

LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES OF Tuesday, November 14, 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, November 14, 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, County Administrator Joe Venasco, Rebecca Shaffer, Amy McKinney, Sarah Eppinger, Mike Grippo, 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.

ROW OFFICERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

None

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

FISCAL/CONTRACTUAL

A. Repository Properties:

RESOLUTION

R-2023-424

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 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 Jarrel Jones in the amount of \$500.00 for Repository Property located at 4352 Hollow Road, and having a Parcel ID No. 31-401300, Shenango Township.

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

B. Advertise for bids/proposals: None

C. Receipt for bids/proposals:

1. Quaker Falls Park Recreation Area-Phase II
Three (3) bids were received.
 - a. Vermont Stone, Pittsburgh, PA-\$272,615.00
 - b. Horizon Construction Group-Seneca, PA-\$199,950.00
 - c. SET Inc.-Lowellville, OH-\$315,282.70

Moved by Ms. Spielvogel, seconded by Mr. Burick to table the bids for further review. Motion carried 3-0.

D. Warrant Registers:

1. November 9, 2023
2. November 8, 2023
3. November 6, 2023
4. October 31, 2023

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

MINUTES AND CORRESPONDENCE

A. Approval of Minutes:

- a. Tuesday, October 31, 2023

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

B. Presentation of Written Communications:

1. IAG Consulting-Act 14 Notification National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System for Royalty Place Subdivision, 412 Old Youngstown Road, New Castle (Union Twp.)

Moved by Mr. Burick, seconded by Ms. Spielvogel to file said written correspondence. Motion carried 3-0.

REPORTS

A. Staff Reports:

None

B. Commissioner Reports

Mr. Vogler stated the County lost two (2) gentlemen that served in local municipal government. Mr. Michael Ferraro was formerly on Bessemer Borough Council and served as a former Mayor. Further, Mr. Don Little, former Volant Borough Council member, both passed away.

Mr. Burick stated Over the last two weeks, I spent a lot of time working on Election Board issues to prepare for and conduct the 2023 General Election. I commend the county elections staff and people who worked on our behalf at the polls on a great job. The Election Board will meet in about two weeks to review the results and any other issues or concerns that arose.

I attended the following meetings:

- The Lawrence County Planning Commission meeting held at Shenango Township Municipal building.
- I met with the staff of the Lawrence County Housing Authority and State Representative Marla Brown to go over current issues and concerns related to public housing.
- I participated in the LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) at the county Department of Public Safety.
- I attended a webinar hosted by the Council on Foreign Relations on the current situation in Israel.
- I attended an Opioid Education Program held at Neshannock High School sponsored by the Lawrence County Medical Society. Many great speakers gave talks on different aspects of the Opioid epidemic including a Deputy County Coroner who stated that almost all drugs involved in the cases he has handled have been laced with Fentanyl. Last year our county had 85 overdose deaths and so far, this year we have had 51. That is 51 too many but at least that number is decreasing, and I hope that the efforts of all those working on this issue keep those numbers moving in a downward trend.

Ms. Spielvogel stated she attended a lot of the same meetings Mr. Burick reviewed. She wished the new Commissioners, Dan Kennedy and Chris Sainato well in the coming year. She further discussed the 911 system and how a surcharge should be placed on cell phones versus the tax payers of the County having to pay out of pocket costs to fund the 911 system. It is an essential part of life that must be kept up to date and running efficiently.

NEW BUSINESS
RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION

R-2023-425

WHEREAS, Lawrence County, through its Children and Youth Department, desires to contract certain 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 (DHS) and the Juvenile Code:

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

1. The Purchase of Service Agreement under the provider Community Options, Inc. shall be in effect for the period of July 01, 2023, through June 30, 2024.
2. Costs are incurred only if the provider or service is being used by Lawrence County per the Agreement.
3. Authorization is hereby given to execute an Agreement with the following service provider:

Community Options, Inc.
16 Farber Road
Princeton, NJ. 08540

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

RESOLUTION

R-2023-426

WHEREAS, Lawrence County, through its Children and Youth Department, desires to contract certain 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 (DHS) and the Juvenile Code:

