

LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES OF Tuesday, September 1st, 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 1st, 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, Scott Baldwin, Donald Andrews, Jessica Maxwell, Rhonda Heaney, Shawn Johnson, John Bout, Tera Gunn, Jennifer Salem and Mary Kelly**. 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: None

Advertise for bids/proposals: None

Receipt for bids/proposals: None

Warrant Registers:

1. August 21st, 2026

2. August 26th, 2026

3. August 28th, 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. August 25th, 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: DK, CS, DV

During Commissioner Reports and Comments, Commissioner Vogler announced that the next public Commissioners' meeting would be held on September 8, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. The Prison Board will meet on September 16, 2026, at noon. He also announced that the Conservation District Board would meet later that day at Soni's Restaurant. The courthouse will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2026, in observance of Labor Day. The September 9 Planning Commission meeting was canceled due to a lack of agenda items. The Commission's next meeting will be held on October 14, 2026, at noon at the Washington Township Municipal Building.

Commissioner Kennedy reported that he spent the weekend with his grandson.

Commissioner Sainato reported attending the Wings and Wheels event at the New Castle Municipal Airport, which featured antique airplanes and automobiles. He also attended a community event sponsored by the City of New Castle and met the new owners of the former St. Lucy Church property in Mahoningtown, where a dance studio is being established. Commissioner Sainato also participated in the Memories Car Cruise and encouraged the public to support the upcoming Back to the '50s event at Cascade Park.

RESOLUTION R-2026-223

WHEREAS, the Commissioners by resolution number R-2003-18 created a Redevelopment Authority of Lawrence County and requested a Board of Directors shall exist; and

WHEREAS, said board shall exist and operate for the public purpose of the elimination of blighted areas through economically and socially sound redevelopment of areas under the provisions of the Urban Redevelopment Law; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that: the Lawrence County Commissioners do hereby appoint the following to the Redevelopment Authority of Lawrence County Board.

1. Maxwell Frederick, 187 Maidenblush Drive, New Wilmington, PA 16142 (Wilmington Township), to replace Benjamin Bush, for a term that will expire on December 31, 2027

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

RESOLUTION R-2026-224

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Commissioners desire to contract for certain services; and

WHEREAS, the County has the authority and duty to provide services; and

WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires employers that sponsor self-insured health plans and large employers with 50 or more full-time employees to report certain information to the IRS concerning the coverage offered to their employees; and

WHEREAS, the Reschini Group will provide services to assist its clients in complying with these requirements. The cost for services related to the 2026 reporting year will be \$6.50 per Form 1095 (individual statement), subject to an annual minimum charge of \$500.00; and

WHEREAS, the County wishes to enter into an agreement with the Reschini Group; and

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

1. The County of Lawrence is hereby authorized to enter into an Engagement Agreement with the Reschini Group, Laurel Place, 922 Philadelphia Street, Indiana, PA 15701-3940.

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

RESOLUTION R-2026-225

WHEREAS, Lawrence County, through its Children and Youth Department, desires to contract for social services; and

WHEREAS, the County has the authority and duty to provide social services to children and youth, subject to the regulations established by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Juvenile Code;

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

1. The Purchase of Service Agreement with the provider Community Alternatives, Inc. shall be in effect for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.
2. Costs shall be incurred only if the provider or service is used by Lawrence County pursuant to the Agreement.
3. Authorization is hereby given to execute an Agreement with the following service provider:

Community Alternatives, Inc.
700 South Scotland Lane
New Castle, PA 16101

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

RESOLUTION R- 2026-226

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence, Department of Children and Youth Services receives Act 148 child welfare funding; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth, and Families, has awarded funding in fiscal year 2026-2027 to the County of Lawrence to implement a Parent Support Partner service; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence, Department of Children and Youth Services is requesting RFP proposals from applicants to implement the above-mentioned specialty service; and

WHEREAS, the County will advertise RFP proposals on September 10th and September 17th with proposals being due on October 1, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners that the Board of Commissioners will be advertising for RFP proposals for "Parent Support Partner", with proposals being due by no later than 4:00 p.m. on October 1, 2026

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

RESOLUTION R-2026 -227

Whereas, Lawrence County Domestic Relations is in need of a maintenance Agreement to cover the Kardex Lektriever File System; and

Whereas, the Lawrence County Domestic Relations currently uses the services of Hruska Enterprises, Inc. of Youngstown, Ohio to provide maintenance to the Kardex Lektriever File Sytem.

