

Commissioners:

SCOTT L. METZGER
Chairman

MARC C. SORTMAN
Vice Chairman

MARK MUSSINA
Secretary



MATTHEW A. McDERMOTT
*Director of Administration
and Chief Clerk*

CHRISTOPHER H. KENYON
Solicitor

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**LYCOMING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2024
10:00 A.M.**

**Present: Commissioner Metzger, Commissioner Sortman, Commissioner Mussina,
Director Matthew McDermott, and Solicitor Christopher H. Kenyon.**

ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO AGENDA NOT PREVIOUSLY POSTED

- Remove Action Item 5.9 – Vote to approve Consent Assessment of Civil Penalty with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection in the amount of \$5,000.00.

**Mr. Sortman moved to approve the revision to the Agenda. Mr. Mussina 2nd the motion.
Approved 3-0**

1.0 OPERATIONS

- 1.1 Opening Prayer
- 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Metzger welcomed the new Commissioners.

- 1.3 Convene Commissioners' Public Meeting
- 1.4 Approve the Minutes of the 12/28/23 Meeting

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

- 1.5 Approve the Minutes of the Previous 1/2/24 Meeting

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

- 1.6 Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

None

2.0 PERSONNEL ACTIONS

- 2.1 Matthew McDermott – Approve the following Personnel Actions as conditional offers of employment, subject to the successful completion of a background check and all other employment conditions as outlined in Attachment (A).

Mr. Sortman moved to approve. Mr. Mussina 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

Recess Commissioners' Public Meeting for the Salary Board

3.0 SALARY BOARD

- 3.1 Convene Salary Board.

Mr. Metzger requested an executive session.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

3.2 Matthew McDermott – Vote to approve the following salary board actions as outlined in Attachment (B).

Mr. Mussina made a motion to make the position temporary until a new person is trained not to exceed 1000 hours. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Motion approved 3-1

3.3 Adjourn Salary Board.

Reconvene Commissioners' Public Meeting

4.0 TDA ACTIONS

4.1 Matthew McDermott – Approve the following TDA actions as outlined in Attachment (C)

Mr. Sortman moved to approve. Mr. Mussina 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Matthew McDermott – Vote to approve the 2024 Salary Schedule.

Mr. Metzger requested a motion to table this item until next week. Mr. Mussina made the motion to table this item. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion.

5.2 Matthew McDermott – Vote to approve the 2024 TDA.

Mr. Metzger requested a motion to table this item until next week. Mr. Mussina made the motion to table this item. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion.

5.3 Matthew McDermott – Vote to approve the following individuals to the SEDA-COG Board of Directors:

- Commissioner, Scott L. Metzger – Commissioner County Representative
- Howard Fry – County's Second Representative/Member at Large

Mr. Sortman moved to approve. Mr. Mussina 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

5.4 Matthew McDermott – Vote to approve the swearing in of appointed and elected officials not available to attend the January 2, 2024, Inauguration.

- Deputy Clerk of Courts, Holly Thomas,

In addition, Christopher Kenyon Solicitor, Holly Thomas, Deputy Clerk of Courts and Kassandra Houseknecht, Deputy Coroner. No vote required for this action item.

5.5 Mya Toon – Vote to approve Mental Health Services Agreement with Restorative Behavioral Health (2024 budgeted funds).

Mr. Sortman moved to approve. Mr. Mussina 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

5.6 Mya Toon – Vote to approve Grant & Monitoring Agreement with Greater Lycoming Habitat for Humanity in the amount of \$40,000.00 (Act 137 funds).

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

5.7 Mya Toon – Vote to approve Grant & Monitoring Agreement with The New Love Center in the amount of \$40,000.00 (Act 13 funds)

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

Mr. Metzger praised the work that the New Love Center does in the Community.

5.8 Maleick Fleming – Vote to approve Subrecipient Monitoring Agreement with Asbury Foundation in the amount of \$48,000.00 (2023 PHARE).

Mr. Sortman moved to approve. Mr. Mussina 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

6.0 COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Mr. Sortman's comments are attached.

Mr. Mussina expressed his excitement about being part of this Board of Commissioners. He praised both Commissioner Metzger and Sortman, and expressed that he is looking forward to working with them. Mr. Mussina also commented on the dedication and quality of the County employees. He stated that he has learned a lot and knows that he has a lot more to learn.

