

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, MARCH 28, 2024
10:00 A.M.**

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

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 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

- 1.5 Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

Someone asked questions about agreement 5.5 and 5.7 which were answered.

- 1.6 Mike McMunn – National Vietnam War Veterans Day Proclamation – comments attached.

2.0 REPORTS

- 2.1 Kalen Barnes – Vote to ratify accounts payable for payment on March 27, 2024, in the amount of \$2,138,381.65.

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

Recess Commissioners' Public Meeting for the Salary Board

3.0 SALARY BOARD ACTIONS -SALARY BOARD MINUTES CAN BE FOUND ON LYCO.ORG>ELECTED OFFICIALS>CONTROLLER

- 3.1 Convene Salary Board.
- 3.2 Matthew McDermott – Vote to approve Salary Board minutes of the previous meeting, March 21, 2024.
- 3.3 Matthew McDermott – Vote to approve the following salary board actions as outlined in Attachment (A).

Reconvene Commissioners' Public Meeting

4.0 PERSONNEL ACTIONS

- 4.1 Michael Hagen for 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 (B).

Ms. Rogers informed the Commissioners that the personnel actions on Attachment B for the Elected officials listed should be under Informational Items and not voted on.

Mr. Metzger requested a motion for the Personnel actions for the Department of Public Safety, Public defender and Prison

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

Mr. Metzger further requested that the Personnel Actions for the Sheriff and Prothonotary be listed as Informational Items.

Mr. Hagen introduced Gina Champion as the new Human Resources Business Partner.

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

- 5.1 Matthew McDermott – Vote to approve Letter of Intent with Chance Aluminum Corp. for the proposed land purchase at Timer Run Industrial Park.

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

Jason Fink, President & CEO Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Fink explained that the LOI is to provide Chance Aluminum the opportunity to do their due diligence with the property. Once they determine if the property meets their needs they would engage in a sale. Per Mr. Fink, the company's intent is to put in a large manufacturing operation.

- 5.2 Matthew McDermott – Vote to approve Blight Remediation Program for a multi-field, regional baseball/softball complex in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 (ARPA funds).

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

Mr. Fink reported that they acquired this land several years ago. He explained the proposed project and benefits of this project for the community. The feasibility study done indicates an approximate 390,000 people using the complex annually after the first three years. This will be near the bike path so people can park and use the bike path. This is roughly a 22-million-dollar project. Everyone hopes that it will spur some development and growth for the area. All Sports turf will be used on the fields which will allow players to use the field earlier in the season.

Mr. Mussina explained the how the dimensions of the fields allows them to be used for multiple uses.

Mr. Metzger is excited about the potential visitors this project will bring to the city. Travel ball is growing each year. With these fields we will be able to host tournaments He feels this is a great way to show case the area and help grown the county.

5.3 Mathew McDermott – Vote to approve Agreement with Hickman Consulting Services, LLC (2024 budget funds available).

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

5.4 Matthew McDermott – Vote to approve Memorandum of Understanding with the Lycoming County Detective Bargaining Unit.

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

5.5 Ken George – Vote to approve Agreement with Port Elevators Inc. in the amount of \$631,795.00 (2024 budgeted item).

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

5.6 Ken George – Vote to approve Agreement with Monitronics International LLC in the amount of \$12,000.00 (2024 budgeted item).

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

5.7 Ken George – Vote to approve Amendment to Agreement with Air Management Technologies, Inc. in the amount of \$125,600.00 (2024 budgeted item).

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

5.8 Ken George – Vote to approve Change Order #7 with J & M Construction Specialty, Inc. in the amount of \$3,335.00 (2024 budgeted item).

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

5.9 Jenny Picciano – Vote to approve Riverwalk Extension Project and all related documents (2024 budgeted item).

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

5.10 Maleick Fleming – Vote to approve Amendment to Subrecipient Agreement with the City of Williamsport for the Park Avenue Neighborhood Rental Rehabilitation Program (2019 PHARE funds).

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

5.11 Maleick Fleming – Vote to approve Amendment to Agreement with the City of Williamsport for Williamsport Historic Rehabilitation Program (2016 PHARE funds).

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

5.12 Maleick Fleming – Vote to approve Agreement with ILK Family, LP in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 (Housing Initiative Grant funds).