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

1. Hruska Enterprises, Inc., P.O. Box 3409, Youngstown, Ohio 44513-3409 will provide a Maintenance Agreement for the Lawrence County Domestic Relations Department's Kardex Lektriever File System; and
2. Costs will not exceed \$1,530.00 for a one-year period 10/01/2026 through 9/30/2027.

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

RESOLUTION R-2026 -228

WHEREAS, Lawrence County wishes to approve a Permissive Absence Day for employees who make a minimum donation to the United Way for the year 2027; and
WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners approve a Permissive Absence Day for the year 2027 with a minimum donation of \$5.00 per pay; and
WHEREAS, all employees (union/non-union) with the exception of jail personnel may participate and this is strictly voluntary for the employee; and
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS that;
The Lawrence County Commissioners authorize the approval of a Permissive Absence Day for employees (union/non-union) who make a minimum donation of \$5.00 per pay towards the United Way for the year 2027.

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

RESOLUTION R-2026 -229

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, 2026, through June 30, 2027
2. Authorization is hereby given to execute the following addendum:
Angelus Theraputic Services, Inc - as detailed in attachment designated 2026-2027_ Program description and rates are also listed within the attachment.
Be it further resolved those payments be made from the MH/DS fund.

RESOLUTION R-2026 -230

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, 2026, through June 30, 2027
2. Authorization is hereby given to execute the following addendum:
Alliance for Non-Profit - as detailed in attachment designated 2026-2027_ 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 Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato, to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0

RESOLUTION R-2026 -231

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, 2026, through June 30, 2027

2. Authorization is hereby given to execute the following addendum:

Mercy Life Center Corporation - as detailed in attachment designated 2026-2027_ 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 Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato, to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0

RESOLUTION R-2026 -232

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, 2026, through June 30, 2027

2. Authorization is hereby given to execute the following addendum:

Passavant Memorial Homes Inc. - as detailed in attachment designated 2026-2027_ 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 Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato, to approve said Resolutions. Motion carried 3-0

RESOLUTION R-2026 -233

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (PA DOC), has announced the availability of the 2024 County Jail-Based Vivitrol Program funding; and

WHEREAS, this non-competitive funding opportunity aims to support counties in establishing or expanding jail-based substance abuse treatment programs that include the administration of Vivitrol, a long-acting, non-narcotic and non-addictive medication, to eligible individuals in county jails and upon release to the community; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence County is eligible to apply for an allocation of \$125,554 to support the expansion of such a program within its county jail, over 24 months having a start date of October 1, 2024, and an extension to have an end date of September 30, 2027; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program would significantly enhance the substance abuse treatment services provided to individuals reentering society, thereby improving outcomes for these individuals and reducing recidivism rates; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Lawrence County to pursue this funding opportunity to benefit its residents and improve the effectiveness of its treatment programming.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that authorization is given to execute, submit, and sign the necessary grant application through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

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

TRANSFER (ADMINISTRATIVE)

- a. Commissioners from contingency to other improvements for \$650,000.00
- b. Juvenile probation from contingency to subscriptions for \$150.00
- c. Jail from materials and supplies to overtime for \$10,000.00
 - Jail from office major to overtime for \$5,000.00
 - Jail from contracted services to overtime for \$500.00
 - Jail from travel & training to overtime for \$3,865.00
 - Jail from contingency to overtime for \$17,000.00
- d. MDJ Nicholson from contingency to maintenance & repair for \$1,000.00.
- e. MDJ Amodie from Part Time temp to Postage for \$2,500.00

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato, 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. It was announced that the next Commissioners' meeting would be held on Tuesday, September 8th, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.
- 2. The Conservation Board meeting that is being held on the first of the month has been RESCHEDULED for Tuesday September 1st at 1pm, located at Soni's Restaurant.
- 3. It was announced that the Courthouse will be closed Monday September 7th in observance of Labor Day.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to adjourn the Lawrence County Commissioners' meeting dated Tuesday, September 1st, 2026 @ 10:40 AM. Motion carried 3-0.