Mr. Metzger praised the leadership in Lycoming County. He shared the positive comments the County has received from Senator Casey, as well as other counties on the programs Lycoming County has. Mr. Metzger attributed the success of the prior board to the Leadership and teamwork of all those involved in the various projects. Mr. Metzger talked about the accomplishments of the last board and is looking forward to having the same leadership and team effort from the new board.

7.0 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Speakers who wish to address the Board of Commissioners will be limited for no more than three (3) minutes on any particular item. The speaker must state his/her name and address for the record. Any deviation from this rule must be approved by the Board Chairman.

Tom Adams, Williamsport. Mr. Adams congratulated the new Commissioners. Mr. Adams commented that the public needs to understand how difficult it is to serve the public in public office. Per Mr. Adams, the country needs people willing to step up and make tough decisions. Mr. Adams stated that he agreed with the reassessment and that this is the only system we have at this time. He asked if there was a price lock on it. Mr. McDermott responded that it is a price per parcel and there will be a contract. Mr. Metzger added that the money will be budgeted each year. Mr. Adams read a scripture verse and then commented on it.

Forrest Lehman, Director of Voter Services- Mr. Lehman announced that Voter Services is in the process of sending out a large mailing. This is a yearly mailing required by Act 77. It is being sent to people who previously requested to be on the annual vote by mail list. Mr. Lehman described the contents of the mailing which includes a cover letter, application for mail in ballot and a cancellation form. If they fill out the application for the mail in ballot they will receive a mail ballot for both the primary and November election. If they don't return the application they can choose later on to get a mail in ballot or vote in person. Completing the cancellation form will take them off the mail in ballot list.

YOU TUBE PUBLIC COMMENTS



KeystoneChiefFirst

William FendersonStill nothing on Non-Profit



KeystoneChiefTo lift the curtain on what the public does not see; the county can start by complying with the Right to Know Law. Nepotism has no place in government.

William FendersonLets talk about the pay scale for Elected officials for the County there are 3 elected officials in each precinct and we are held responsible for all the paper work

8.0 NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next Commissioners Public Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 10:00 A.M. in the Commissioner's Board Room, 1st Floor, Executive Plaza, 330 Pine Street, Williamsport, PA 17701.

To view this meeting click on the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a_Mz1gA5mK0

ATTACHMENT (A)

PERSONNEL ACTIONS:

- District Attorney's Office – William Simmers, Assistant District Attorney, Full-Time Replacement, \$62,315.00 per year, 75 hours per Pay Period, Start Date: January 8, 2024.
- District Attorney's Office – Roan Confer, Assistant District Attorney, Full-Time Replacement, \$62,315.00 per year, 75 hours per Pay Period, Start Date: January 8, 2024.
- Prison – Christopher Heisley, Correctional Officer I – Full-Time Replacement, \$20.00 per hour, 80 hours per Pay Period, Start Date: January 8, 2024.

ATTACHMENT (B)

SALARY BOARD ACTIONS:

- Human Resources Office – Request to add a Part-Time Human Resources Business Partner, Paygrade 12.

ATTACHMENT (C)

TDA ACTIONS:

- Human Resources Office – Request to add a Part-Time Human Resources Business Partner, Paygrade 12.

I look forward to representing the residents and businesses of Lycoming County. I was elected by the people of the county to do what is right for all of them. I was not elected by a few. I will keep the tax payers of the entire county in mind when making decisions on county spending.

With that being said, I will ask my colleagues, who both have run on being fiscally responsible to join me and take a step back to where and who we give county resources to. I will also ask them to join me in taking some steps back in areas I feel the county has over extended its arm. I don't think there are many areas, but one that stands out is our levee system. The system needed desperate repairs, and I don't believe there was any other option than county help, but as a tax payer in a municipality that has a certified levee, I know ultimately the maintenance and future of the levee belongs to the local sponsor who has a legal agreement with the Corps of Engineers and is obligated to maintain the system. We need to move forward and finish what we started along with assisting the local sponsors with planning and grant writing, but need to be cautious of overstepping not only the levee but other areas of local government where we can assist but not step in.

As we move forward with a re-assessment voted on by our previous board, I would remind the tax payers, by law you cannot add revenue to your coffers when you do this. I ask that everyone has faith in our new board that we will address spending before we would have a tax increase.