

Commissioners:

SCOTT L. METZGER  
*Chairman*

TONY R. MUSSARE  
*Vice Chairman*

RICHARD MIRABITO  
*Secretary*



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

J. DAVID SMITH  
*Solicitor*

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

COUNTY of LYCOMING  
48 WEST THIRD STREET  
WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701

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[www.lyco.org](http://www.lyco.org)  
[county.commissioners@lyco.org](mailto:county.commissioners@lyco.org)

**LYCOMING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
TUESDAY November 17, 2020  
10:00 A.M.**

**Present:**

**Commissioner Metzger**

**Commissioner Mussare- Via Phone**

**Commissioner Mirabito**

**Director McDermott**

**Solicitor Smith**

**1.0 OPERATIONS Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Metzger.**

- 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. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0.**
- 1.5 Public Comment (Agenda Items Only)**

**2.0 BID OPENING**

**Leachate Storage Tank Liner**

**3.0 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CASH REQUIREMENT**

- 3.1 Nicki Gottschall- Accounts Payable Cash Requirements Report through November 25, 2020, for payment November 18, 2020, in the amount of \$970,429.05. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Metzger 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0.**

#### **4.0 PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

**Mr. Mirabito moved to approve all. Mr. Mussare 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0.**

**Roxanne Grieco – Approve the following personnel action(s):**

**4.1 Soil Conservation – Mark Davidson, Temporary Part-Time, Conservation District Special Projects, Paygrade 12, \$38.14769/hour. Effective 11/23/20.**

**4.2 Prison – Nicole Dawson, Part-Time, LPN, Paygrade 7, \$23.00/hour. Effective 11/18/20.**

**4.3 Courts – MDJ Kemp – Maryann May, Full-Time, Clerk III, Paygrade 4, \$13.95/hour. Effective 11/30/20.**

**4.4 Courts – Kayla Shireman, Full-Time, Clerk III, Paygrade 4, \$13.95/hour. Effective 11/29/20.**

**4.5 Adult Probation – Riley Thomas, Full-Time, Probation Officer, Paygrade APO, \$20.10/hour. Effective 11/30/2020**

#### **5.0 TDA ACTION**

**Roxanne Grieco – Approve update to the TDA Report:**

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

##### **5.1 Prison:**

- **Create (1) new Part-Time LPN, Paygrade 7.**

#### **Recess Commissioners' Public Meeting**

#### **6.0 SALARY BOARD ACTIONS**

**Roxanne Grieco – Approve update to the following salary schedule(s):**

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

##### **6.1 Prison:**

- **Create (1) new Part-Time LPN, Paygrade 7.**

##### **6.2 Adjourn Salary Board Actions**

#### **7.0 REPORTS/INFORMATION ITEMS**

**7.1 The County will be requesting bids for food products.**

**7.2 Proclamation for the Coroner's Office. Mr. Mirabito read the Proclamation. Chuck Kiessling received and spoke about Infant Deaths.**

## **8.0 ACTION ITEMS**

**8.1 Mya Toon - Vote on Emergency Resolution 2020-34 for the Muncy Creek Streambank Stabilization Project. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0.**

**8.2 Mya Toon - Vote on FY 2020-2021 Hazardous Material Response Fund Grant Agreement with the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency in the amount of \$20,952.00. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0.**

**8.3 Mya Toon - Acknowledge the list of approved contracts by the Director of Administration for the month September. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0.**

**8.4 Mya Toon - Acknowledge the list of approved contracts by the Director of Administration for the month September. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0.**

**8.5 Mya Toon - Vote on Bill of Sale for Surplus Property with Lou Caggiano and Gary Trate for the purchase of (3) surplus generators. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0.**

**8.6 Nicki Gottschall – Discuss the remaining balance of the 2020 Actuarially Determined Employer Contribution (ADEC) in the amount of \$945,444.00. Mr. Metzger moved to Table. Mr. Mirabito 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0.**

**8.7 Shannon Rossman - Vote on the allocation of COVID-19 County Relief Block Grant funds to Lycoming County businesses, including their Subrecipient agreements, as attached hereto, a total of which shall not exceed \$397,200. The allocation of funds will be contingent upon meeting the grant and Subrecipient Agreement terms and conditions. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0.**

**8.8 Shannon Rossman – Vote on the submission of the Pipeline Investment Program grant application to the Commonwealth Finance Agency in the amount of \$287,379. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Metzger 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 2-0.**

**( Mr. Mussare was not on the line during 8.8, 8.9, 8.10 & 8.11 )**

**8.9 Shannon Rossman - Vote on the Amendment to Resolution No. 2020-33 to revise the total cost of the submission of the Pipeline Investment Program from \$638,000 to \$287,379. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Metzger 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 2-0.**

**8.10 Jenny Picciano - Vote on Amendment Number 2 to Cooperative Agreement with STEP, Inc. to extend the termination date to May 31, 2021. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Metzger 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 2-0.**

**8.11 Jenny Picciano - Vote on Subrecipient Agreement with STEP, Inc. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Metzger 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 2-0.**

**8.12 Jenny Picciano - Vote on Cooperative Agreement with Montoursville Borough. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0.**

**8.13 Jenny Picciano - Vote on Amendment Number 3 to Cooperative Agreement with West Branch Regional Authority to extend the termination date to May 31, 2021. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0.**

**8.14 Jenny Picciano - Vote on Amendment Number 2 to Professional & Administrative Services Agreement with SEDA-COG. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0.**

**8.15 Jason Yorks - Vote on the undercarriage rebuild of Dozer 24 with Cleveland Brothers. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0.**

**8.16 Jason Yorks – Vote on the engine rebuild of R-34 for with Sunbury Motors in the amount of \$20,995.81. Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Approved 3-0.**

