

LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES OF Tuesday, October 24, 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 24, 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, County Administrator Joe Venasco, Ali Chiapusio, Dorothy Burchett, Robert Burchett and New Castle News, None**. 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 noted that Commissioner Spielvogel is not at today's meeting due to a family commitment.

ROW OFFICERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

None

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

FISCAL/CONTRACTUAL

A. Repository Properties:

RESOLUTION

R-2023-399

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

WHEREAS, NMDS 167 E Mobile LLC placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at 167 Green Lane, Parcel ID No. 24-903189; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at 167 Green Lane, with a Parcel ID No. 24-903189; 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 NMDS 167 E Mobile LLC in the amount of

\$500.00 for Repository Property located at 167 Green Lane, and having a Parcel ID No. 24-903189, Mahoning Township.

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Mr. Vogler to approve said Resolution.
Motion carried 2-0.

RESOLUTION

R-2023-400

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

WHEREAS, Randy Hulings placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at 142 Gary Lane, Parcel ID No. 24-902728; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at 142 Gary Lane, with a Parcel ID No. 24-902728; 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 Randy Hulings in the amount of \$500.00 for Repository Property located at 142 Gary Lane, and having a Parcel ID No. 24-902728, Mahoning Township.

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Mr. Vogler to approve said Resolution.
Motion carried 2-0.

RESOLUTION

R-2023-401

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

WHEREAS, Jarrel Jones placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at Alborn Avenue, Parcel ID No. 31-320300; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at Alborn Avenue, with a Parcel ID No. 31-320300; 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 Jarrel Jones in the amount of \$500.00 for Repository Property located at Alborn Avenue, and having a Parcel ID No. 31-320300, Shenango Township.

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Mr. Vogler to approve said Resolution.
Motion carried 2-0.

RESOLUTION

R-2023-402

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

WHEREAS, 2vin Home Improvements placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at 4352 Hollow Road, Parcel ID No. 31-401300; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at 4352 Hollow Road, with a Parcel ID No. 31-401300; 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 2vin Home Improvements in the amount of \$500.00 for Repository Property located at 3452 Hollow Road, and having a Parcel ID No. 31-401300, Shenango Township.

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Mr. Vogler to reject said Resolution. Motion carried 2-0.

- B. Advertise for bids/proposals: None
- C. Receipt for bids/proposals: None
- D. Warrant Registers:
 - 1. October 18, 2023
 - 2. October 20, 2023

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Mr. Vogler to approve and file said warrant register(s). Motion carried 2-0.

MINUTES AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. Tuesday, October 17, 2023

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Mr. Vogler to approve said minutes. Motion carried 2-0.

- B. Presentation of Written Communications: None

REPORTS

- A. Staff Reports: None
- B. Commissioner Reports

Mr. Vogler stated President Judge Motto will hold a ceremony on Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 9:30 am for the treatment court program that helps those with drug addiction and keeps those individuals out of jail. Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Deborah Todd, a native from Ellwood City, will be recognizing those individuals with an accreditation

the program will be receiving from the State. Mr. Vogler further commented on the Jack Butz Scholarship and what a wonderful human being Mr. Butz was. The last two (2) winners for the scholarship have been from the Lawrence County Career & Technical Center.

Mr. Burick stated:

“Last week Commissioner Vogler and I attended the Lawrence County Career & Technical Center Advisory Board luncheon meeting and once again I was impressed by the students we met there. The outstanding meal was prepared by students in the Restaurant trades shop. For the discussion portion of the meeting, I was seated with two young women who were seniors this year and they shared their positive experiences at school and their plans for after graduation. One was in the Cosmetology Shop but planned to do that as a side career while she pursued a degree and career in broadcast journalism. The other student was one of only two females in the Electrical Occupations Shop, but she was planning to join the United States Air Force and pursue a career in Avionics. I commend all the teachers at LCCTC and the Director Mr. Rich and Principal Caiazza for the excellent job they do preparing their students as the school earned a very high success rate on the NOCTI exams. NOCTI is the National Occupational Competency Testing Institute which provides testing to provide verification of the knowledge and skills expected by an industry as taught by each shop at the school.

I also attended the monthly meeting of the Southwest Pennsylvania Commission on behalf of the county and received updates on three regional initiatives: 1) the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPMG) 2) the United Planning Work Program from the Director of Transportation Planning and an update: Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization Activities from the Director of Workforce & Economic Development.

