

**LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**  
**PUBLIC MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF Tuesday, March 26, 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, March 26, 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, Dorothy Burchett, Bob Burchett, Amy McKinney, 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.

Mr. Vogler asked everyone to keep the family of Josh and Carmen Lamancusa in their thoughts and prayers.

**ROW OFFICERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

None

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**FISCAL/CONTRACTUAL**

A. Repository Properties:

**RESOLUTION**

**R-2024-59**

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

**WHEREAS**, Dominick Grant placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at N. Liberty Street, Parcel ID No. 07-065600; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at N. Liberty Street, with a Parcel ID No. 07-065600; 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 Dominick Grant in the

amount of \$500.00 for Repository Property located at N. Liberty Street, and having a Parcel ID No. 07-065600, City of New Castle.

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

**RESOLUTION**

**R-2024-60**

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

**WHEREAS**, Michael Henry & Tyler Coe placed a bid of \$650.00 on property located at 215 E. Home Street, Parcel ID No. 05-019500; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at 215 E. Home Street, with a Parcel ID No. 05-019500; 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 Michael Henry & Tyler Coe in the amount of \$650.00 for Repository Property located at 215 E. Home Street, and having a Parcel ID No. 05-019500, City of New Castle.

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

B. Advertise for bids/proposals: None

C. Receipt for bids/proposals: None

D. Warrant Registers:

1. March 20, 2024

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. Tuesday, March 19, 2024

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

B. Presentation of Written Communications:

1. Frank B. Taylor Engineering-Mark Campese-909 East Fairfield Avenue, New Castle (Neshannock Twp.)-A Single Residence Sewage Treatment Plant to replace the malfunctioning septic system.

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to accept and file the written communication. Motion carried 3-0.

### REPORTS

A. Staff Reports: None

B. Commissioner Reports

Mr. Kennedy stated the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration last week was very well attended and he thanked Debbie Wachter and Dan Vogler for their hard work on the event. He also thanked Mr. Michael Kraus, the keynote speaker. He further stated that the people of Baltimore, MD were in his thoughts and prayers this morning with the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge.

Mr. Sainato stated the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration was done very thoughtfully and he was impressed with the range of people that attended. He thanked former Commissioners Brian Burick and Beth Verterano, along with the entire committee for their hard work on the event. He further commented Judge Motto on his knowledge of the County.

Mr. Vogler reviewed the meetings over the last week. He concurred with Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Sainato regarding the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. He further stated that this Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> there will be a groundbreaking ceremony at the previous golf course, Stonecrest, on Rt. 18 in Wampum, New Beaver Borough. The site will become an industrial park.

### NEW BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

**RESOLUTION**

**R-2024-61**

**WHEREAS**, Kayla Fields, a full-time supervisor, is requesting to attend the Child Welfare Education and Leadership Program (CWEL) at the University of Pittsburgh to pursue an advanced degree in Social Work; and

**WHEREAS**, her salary and benefits will be reimbursed at 95%, and

**WHEREAS**, Kayla Fields shall return to county employment for an equal period of time for which her leave was granted.

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

1. Authorization is hereby given to Kayla Fields to participate in the CWEL program as outlined in this attachment.

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

**RESOLUTION**

**R-2024-62**

**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 Cray Youth & Family Services (Community Service) shall be in effect for the period of January 01, 2024, through June 30, 2024.
2. That the contract for Cray Youth & Family Services was approved on 7/18/2023, request to be amended to include Saturday Support.
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**