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

6.0 COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Mr. Metzger talked about the Red Cross and the services they provide. He provided statistics related to there services. Mr. Metzger informed the public of the damage that occurred on the nature trail at the Conservation District, especially to the Mushroom Table built and donated by the Girl Scouts. He denounced the vandalism and those doing it.

Mr. Sortman added to Mr. Metzger’s comments regarding the damage to the table. He hopes that it will be able to be repaired or rebuilt.

Mr. Mussina commented on the struggles of the Vietnam Veterans and wondered if their unkind welcome home attributed to some of the mental health issues that they have suffered. Mr. Mussina talked about the location of the first Little League baseball field and the statue in Memorial Park commemorating it. Mark also read how the date for Easter Sunday is determined.

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.

Chase Bottorf, WVIA, Scranton, PA asked questions regarding the funding for the ball field which Jason Fink answered and the Historic Rehabilitation Program.

Jason Fink also announced that they are soliciting naming rights for the fields. Anyone that wants to participate and donate should contact Jason at the Chamber of Commerce.

Tom Adams, Williamsport commented on how the date for Easter is determined. He pointed out that it goes by the Jewish calendar which has a different time scale for holidays. Mr. Adams suggested that people should look up Jonathan Chan on You Tube. He is a Messianic Rabbi that brings the old and new testament together. Mr. Adams commented on the pros of having God in our lives and consequences when we don’t. Mr. Adams read a passage from the bible. He commented on the ball field project and LERTA’s

YOU TUBE PUBLIC COMMENT

None

8.0 NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next Commissioners Public Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 4, 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=XXA2DKFdUqI>***

ATTACHMENT (A)

SALARY BOARD ACTIONS:

- Pre-Release Center – Add a position – Work Crew Foreman – Full Time – pay grade 8 (to be funded by budget transfer from RMS).
- Cease staffing incentives at the Prison that were approved at the 12/29/2022 Salary Board meeting. (Overtime bonus, Referral Program, Retention/Recruiting Bonus).

ATTACHMENT (B)

PERSONNEL ACTIONS:

- Department of Public Safety – Jessica Ivankina, Telecommunicator II, Full-Time Replacement, \$21.26 per hour, 80 hours per Pay Period, Anticipated Start Date: Retro March 3, 2024.
- Public Defender – Cody Englehart, Clerk III, Full-Time Replacement, \$15.88 per hour, 75 hours per Pay Period, Anticipated Start Date: April 8, 2024.
- Sheriff – Christie Shimp, Clerk III, Part-Time, \$16.17, Not to Exceed 1000 hours annually, Anticipated Start Date: April 1, 2024.
- Prothonotary – Bre O’dell, Civil Processing Clerk, Full-Time Replacement, \$15.75 per hour, 75 hours per Pay Period, Anticipated Start Date: April 8, 2024.
- Prison – Alicia Tice, Correctional Officer I, Full-Time Replacement, \$20.00 per hour, 80 hours per Pay Period, Anticipated Start Date: April 7, 2024.

Good morning Commissioners and Matt,

Thank you for taking time to recognize a very special segment of our residents, our Vietnam Veterans. As you said in the proclamation, tomorrow, March 29, has been designated as National Vietnam Veterans Day.

According to available statistics there are approximately 3,068 Vietnam Veterans living in Lycoming County and they represent approximately 30% of the living veterans in the County.

Forty-three soldiers, sailors, and airmen from the county never made it back alive from Southeast Asia. Most of those who did come back from the war went on to successfully reestablish their lives, returning to their families and the jobs that they left. Many went to school on the GI Bill. They married, had children, and provided for their families. They reintegrated into society and became successful businesspeople, teachers, and professionals.

But many did not successfully reintegrate. Many, due to their wartime experience, fell into the abyss of drug and alcohol abuse, posttraumatic stress disorder, crime and homelessness. While we may think of most Vietnam veterans as successful, it is important to also remember those who were not so successful but none the less fought in a brutal war and returned home to a less than grateful country.

Tomorrow is a day to recognize all who participated. They deserve our thanks, but not only tomorrow but every day.

I want to take this opportunity to personally thank my fellow Vietnam veterans for their service. It was the ultimate honor to serve alongside of you in Vietnam. Thank you.