

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 11, 2024  
10:00 A.M.**

**Present: Commissioner Metzger, Commissioner Sortman, Commissioner Mussina,  
Director Matthew McDermott, and Solicitor Randy Sees.**

**1.0 OPERATIONS**

- 1.1 Opening Prayer
- 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.3 Convene Commissioners' Public Meeting
- 1.4 Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

**Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0**

- 1.5 Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

**None**

**2.0 REPORTS**

- 2.1 Eric Endresen for Kalen Barnes – Vote to ratify invoices due through 12/31/23 to be paid on 1/17/24 to be paid on 1/10/24 in the amount of \$2,904,059.80.

**Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0**

**3.0 PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

- 3.1 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. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0**

**Mr. Sortman commented that he did some research after questioning the \$40.00 per hour pay. He sees the value of keeping someone temporarily, who is leaving, but has the knowledge of the department. He acknowledged using an outside source would be costlier. Mr. Metzger and Mr. McDermott explained that the \$40.00 an hour is within the position's paygrade.**

*Recess Commissioners' Public Meeting for the Salary Board*

**4.0 SALARY BOARD**

- 4.1 Convene Salary Board.

4.2 Matthew McDermott – Vote to approve the following individuals to the Salary Board:

- Scott Metzger, Commissioner Chairman – Chairman
- Krista Rogers, Controller – Secretary

**Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Ms. Rogers 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 4-0**

4.3 Matthew McDermott – Vote to approve 2024 Salary Schedule.

**Mr. McDermott asked to table the Salary Schedule.**

**Ms. Rogers moved to approve tabling of the salary schedule. Mr. Mussina 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion Approved 4-0**

4.4 Adjourn Salary Board.

### *Reconvene Commissioners' Public Meeting*

## **5.0 ACTION ITEMS**

5.1 Matthew McDermott – Vote to approve the ratification of the 2024 TDA, effective 1/2/2024.

**Mr. McDermott asked to table 5.1**

**Mr. Mussina moved to approve tabling 5.1. Mr. Sortman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0**

5.2 Mya Toon – Vote to approve Title IV-D Attorney Agreement with Patricia Shipman, Esq. in the amount not to exceed \$60,000.00 (2024 budgeted item).

**Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0**

5.3 Mya Toon – Vote to approve the submission of a Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) grant application to PA Office of the Budget for the Coroner's Forensic Facility in the amount of \$3,400,000.00.

**Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0**

5.4 Mya Toon – Vote to approve the list of Agreements approved by the Director of Administration for the month of December 2023.

**Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0**

5.5 Shannon Rossman – Vote to reject all bids received for the Williamsport Cross Pipe Rehabilitation Project.

**Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Metzger 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0**

5.6 Forrest Lehman – Vote to approve work proposal from Clear Ballot in the amount of \$12,000.00 (2024 budgeted item).

**Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0**

5.7 Jenny Picciano – Vote to approve Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund Grant Agreement with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in the amount of \$200,000.00.

**Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0**

5.8 Leslie Kilpatrick – Vote to approve Amendment to Agreement with Windstream (2024 budgeted item).

**Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0**

**Mr. Metzger commented that it will be good for the courtrooms to have WIFI.**

#### **6.0 COMMISSIONER COMMENT**

**Mr. Mussina commented on Martin Luther Kings I Have a Dream Speech. He asked that we remember where we were and where we are now. He also encouraged everyone to listen to Dr. Kings speech on You Tube**

**Mr. Metzger talked about airline service returning to the airport. He encouraged all to use and support the airport. He also talked about the benefits of using this service. Mr. Metzger commented on Senator Casey’s visit to the area last week to discuss the Levee. The County was represented by the Planning Department due to the conflict with the public meeting time. Mr. Metzger Mr. Metzger read a statement from the Commissioners which is attached.**

#### **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.

**Larry Stout, Montgomery – Commented on Martin Luther King’s Dream speech and segments of the history of this speech.**

**James May, Regional Director for Congressman Dan Meuser. Introduced himself and informed everyone that they have an office in Williamsport and they are here to assist Williamsport on the federal level.**

**Shannon Rossman, Director, Planning Department, commented on Mark Murawski’s knowledge, skills and level of involvement as a County employee as well as on the state committee for aviation and the state transportation advisory committee. Due to his involvement the County was able to get the state aviation conference in the fall to be held in Williamsport. Ms. Rossman listed some of the organizations involved in the conference and will continue to provide updates.**

**Mr. Metzger responded that Mr. Murawski has been an asset for his 30 plus years with the County and his state work.**

**Tom Adams, Williamsport – Mr. Adams read a psalm. He commented on Martin Luther King, the importance and benefits of knowing and understanding our history. He also commented on a proposal from the United Nations World Health Organization regarding World health emergencies. They are proposing to have sovereignty over all countries in making decisions regarding health emergencies. Mr. Adams is against this. He announced that there is a public comment period until the 18<sup>th</sup>.**

#### **YOU TUBE PUBLIC COMMENT**

JD DiggerSeems to me that over that over the last four or five years the county has had a tremendous problem with HR employees to pay a current employee who's leaving \$40 an hour part time to me makes.

JD

JD DiggerNo sense at all. I think its time that the commissioners get that department under control.

#### **8.0 NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

The next Commissioners Public Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 18, 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=vqPmUYR8CF4>*

## ATTACHMENT (A)

### **PERSONNEL ACTIONS:**

- Human Resources Office – Allison Wolfe, Temporary Human Resources Business Partner, Part-Time New Position, \$40.00 per hour, Not to Exceed 1000 hours in a year, Effective Date: January 7, 2024.

## Statement By the Lycoming County Commissioners

January 11, 2024

Last Thursday Senator Casey visited Lycoming County to discuss the levee and federal funding associated with its repair and upgrades. The Commission was in session at the time of his visit and therefore the commissioners were unable to attend. So, because we weren't there to comment, we would like to make a statement regarding the importance of completing the levee project for the safety and economic health of the County.

First, we would like to thank Senator Casey for visiting the levee and for his commitment to work with the County and the City to provide continued funding to ultimately get the levee accredited and certified.

We also want to thank former Congressman Fred Keller who initially included \$8 million through the House's Community Project Funding process (otherwise known as an earmark) in the fiscal year 2023 Appropriations bill that funds Homeland Security. As many of you know, the Congressman had a history of opposing earmarking, but in the case of the levee, a safety concern, he agreed to use the earmark process for the levee. It's also important to mention that he used his entire earmark allocation for this levee project. Congressman Keller loved the people of Lycoming County. He made it known that they deserve this project and he was going to utilize all his resources to get it through.

Finally, I'd like to thank the US Army Corps of Engineers for its work thus far in assisting the County and the City in determining exactly what parts of the levee are priorities. As many know, we've had some delays and starts and stops with the Army Corps' process, which has been frustrating, but the time is now to move this process forward and to its conclusion -- which can only be done with the Army Corps leading it and frequently coordinating with FEMA and HEMA. Also, our Planning Department has spent countless

hours in this process. Many thanks to them

The greater Williamsport levee is the source that protects some \$4 billion in community assets - including residences, businesses, schools, medical facilities, etc. The County has worked long and hard to take the necessary steps regionally and in Washington to ensure the levee is the number one community priority. Its repair and upgrade will be the source of protection for our community resulting in economic vitality for the region for years to come.

The County will continue to work with our partners at the federal, state, and local levels to ensure this work gets done. The County is committed to this project.