

Commissioners:

JEFF C. WHEELAND
Chairman

ERNEST P. LARSON
Vice Chairman

TONY R. MUSSARE
Secretary



ANN M. GEHRET
*Director of Administration
and Chief Clerk*

J. DAVID SMITH
Solicitor

Telephone (570) 320-2124
Fax (570) 320-2127

COUNTY of LYCOMING
48 WEST THIRD STREET
WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701

www.lyco.org
county.commissioners@lyco.org

**Minutes of the Meeting of
July 24, 2014
Board Room, Executive Plaza
Pine Street, Williamsport**

Commissioner Wheeland - Present
Commissioner Larson - Present
Commissioner Mussare - Present

Solicitor Smith - Present

1.0 OPERATIONS

- 1.1 CONVENE COMMISSIONERS MEETING. Mr. Wheeland convened the Commissioners Meeting 10:01 a.m.
- 1.2 APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS. A motion by Mr. Larson and seconded by Mr. Mussare and passed (3-0), approved the minutes of the previous meeting as they are recorded.
- 1.3 RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY). Mr. Wheeland opened the floor to public comment on agenda items only, and none were received.

2.0 ACTION ITEMS

- 2.1 ENACT ORDINANCE 2014-06. A motion by Mr. Larson and seconded by Mr. Mussare and passed (Larson=yes; Mussare=yes; Wheeland=yes; 3-0), enacted Ordinance 2014-06 to incur non electoral debt.
- 2.2 APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH DAVIS ULMER SPRINKLER COMPANY. A motion by Mr. Larson and seconded by Mr. Mussare and passed (3-0), approved contract for recycling facility sprinkler modifications to Davis-Ulmer Sprinkler Company, Inc. in the amount of \$149,755.

- 2.3 APPROVE PSA WITH DYECO. A motion by Mr. Larson and seconded by Mr. Mussare and passed (3-0), approved professional service agreement with Dyeco. Inc.
- 2.4 APPROVE PSA WITH EAGLE EQUIPMENT. A motion by Mr. Larson and seconded by Mr. Mussare and passed (3-0), approved professional service agreement with Eagle Equipment. Corp.
- 2.5 APPROVE AMENDMENT TO MOU WITH MUNCY BOROUGH. A motion by Mr. Larson and seconded by Mr. Mussare and passed (3-0), approved amendment to memorandum of understanding with Muncy Borough.
- 2.6 APPROVE MOU FOR MS4. A motion by Mr. Larson and seconded by Mr. Wheeland and passed (2-1, Mussare), approved memorandum of understanding for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System. This is to hire an MS4 Coordinator and will be for a period of 16 months.
- John Grado of the City of Williamsport commented on the issues of heightened levels of required compliance and responsibility for storm water.
- John Eck of Old Lycoming Township supports this.
- Ron Smith of Montoursville Borough greatly appreciates this initiative by the County.
- Eric Fausey of Duboistown Borough added that, "We have to do this."
- Megan Lehman from Planning explained after 16 months this position will be re-evaluated.
- Mr. Mussare explained he wants to help the partners, but he has issues with these federal regulations.
- Mr. Mussare explained he feels he has several questions that are unanswered. He then made a motion to table this item for two weeks. The motion died for lack of a second.
- Mr. Larson commented that the MOA is for a period of 16 months. He feels this will provide information to discuss the regulations.
- Mr. Wheeland read a prepared statement (attached).
- After the vote was taken, and it passed, Mr. Mussare explained that he will support this position.
- 2.7 APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH SUSQUEHANNA TOWNSHIP. A motion by Mr. Larson and seconded by Mr. Mussare and passed (3-0), approved agreement with Susquehanna Township for Zoning Administration Services.
- 2.8 APPROVE CHANGE ORDER WITH STEINBACHER ENTERPRISES. A motion by Mr. Larson and seconded by Mr. Mussare and passed (3-0), approved change order with Steinbacher Enterprises, Inc. for 7851 Route 87 Highway.

Mr. Wheeland recessed the Commissioners' Meeting at 10:43 a.m.

4.0 BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

4.1 CONVENE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS. Mr. Wheeland convened the Board of Assessment Appeals at 10:43 a.m.

4.2 APPROVE REAL ESTATE EXEMPTIONS. A motion by Mr. Larson and seconded by Mr. Mussare and passed (3-0), approved the following real estate exemptions:
Parcel 26-330-143.E owned by Loyalsock Twp School Dist.
Parcel 40-374-169.A owned by County of Lycoming.
Parcel 63-002-300 owned by County of Lycoming (portion of the parcel).

4.3 ADJOURN BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS. A motion by Mr. Larson and seconded by Mr. Mussare and passed (3-0), adjourned the Board of Assessment Appeals at 10:45 a.m.

Mr. Wheeland reconvened the Commissioners' Meeting at 10:45 a.m.

6.0 PUBLIC COMMENT. Mr. Wheeland opened the floor to public comment and the following were received:
Scott Miller from Tucker Street in Williamsport

7.0 NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING. Mr. Wheeland announced the next regularly scheduled meeting as a work session on Tuesday, July 29, 2014.

8.0 ADJOURN COMMISSIONERS' MEETING. A motion by Mr. Larson and seconded by Mr. Mussare and passed (3-0), adjourned the Commissioners' Meeting at 10:53 a.m.

Without question, all three Commissioners feel extremely frustrated with the continued encroachment of the Federal Government into Lycoming County. In this particular case it happens to be, once again, EPA.

Lycoming County government has never turned its back to our municipal government partners and I will not do so now.

I think it is important to note that the proverbial "Trojan Horse" was delivered from the EPA through DEP directly to municipal governments thereby circumventing County Government.

I firmly believe we need this County position for two reasons; financially it helps the MS4 communities. Collectively they can utilize this person to comply with the first phase of requirements much cheaper than on their own. Secondly, based on my experience with both federal and state government bureaucracies, when the "bellies" of these "Trojan Horses" open up and MORE unfunded mandates drop out as a result of un-legislated "policy" decisions from EPA and DEP we, through this new hire, can provide our elected officials (STATE and FEDERAL) with timely updates on said "new" mandates.

I hope I am wrong but nothing I see coming from the Federal Government gives me comfort. A continuous flow of new regulations and reporting requirements produced by EPA and DEP (and others) is strangling our ability to conduct the efficient operation of local services. Battle lines should be drawn and we should prepare to fight back.