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

1. The Purchase of Service Agreement under the provider Computer Aid, Inc. (CAI) shall be in effect for the period of July 01, 2023, through June 30, 2024. Services will be provided at \$85/hr. not to exceed \$7,225.
2. Costs are incurred only if the provider or service is being used by Lawrence County per the Agreement.
3. Authorization is hereby given to execute an Agreement with the following service provider:

**Computer Aid, Inc. (CAI)
1390 Ridgeview Drive
Allentown, PA. 18104**

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

RESOLUTION

R-2023-427

WHEREAS, 2024 will mark the 175th Anniversary of the creation of Lawrence County; and

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Commissioners wish to adopt an official logo and flag to commemorate the Anniversary; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that the attached logo and flag be adopted to commemorate the 175th Anniversary of the creation of Lawrence County.

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

RESOLUTION

R-2023-428

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 Family First Housing Program CDBG-CV Revenue Fund Account: 56331000.331000.14228 by \$338,765.00; and

INCREASING Family First Housing Program CDBG-CV Expense Fund Account: 56418000.999900.56131 by \$338,765.00 and;

Reason: Additional Funds Received

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

RESOLUTION R-2023-429

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 Opioid Revenue Fund Account: 62390000.342000 by \$140,450.00; and

INCREASING DA Major-Equipment Opioid Expense Fund Account: 62419400.201300 by \$140,450.00

Reason: Camera System

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

RESOLUTION R-2023-430

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 \$4,800.00 described in detail on the attachment(s) designated as T-2023-38.

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

RESOLUTION R-2023-431

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 \$1,236.00 described in detail on the attachment(s) designated as T-2023-039.

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

RESOLUTION

R-2023-432

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 \$49,698.09 described in detail on the attachment(s) designated as T-2023-40.

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

RESOLUTION

R-2023-433

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 \$15,000.00 described in detail on the attachment(s) designated as T-2023-41.

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

TRANSFERS (ADMINISTRATIVE)

- a. Domestic Relations from Contingency to Hauling Refuge for \$645.00
- b. Courts from Contingency to Maint/Repairs for \$1,000.00
- c. Courts from Steno Supplies to Maint/Repairs for \$300.00

- d. Jail from Various Accounts to Various Accounts for \$66,427.00
- e. Central Court from Telephone to Mat/Supplies for \$250.00
- f. Central Court from Contingency to Mat & Supplies for \$500.00
- g. Veterans from Contingency to Office Major for \$2,230.00
- h. APO from Contingency to Hauling Refuse for \$642.00
- i. DJ Amodie from Contingency to Staples for \$500.00
- j. Tax Claim from Contracted Consultants to Postage for \$2,000.00
- k. District Attorney from various accounts to various account totaling \$7,306.77
- l. Human Resources from Association Dues to Maintenance & Repair for \$75.00
- m. Liquid Fuels from Contingency to Liquid Fuels County Aid for \$68,580.62
- n. Public Defender from Contingency to Attorney Fees for \$75.00
- o. Planning from Contingency to Travel & Training for \$1,500.00
- p. Assessor from Contingency to Land/Building Rental for \$80.00
- q. Miscellaneous Central Services to Central Services Land/Building Rental for \$1,100.00
- r. Juvenile Probation from Contingency to Office Equipment for \$100.00
- s. Liquid Fuels from Bridge Maintenance to Liquid Fuels Bridge Inspections for \$8,488.68
- t. Controller from Contingency to Land/Building Rental for \$450.00
- u. Coroner from Act 182-Contingency to Act 182-Vehicle Expense for \$2,000.00
- v. Recycling from Contingency to Vehicle Expense for \$500.00

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

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

- | | |
|------------------|------|
| A. Discussion: | None |
| B. On the Table: | None |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. The next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.
- B. There will not be a Commissioners' Meeting on Tuesday, November 21, 2023 due to the Commissioners attending the CCAP Fall Conference.
- C. There will be a Retirement Board Meeting today, immediately following the Commissioners' Meeting, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.
- D. There will be a Prison Board Meeting on Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 12:00 Noon in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Burick noted there he will reconvene the Election Board with a meeting on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at 11:00AM.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Ms. Spielvogel, seconded by Mr. Burick to adjourn the meeting of the Lawrence County Commissioners meeting dated Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 11:00 AM. Motion carried 3-0.