

LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES OF Tuesday, May 26, 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 Tuesday, May 26, 2026, was called to order by **Commissioner Dan Vogler**, at 9:00 AM at the Lawrence County Commissioners' Meeting Room. **Administrative Assistant, Ryan Anderson**, called the roll. Those in attendance were **Commissioner Chris Sainato, Commissioner Dan Kennedy, County Administrator, Joseph Venasco, Donald Andrews, Amy McKinney, Joshua Lamancusa, Amanda Norman, and no one 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 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:
- B. Advertise for bids/proposals: None
- C. Receipt for bids/proposals: None
- D. Warrant Registers:

- 1. May 8, 2026
- 2. May 13, 202
- 3. May 18, 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. May 12, 2026

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

- B. Presentation of Written Communications:

1. Gateway Engineers- Act 67, 68 and 127 for a culvert replacement/restoration of disturbed areas. Kildoo Rd, Slippery Rock & Muddy Creek TWPS, Lawrence County & Butler County, PA.

2. Widmer Engineering Inc.- applying for a Chapter 2 County Notification of Planned Land Development at Mohawk Area School District. (North Beaver Township).

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

VI. REPORTS

REPORTS

A. Staff Reports: None

B. Commissioner Reports: DK, CS, DV

Commissioner Kennedy stated that he and Commissioner Sainato attended the New Bedford Memorial Day event this past weekend. He had stated that all three of the Commissioners had attended the Stephen Masionary and Construction LLC 40th celebration event which turned out nicely.

Commissioner Sainato stated that they had an extensive week of events to address as it was leading up to Memorial Day weekend. Saturday, they attended the 250th celebration of breakfast at the Armory. Then he went to the Ellwood City Chamber meeting with Commissioner Kennedy. Mr. Sainato stated that he loved seeing the cooperation between both Lawrence County and Ellwood City Chambers of Commerce at the Kohler Brewing Company in Ellwood City. He mentioned that there are to be new Kohlers coming to New Castle in the future. Mr. Sainato attended the REMAX Grand Opening in Downtown New Castle with Commissioner Vogler. Mr. Sainato attended the New Bedford Memorial Day Parade and unfortunately did not have a great turnout because of the harsh weather. He then stated that this was their 130th consecutive parade since they have begun having them. Finally, Mr. Sainato attended the Mahoning Township Memorial Day Parade in his hometown. He wanted to send a special thank you to Rose Perotta and her committee for doing such a wonderful job setting up and organizing the event.

Commissioner Vogler attended the Memorial Day Parade and Service in Ellwood on Monday morning. He noted that several eighth-grade students from Ellwood and Riverside Schools participated in an essay contest, and three were selected to read their essays aloud at the event. He added that the essays were exceptionally well written. Mr. Vogler wanted to state history regarding New Bedford, it was one of the oldest settled areas in the county. It was settled in the 1860's where it was first initially a borough for a few years then returned to a village.

Resolution R-2026-96

BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM AWARD AGREEMENT

This Agreement made this 26th day of May 2026 by and between the between the City of New Castle, Pennsylvania, a body corporate and politic, created and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ("City") and the County of Lawrence, Pennsylvania, a body corporate and politic, created and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ("County"),

Recitals:

WHEREAS, The City and the County (individually a “Party” and jointly the “Governing Bodies” or “Parties”), in performing or paying for the performance of governmental functions, make payments for services provided to their respective taxpayers from current revenues available to the Governing Bodies; and

WHEREAS, the Parties have received a 2026 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program Award (“Grant Funds”), and

WHEREAS, the Parties have determined that it is in the best interest of the residents and taxpayers of the Governing Bodies to enter into this Agreement and, that the undertaking will benefit the public, and that the allocation of funds fairly compensates the Governing Bodies for the services or functions under this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Parties agree to utilize the Grant Funds for individual and joint cooperative projects with each other and with other federal, state, county and municipal governments, departments and agencies (“Agencies”); and

WHEREAS, the Parties have determined that it is in the best interest of the Governing Bodies, their residents and taxpayers, to allocate \$10,484 of the Grant Funds to the City and \$0 to the County, for site development and equipment for a municipal gun range of the Parties’ law enforcement departments.

NOW THEREFORE, the City agrees as follows:

Section 1: The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein.

Section 2: The City and County agree to use the Grant Funds for City, County and/or joint law enforcement projects for the benefit of the City and County.

Section 3: The City shall serve as the fiscal agent for the Grant Funds.

Section 4: Nothing in the performance of this Agreement shall impose any liability for claims against the City or the County other than claims for which liability may be imposed by tort claims laws.

Section 5. Each Party shall be responsible for its own actions providing services under this Agreement and shall not be liable for any civil liability that may arise from the furnishing of services by the other.

Section 6. The parties to this Agreement do not intend for third parties to obtain any rights by virtue of this Agreement.

Section 7. By entering into this Agreement, the Parties do not intend to create any obligations express or implied other than those set out herein; further, this Agreement shall not create any rights in any party not a signatory hereto.

Intending to be legally bound hereby, the parties set their hands and seal the date first written above.