## **9.0 COMMISSIONER COMMENT:**

### **Mr. Metzger-**

**\*Thanked Mayor of Montoursville for putting on the Veterans parade.**

**\*Airport- Contacted by Media about American Airlines pulled out of Wmpst. Discussed with Airport and they are assuring us that they will have a new airline. The airport will not sit unused. We look forward to having a new airline after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year.**

### **Mr. Mirabito-**

**\*Reiterated about the airport. He thinks it will help us having American Airlines pull out.**

**\*Spoke about Covid-19. He believes we are at a critical point. Cases are exploding. We are 1 of 57 Counties at a substantial level. As a County we should be more proactive. He would give Lycoming County a C grade. We should be virtual like other Counties.**

### **Mr. Mussare-**

**\*We cannot shut down the economy. He has changed his attitude about the virus as he has experienced it personally. But, believes shutting us down will do additional damage.**

**10.0 PUBLIC COMMENT: Johnathan Scholnick- Williamsport- Offering his perspective on the Pandemic. He believes the County has done a mixed effort. The long-term care facilities were hit hardest. The last few weeks have become substantial. The warning signs are clear. Commends the efforts of making sure the Cares act money is being provided to small businesses. Believes the masks should be worn by everyone. County should remind people to make the changes with family and holiday events. Conversation is needed.**

**11.0 NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

**The next Commissioners Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 1, 2020, at 10:00 A.M. in the Commissioner's Briefing Room, 1st Floor, Executive Plaza, 330 Pine Street, Williamsport, PA 17701.**

**\*\*Please refer to video  
recording of meeting for  
more detailed information.**

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSRDC  
V2YEBfonPDRfPMnEuw/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSRDCV2YEBfonPDRfPMnEuw/videos)

530-220-5724

minutes  
for minutes of  
Nov 17, 2020  
Meeting

## COVID in our Community is Spreading

Jonathan Scholnick, PhD  
937 Campbell St.  
Williamsport, PA 17701

I am here to humbly offer my perspective about the COVID pandemic as a resident of Williamsport in Lycoming County. The Pennsylvania Department of Health responded aggressively in the spring, which was painful for so many, and we were able to adapt our practices to some extent over the summer to the threat of this contagious virus. Our county has done had a mixed record during the spring and summer, with low levels of community transmission. Sadly, the most serious impacts our community has witnessed were the clusters of infections and deaths in long-term care facilities. Many of us enjoyed a summer spent largely outdoors, utilizing the parks and forests in this part of Pennsylvania. However, over the last two weeks we entered a new phase of this pandemic in which the spread of COVID in our community and many others nationwide has accelerated.

There is more COVID in our community now than ever before. According to the data reported for the most recent 7-day period on the PA DOH Early Warning Monitoring System Dashboard<sup>1</sup>, there were over 200 NEW cases per 100,000 people, with all most 10% of all PCR COVID tests coming back positive. And here in Lycoming County, we had 158 new cases per 100,000 people reported last week, and 8.4% of the tests were positive. These are troubling statistics. For reference, public health experts consider 100 new cases and more than 5% case positivity thresholds that call for more aggressive mitigation measures. Why? With these increases in cases, we will soon see increasing hospitalizations and use of ICU beds which are not unlimited. As we saw in the spring, when the health system becomes overloaded, as in New York, Northern Italy, and parts of Spain, patients suffer and many die. The horrifying situation is that many parts of our country have to use refrigerated trailers to store the many victims of the disease. Our situation is not yet dire, but the warning signs are clear: increases in case positivity rate from last week, record numbers of new cases here in our county and statewide, and many people facing isolation, quarantine and even hospitalization.

I don't think it is unreasonable to ask members of our community to take some precautions to help keep others safe at this point in the pandemic. The more we do now, the less painful this winter will be for us all. None of us wants to return to the lockdowns that characterized the spring, nor does anyone want to spend time in isolation or quarantine where they cannot leave the house to go to work, school, or any of the other normal daily activities. Worse yet, there are many in our community that are elderly or suffer from the health conditions that make COVID particularly deadly.

While I know that people in Lycoming County value our rights and individual liberties, we must also recognize that others have the same rights. Spreading a potentially debilitating or even

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Monitoring-Dashboard.aspx>

deadly disease infringes on others individual rights to participate in our normal daily activities. We must recognize our own responsibility to give up some of our own liberties in order to protect others, just as we do when we drive our cars on streets, and highways in our community, for example. That is why we should take a moment at this particularly critical moment in the COVID pandemic to reevaluate the ways that we go about our daily activities in the public sphere, outside the privacy of our homes.

But what can we do to mitigate COVID in our community? I am humbly asking our county government to continue its leadership during the pandemic. I know that you have worked hard to make sure that Federal relief funds from the CARES act has been distributed in our community to help many different organizations like schools implement safety plans and resume normal activities. But here in Lycoming County we do not have a Public Health department, so I would like to see you lead us in public health measures like wearing face coverings while in public, ask businesses like grocery stores to work on mask compliance, and requiring public employees like our first responders, public transit drivers, and to model proper mask use and physical distances. And conducting all nonessential business over the widely available conferencing software like Zoom or Microsoft Teams that we are all adopting. And remind people consider ways of creatively adapting their Thanksgiving gatherings to limit the numbers of households, spend time outside rather than inside, increase space between people, and use masks when possible. We must recognize that without a vaccine that may be here next year, the only way that we can keep each other safe is to change our behavior.

Recommended actions:

1. Public awareness campaign
  - a. Face coverings
  - b. Telework and virtual meetings when possible
  - c. Cooperation with case investigators and contact tracers
  - d. Limit multihousehold gatherings
2. Lead by example for county employees
  - a. Face coverings
  - b. follow best practices for virtual meetings