

**LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**  
**PUBLIC MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF Tuesday, February 1, 2022**

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, February 1, 2022, was called to order by **Commissioner Morgan Boyd**, at 10:00 am at the Lawrence County Commissioners Meeting Room. Deputy Chief Clerk, Vanessa Bayless called the roll. Those in attendance were, **Commissioner Daniel Vogler, Joseph Venasco, Debbie Wachter, New Castle News, Ellwood City Ledger, Nick Vercilla, Jeff Parish, Chad Strobel, Bruce Peterson, Chuck Masters, Michael Occhibone, Jack McConahy, Tony Borrelli, JR Hardester, Allen Miller**. 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: None
- B. Warrant Registers:
  - 1. January 26, 2022

Moved by Mr. Vogler, seconded by Mr. Boyd to file said warrant register. Motion carried 2-0.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 1. The minutes of Tuesday, January 25, 2021

Moved by Mr. Vogler, seconded by Mr. Boyd to accept and file the minutes. Motion carried 2-0.

**WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**REPORTS**

**Staff Reports**

None

**COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Mr. Boyd stated the County has received a \$1M grant from the SPC for sidewalk infrastructure in Union Township. He thanked SPC.

Mr. Vogler stated we are one of the few counties in PA that are affiliated with SPC and NWC. The Commissioners sit on both boards which is nice to receive input and funding from both entities.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION R-2022-34**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners desires to preserve continuity in the Office of County Solicitor;  
and

**WHEREAS**, Attorney Carolyn Flannery has previously served as the Lawrence County Assistant Solicitor;  
and

**WHEREAS**, Attorney Carolyn Flannery has experience in all legal aspects of Lawrence County, including knowledge of past litigation and current legal issues before Lawrence County.

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

1. Authorization is hereby given to execute a one (1) year consulting agreement with Attorney Carolyn Flannery for legal services.

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

#### **RESOLUTION R-2022-35**

**WHEREAS**, Jeffrey Parish was hired on October 15, 2001 as the Deputy Director of EMA; and

**WHEREAS**, Jeffrey Parish became the Director of EMA on January 9, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, Jeffrey Parish wishes to retire, effective February 4, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners accept Mr. Parish's retirement and wish to appoint Chad Strobel as the Interim Director of EMA, effective February 4, 2022; and

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

1. Accepting Jeffrey Parish's retirement date effective February 4, 2022; and
2. Appointing Chad Strobel as the Interim Director of EMA effective February 4, 2022 at the base rate salary.

Mr. Boyd and Mr. Vogler thanked Mr. Parish for his service at the County. He has a very strong work ethic and his knowledge and skill level is outstanding, it is bittersweet to vote today. They also welcomed Mr. Strobel and said they have full faith and confidence in him to take over as the Interim Director.

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

#### **RESOLUTION R-2021-36**

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners desire to enter into a professional contract with Wish Development, with its principal place of business at 26 Nesbitt Road, Suite 300, New Castle, PA 16105; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners desire to execute the attached term sheet with Wish Development for tenant, County of Lawrence-District Court 53-3-04, The Honorable Rick Russo; and

**NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED** by the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners to execute the attached term sheet with Wish Development.

Discussion was held to table the Resolution, stating that it will be on the agenda next week for a vote.

Moved by Mr. Vogler, seconded by Mr. Boyd to table said Resolution for one (1) week. Motion carried 2-0.

#### **RESOLUTION R-2022-37**

**WHEREAS**, 53P.S. Section 8851 states that each county shall Appoint a "Board of Assessment Appeals"; and

**WHEREAS**, said Board of Assessment Appeals consists of the three county commissioners in each county unless the county commissioners appoint a board consisting of three members to serve for terms which shall expire concurrently with the term of the county commissioners making the appointment; and

**WHEREAS**, 53 P.S. Section 8852 states The County Commissioners shall appoint a chairman of the board unless the County Commissioners serve as the Board of Revisions; and

**WHEREAS**, said Board of Assessment Appeal will delegate the responsibility of managing the Assessment Office to the Chief Assessor/Director of Assessment in Accordance to Act 93 of 2010.

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

1. The Board of Assessment Appeals shall be appointed to serve for 2022-2024 as follows:

John McConahy, 4841 Mathews Road, Edinburg, PA 16116  
(Mahoning Township)

The Commissioners welcomed Mr. McConahy and thanked him for serving on the Board. Mr. McConahy gave a brief overview of his realty background.

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

#### **RESOLUTION R-2022-38**

**WHEREAS**, the County of Lawrence wishes to revise contract allocation for projects eligible under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for FFY 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, the County, in FFY 2019 received funding for Shenango Blight Removal and funding for the Shenango Housing Rehab project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Shenango utilized other funds for blight removal and have requested to utilize these funds for the Shenango Housing Rehab activity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township would like to delete the IDIS Activity 52636 and increase the IDIS Activity 52633 Shenango Housing Rehab project budget allocation by \$20,000.00 and revise the budget allocation to \$106,496.00.

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

1. The County shall prepare and submit a FFY 2019 Revision Request #1, to the Department of Community and Economic Development.
2. The revision request will detail the above project activities and financial requests.

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

#### **RESOLUTION R-2022-39**

**WHEREAS**, the County of Lawrence wishes to revise contract allocation for projects eligible under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for FFY 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the County, in FFY 2020 received funding for Shenango Administration and funding for the Shenango Public Facilities Improvement project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Shenango Public Facilities Improvement project needs additional funds and have requested to utilize additional administrative funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township would like to decrease the IDIS Activity 54386 and increase the IDIS Activity 54381 Shenango Public Facilities Improvement project budget allocation by \$14,715.00 and revise the budget allocation to \$124,198.00.

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

1. The County shall prepare and submit a FFY 2020 Revision Request #1, to the Department of Community and Economic Development.
2. The revision request will detail the above project activities and financial requests.

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

#### **RESOLUTION R-2022-40**

**WHEREAS**, the Lawrence County Emergency Management Agency Emergency Operations Plan County Support Procedures for Nuclear Power Plant Incidents March 2020 has been updated since prior Plan of 2018, attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

**WHEREAS**, the updated Plan has been developed to outline procedures and operations to be implemented in the event of a nuclear power plant incident.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT**, Lawrence County adopts, accept, concur with the support the provisions of this resolution that the Lawrence County Emergency Management Agency Emergency Operations Plan County Support Procedures for Nuclear Power Plant Incidents March 2020 is hereby authorized for execution.

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

#### **RESOLUTION R-2022-41**

**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 FY2021 Budget; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** to amend the 2022 Lawrence County Budget as follows:

**INCREASING** the MH/DS Emergency Rental Assistance Program Revenue Account: 07331000.331000.21023 by \$2,802,045.00; and

**INCREASING** the MH/DS Homeless Program Expense Account: 07447026.445100 by \$2,802,045.00

*Reason: ERAP Program*

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

**TRANSFERS (ADMINISTRATIVE)**

- a. Voter Services from Materials/Supplies to Subscriptions for \$32.00

Moved by Mr. Vogler, seconded by Mr. Boyd to approve said Transfer. Motion carried 2-0.

**RESOLUTIONS ON THE TABLE**

None

**ORDINANCES**

None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next regular Commissioners' meeting is scheduled for **10:00 am**, on **Tuesday, February 8, 2022** in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.

The Planning Commission meeting for Wednesday, February 9, 2022 has been cancelled.

There will be a Prison Board meeting on Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 12:00 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Boyd adjourned the meeting of the Lawrence County Commissioners meeting dated Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 10:32 a.m.