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

RESOLUTION R-2026-97

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is permitted to assist in funding transportation projects completed by local municipalities that are eligible under the liquid fuel requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners makes such transportation funding available to municipalities with the transportation funding received from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in the form of Liquid Fuels; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners made and formalized an official grant process for municipal transportation assistance, and all twenty-six municipalities were eligible to apply to the County by April 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the following municipalities will receive a total of \$12,000.00

1. City of New Castle
2. Bessemer Borough
3. Ellport Borough
4. Ellwood City Borough
5. Enon Valley Borough
6. New Beaver Borough
7. New Wilmington Borough
8. Wampum Borough
9. Hickory Township
10. Mahoning Township
11. Neshannock Township
12. North Beaver Township
13. Plain Grove Township
14. Pulaski Township
15. Slippery Rock Township
16. Taylor Township
17. Union Township
18. Washington Township
19. Wayne Township
20. Wilmington Township

WHEREAS, due to the merger of South New Castle Borough with Shenango Township, Shenango Township has requested additional funds; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioner will allocate a total of \$24,000 to Shenango Township and will give the same consideration to any municipality that merges with another municipality for a period not to exceed five (5) years.

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; that the attached projects were submitted and have been deemed eligible for funding under the requirements of Liquid Fuels and Fees for Local Use Fund.

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

RESOLUTION R-2026-98

WHEREAS, Lawrence County is required to update their Comprehensive Plan every ten (10) years; and

WHEREAS, the County was awarded a grant from the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to update the Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the County has created a steering committee made up of members of Lawrence County and regional agencies to help guide the development of the Comprehensive Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that the Lawrence County Commissioners have asked the following County residents to serve on the steering committee for the Lawrence County Comprehensive Plan update:

1. Ginny Colella
2. Jennifer Elliott
3. Maxwell Frederick
4. Jim Gagliano
5. Rachel Hanson
6. Kimberly Kollar-Jones
7. Ken Langford
8. Ryan McCandless
9. Anita McKeever
10. Frank Moses
11. Hygeia Moss-Eggleston
12. Dave Richards
13. Mitch Whiting
14. Debbie Yeager
15. Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission Representative
16. Northwest Commission Representative

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

RESOLUTION R-2026-99

WHEREAS, Section 1784 of the County Code, Supplemental Appropriations Transfer of Funds; Appropriations Limits, authorizes the Board of Commissioners, by resolution, to make

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:

Cray Youth and Family Services, Inc.
44 S. Beaver Street
New Castle, PA. 16101

RESOLUTION R-2026 -102

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 MHY Family Services shall be in effect for the period of July 01, 2026, through June 30, 2027.
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:

MHY Family Services
521 Route 228
Mars, PA. 16046

RESOLUTION R-2026 -103

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 Children's Advocacy Center of Lawrence County shall be in effect for the period of July 01, 2026, through June 30, 2027.
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:

Children's Advocacy Center of Lawrence County
2010 West State St.
New Castle, PA. 16101

RESOLUTION

R-2026 - 104

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 Am-Gard, Inc. shall be in effect for the period of July 01, 2026, through June 30, 2027.
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:

**Am-Gard, Inc.
600 Main Street
Pittsburgh, PA. 15215**

R E S O L U T I O N R-2026- 105

WHEREAS the County desires to enter into an agreement for professional legal services and representation to shall provide legal service/representation to Lawrence County Children and Youth Services (Agency); and

WHEREAS these cases and duties shall be assigned by and at the sole discretion of the Agency Director while under the direct supervision of the Agency Solicitor and shall include all dependency matters assigned; and

WHEREAS three agreements to provide such services to the County shall be authorized and executed.

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

1. Authorization is hereby given to execute this agreement with an unlimited number of juvenile dependency cases, as assigned by the Director of Children and Youth Services, to the following attorney for professional legal services in juvenile dependency cases:
 - A. Kevin Lorello**
2. Agreement shall contain the following provisions:
 - a. As consideration for the services to be rendered under this Agreement, County agrees to pay Contractor a fixed rate not to exceed \$20,000/year to be paid in twelve (12) equal monthly payments on or about the 10th day of each month. All payments will be by electronic transfer.
 - b. The agreement shall be in effect for the period **July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027** unless terminated sooner by either party.

RESOLUTION

R-2026 -106

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 The Bair Foundation of Pennsylvania shall be in effect for the period of July 01, 2026, through June 30, 2027.
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:

**The Bair Foundation of Pennsylvania
241 High St
New Wilmington, PA. 16142**

RESOLUTION

R-2026-107

WHEREAS, the County entered into a lease agreement in July of 2005, **Resolution R-2005-132** with Pitney Bowes to provide equipment and maintenance for the postal machine and renewed said lease in July 2021 by Resolution **R-2021-117**; and

WHEREAS, said lease agreement is periodically in need of renewal; and

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

1. Authorization is hereby given to execute a sixty (60) month lease agreement with Pitney Bowes for a "SendProMailCenter" Business Solution, including maintenance, meter renewal and analytic software.
2. The Monthly lease payment shall be \$1,022.86 per month.

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to approve Resolutions R-2026-100 through and including Resolution R-2026-106. Motion carried 3-0.

Transfers (Administrative)

- a. Juvenile Probation from office equipment to staples for \$1,700.00.
- b. District Attorney from criminal investigation to travel expenses-prisoner for \$7,385.00.
- c. Commissioners from contingency to materials and supplies for \$2,000.00.

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to approve said 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

- A. The Treasurer's Office will be closing for one day only on June 3rd, 2026, for training purposes.

C. There will be a Retirement Board meeting on June 2nd, 2026, at 11am in the Commissioners Meeting Room.

D. The Lawrence County Courthouse will be CLOSED on June 19th, 2026, in observance of Juneteenth.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to adjourn the Lawrence County Commissioners' meeting dated Tuesday, Mar 26, 2026 @ 10:52 AM. Motion carried 3-0.