county and road taxes for 2024 on the following properties.

Parcel	Municipality	Owner	Situs	New Owner
34-137200	UNION	KLINE, GARY R & KIMBERLY L	102 HILLSIDE WAY	JONES, JESSICA

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; that the remaining balance of the county and road taxes be exonerated for 2024.

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

RESOLUTION R-2024-325

WHEREAS, by Resolution R-2024-325 the Board of Commissioners determined it necessary to seek professional service to assist in the review, analysis and recommendations for all utility and telecommunication services provided to the County; and

WHEREAS, Renodis, Inc. was selected to provide those services and will be entering into a new contract for a 24-month period; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, this Agreement shall be in effect from the date of execution by Renodis, Inc. through a period of twenty-four (24) months and shall automatically renew thereafter annually unless cancelled by either party upon a ninety (90) day written notice. Upon termination by either party, any fees still due as defined in Section 2 will be the obligation of the Client. Should a location listed on the Schedule A sell or close to an unrelated third Party at any time during the term of this Agreement, that location shall be removed from the Schedule A and will no longer be a part of this Agreement. Any outstanding invoices due at the time of removal of said locations will be the obligation of the Client.

WHEREAS, this Agreement contains the entire Agreement between the parties and supersedes all prior representations, agreements, arrangements and understandings between the parties, whether oral or written. This Agreement may be modified only by a writing signed by all parties.

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

RESOLUTION R-2024-326

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 \$4780.90 described in detail on the attachment(s) designated as T-2024-27.

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

RESOLUTION R-2024-327

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 \$46,788.00 described in detail on the attachment(s) designated as T-2024-28.

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

TRANSFERS (Administrative)

- a. MHDS from contingency to salaries of staff for \$20,000.00.
- b. MHDS from MH Admin Mgmt to MH Community services for \$150,000.00.
- c. MHDS from MH Admin Mgmt to MH Respite for \$15,000.00.
- d. MHDS from MH Admin Mgmt to MH Outpatient for \$25,000.00.
- e. MHDS from MH Community Emp to MH Community participation for \$50,000.00.
- f. MHDS from MH Admin Mgmt to MH Housing Support for \$40,000.00.
- g. MHDS from Comm Residential to MH Housing Support for \$160,000.00.
- h. MHDS from ID Services- Base to E.I. Base for \$175,000.00.
- i. Coroner from Contingency to Telephone for \$19.00.
- j. Treasurer from Contingency to Staples for \$120.00.
- k. Treasurer from Contingency to CCAP-unemployment for \$132.00.
- l. ARPA Contingency to ARPA Administrative Expense for \$164,332.00.
- m. Maintenance from Office Minor Equipment to Maintenance & Repairs for \$15,000.00.
- n. Maintenance from Staples to Maintenance & Repairs for \$4,500.00.

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

RESOLUTIONS ON THE TABLE

A. Resolutions on the table:

1. Resolution for discussion and possible approval of Assessment Appeal for Steven F. Hoye and Steven Warner. (R-2024-312)

Motion made by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to remove from the table.

2. Resolution for discussion and possible approval of Assessment Appeal for Fleming Steel Company. (R-2024-314)

Motion made by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to remove from the table.

B. Resolutions to be taken off the table:

1. Resolution for discussion and possible approval of Assessment Appeal for Steven F. Hoye and Steven Warner. (R-2024-312)

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

2. Resolution for discussion and possible approval of Assessment Appeal for Fleming Steel Company. (R-2024-314)

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

ORDINANCES

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. The next Commissioners' Public Meeting will be held on October 29, 2024 @ 10:00AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.
- B. The Prison Board Meeting is today, October 22, 2024 at 12pm in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.
- C. As of December 31, 2024, there will be (1) vacancy on the Lawrence

County Industrial Development Authority. (1st Announcement)

- D. As of December 31, 2024, there will be (2) vacancies on the Lawrence County Housing Authority. (1st Announcement)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Vogler stated there will be a Special Election Board meeting on Monday, November 4, 2024 @ 10AM.

Debbie Wachter asked how long are the terms on the Authorities that will have vacancies. Deputy Chief Clerk, Vanessa Bayless answered the terms are (4) years. Debbie further asked about the assessment resolutions. Commissioner Vogler told her to speak with Solicitor Medure regarding the Assessment Resolutions.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to adjourn the Lawrence County Commissioners' meeting dated Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at 11:10 am.