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

**RESOLUTION**

**R-2024-63**

**WHEREAS**, the Lawrence County District Attorney is currently looking to invest in ideas and strategies that improve systems and help make our community safer by bringing together community service providers, public safety agencies, businesses, nonprofits, and the faith community to address local reentry issues, assets, and barriers; working together to engage the community in reentry related issues by educating for community buy-in, identifying community assets and service gaps, identifying reentry resources and coordinating service delivery to promote public safety; advocating for policy changes in their communities; creating a mission and vision; focusing on

key areas for the success of reentry: employment, housing, health, mental health, identifying documents, family reunification, financial management, substance abuse, education and transportation; developing a strategic plan focused around the areas above; developing by-laws for the Reentry Coalition; supporting on-going search of opportunities for funding of federal, state, and/or local dollars through grant or local funding opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), serving as the State Administering Agency (SAA) for federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds provided by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs (OJP), announced the availability funds with the purpose of supporting local Initiatives that directly address the PCCD Objectives and Goals outlined in the PCCD's 2021-2025 Strategic Framework, such as increasing the availability of high-quality reentry programs and practices across the Commonwealth; and

**WHEREAS**, the PCCD will fund budgets up to \$250,000 over 24 months beginning October 1, 2024; and

**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 Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

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

#### **Resolution R-2024-64**

**WHEREAS**, the Lawrence County Department of Planning and Community Development would like to renew the annual maintenance for County owned parks and boat launches, and

**WHEREAS**, the Lawrence County Department of Planning and Community Development reviewed the proposal from Piatt's Landscaping LLC and requests to renew our contract with Piatt's Landscaping LLC, 3374 West Pittsburg Road, New Castle, PA 16101, and

**WHEREAS**, the contract amount includes the following:

- a. Monthly mowing for 2024 beginning in April and ending in October.
  - i. Tentative schedule is:
    1. April 1 time - get area prepared for season
    2. May 2 times a month (or as needed)
    3. June 2 times a month (or as needed)
    4. July 2 times a month
    5. August 1 time
    6. September 1 time

7. October 1 time

b. The above schedule is subject to change.

**WHEREAS**, the contract amount will not exceed \$70,620.00 as described in Piatt's Landscaping LLC attached proposal.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Commissioners approve the contract for the Annual Maintenance of all county owned parks and boat launches with Piatt's Landscaping, LLC, 3374 West Pittsburg Road, New Castle, PA 16101 for an amount not to exceed \$70,620.00.

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

RESOLUTION R-2024-65

WHEREAS, the Mental Health and Intellectual Disability Act of 1966 allows for the purchase of appropriate services; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence County, through its Mental Health and Developmental Services contracts for certain services; and,

WHEREAS, the Mental Health and Developmental Services is responsible for the diagnosis, care, treatment, and rehabilitation of County residents who are mentally disabled; and

WHEREAS, from time to time it is necessary to make amendments to the original Agreement;

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Mental Health and Developmental Services currently has a Base contract with Human Services Center for the period from **July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.**

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

1. It is specifically understood and agreed that the stated maximum of \$4,095,294.00. for various services shall be adjusted to \$4,420,294.00. Revised budget page(s) is/are attached to support these changes. There is no language change to this contract.
2. All provisions of the agreement dated **July 1, 2023** between the parties shall remain as heretofore established.

Mr. Baldwin was not in attendance to review the Resolution.

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

**TRANSFERS (Administrative)**

- a. Voter Registration from Contingency to Process Voter Apps for \$50,000.00
- b. Voter Registration from Contingency to Material/Supply for \$2,000.00
- c. Controller from Contingency to Minor Equipment for \$750.00
- d. Commissioners from Contingency to Materials & Supplies for \$7,500.00.

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

**RESOLUTIONS ON THE TABLE**

None

**RESOLUTIONS TO BE TAKEN OFF THE TABLE**

None

**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 April 2, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.
- B. The Courthouse will be closed on Friday, March 29, 2024 in observance of Good Friday.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Debbie Wachter wanted to thank Janet Falotico, Ginny Colella, Andrew Henley, Ian Baker and the entire committee for their hard work on the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

Mr. Kennedy told Ms. Wachter there were many articles in the paper over the last week and to keep up the good work.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to adjourn the Lawrence County Commissioners' meeting dated Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 10:40 AM.