Last evening Commissioner Spielvogel and I attended the 20th Taste of the Town event held by the United Way of Lawrence County. It was very well attended and as usual there were many area restaurants represented with a great variety of delicious food samples available to enjoy. I thank the United Way Board and volunteers, especially the event Chair Joanne Preston and United Way staff Gayle Young and Myra Thompson for putting on a great event to raise money that supports many excellent charities here in Lawrence County.”

**NEW BUSINESS
RESOLUTIONS**

RESOLUTION R-2023-403

WHEREAS, properties were sold at the Judicial Tax Sale held on April 28, 2023;
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 2023 taxes, the county and road taxes on the attached list of
properties are exonerated for 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS; that the county and road tax be exonerated for 2023.

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Mr. Vogler to approve said Resolution.
Motion carried 2-0.

RESOLUTION R-2023-404

WHEREAS, properties were sold at the Judicial Tax Sale held on April 28, 2023;
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 2023 on the following properties.

Parcel	Municipality	Owner	Situs	New Owner
01-012600	New Castle Ward 1	Mims Realty LLC	N Mercer St.	Salem Properties
08-029100	New Castle Ward 8	Greater Beneficial Union #56	1020 S Jefferson St.	NEK LLC

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 2023.

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Mr. Vogler to approve said Resolution.
Motion carried 2-0.

RESOLUTION R-2023-405

WHEREAS, properties were listed to be sold free and clear of all municipal claims at the Judicial Tax Sale held on April 28, 2023 ; and

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

WHEREAS, the 2023 county, road and school taxes on these properties remain unpaid and the properties must be removed from the current tax roll; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that the 2023 county, road and school taxes on the attached list are to be exonerated for 2023 and removed from the current tax roll.

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Mr. Vogler to approve said Resolution.
Motion carried 2-0.

RESOLUTION R-2023-406

WHEREAS, properties were sold at the Judicial Tax Sale held on April 28, 2023; 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 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; that the county and road tax be exonerated for 2023.

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Mr. Vogler to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 2-0.

TRANSFERS (ADMINISTRATIVE)

- a. District Attorney from Travel and Training to Vehicle

- Expense for \$1,500.00
- b. District Attorney from Travel and Training to Vehicles for \$2,000.00
 - c. District Attorney from Travel Expense Prisoner to Toxicology for 1,343.00
 - d. District Attorney from Contingency to Witness Fees for \$6,793.30
 - e. Sheriff from Salary of Deputies to Uniforms for \$2,000.00
 - f. Sheriff from Salary of Deputies to Overtime for \$25,000.00
 - g. JPO from Contingency to Postage for \$60.00
 - h. JPO from Contingency to Vehicle for \$1,000.00
 - i. JPO from Contingency to Office Equipment \$1,200.00
 - j. JPO from Contingency to Materials & Supplies for \$250.00
 - k. APO from Contingency to Vehicle Expense for \$500.00
 - l. Assessment from Contingency to Postage for \$1,000.00.
 - m. Voters from Contingency to Postage for \$2,098.33
 - n. Voters from Contingency to FICA Expense for \$2,758.77
 - o. Voters from Travel & Trng. To Unemployment Insurance for \$846.05
 - p. Voters from Advertising to Employee benefits for \$7,500.00
 - q. Voters from Materials & Supplies to Employee Benefits for \$23,572.10
 - r. Voters from Contracted Services to Wages of Outside Registrars for \$12,000.00
 - s. Voters from Materials & Supplies to Wages of Outside Registrars for \$1,427.90
 - t. Voters from Travel & Trng. to Wages of Outside Registrars for \$1,653.95

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Mr. Vogler to approve said administrative transfers. Motion carried 2-0.

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

1. Recycling/Solid Waste

Ordinance No. 2 of 2023- Municipal Waste Management Ordinance. (Tabled for further review and adoption of Ordinance shall take place on October 31, 2023.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. The next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 31, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Burchett asked about some of the repository properties. Mr. Vogler stated Tax Claim and Shenango Township Supervisors will be able to help her and answer her questions. She asked what the warrant registers are. Mr. Burick stated they are listings of checks issued by the Controller to pay invoices for services the County has incurred. She further asked if further transfers will need to be made for departments for the rest of the year. The Commissioners stated it is a possibility for unforeseen expenses.

Mr. Burick stated there will be an Election Board meeting on Monday, November 6, 2023. The Courthouse will be open until 6pm on Monday, November 6, 2023 and at 7am on Tuesday, November 7, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Mr. Vogler to adjourn the meeting of the Lawrence County Commissioners meeting dated Tuesday, October 24, 2023, at 10:55 AM. Motion carried 2-0.