

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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COUNTY of LYCOMING
48 WEST THIRD STREET
WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701

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**LYCOMING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION MINUTES
Tuesday June 15, 2021
10:00 A.M.**

Present:

**Commissioner Metzger
Commissioner Mussare
Commissioner Mirabito
Director McDermott
Solicitor Smith**

OPERATIONS: Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Metzger.

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. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.

- 1.5 Public Comment (Agenda Items Only) None
- 1.6 Jennifer Wilson from the First Community Foundation to speak about Rider Park Renovation.
- 1.7 Presenting Proclamation - Waste and Recycling Workers Week

1.8 Informational Series: County Departments and what they do for you.

Jason Yorks-Resource Management Services

2.0 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CASH REQUIREMENT

Brandy Clemens – Approve accounts payable cash requirements report for invoices due through 06/23/2021 to be paid on 06/16/2021 in the amount of \$693,635.31.

Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.

3.0 PERSONNEL ACTIONS

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

Mr. Mirabito moved to approve all. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.

3.1 Coroner- Mary-Louise Paucke, Full-Time Replacement Deputy Coroner Paygrade 7, \$18.26/Hourly. Effective 6/28/21.

3.2 Maintenance- William S. Buck, New Position, Temporary Electrician, Paygrade 11, \$35.0/Hourly. Effective 6/21/21.

3.3 Domestic Relations- Jennifer M. Blauch, Full-Time Replacement Clerk III, Paygrade 4, \$14.09/Hourly. Effective 9/5/21.

3.4 Treasurer- Makenzie Bartlow, Part-Time Replacement Clerk I-Not to exceed 1000 hours annually, Paygrade 2, \$11.05/Hourly. Effective 7/12/21.

3.5 Treasurer-Alexis Newcomer, Part-Time Replacement Clerk I- Not to exceed 1000 hours annually, Paygrade 2, \$11.05/Hourly. Effective 7/12/21.

4.0 INFORMATIONAL ITEM

4.1 Gregory Bonsall - Acknowledge the Conservation District will be requesting proposals for a Pennsylvania Envirothon Executive Director Host Organization.

5.0 Public Hearing for Lycoming County Zoning Ordinance

5.1 Hear public comments

5.2 Adjourn Hearing

Reconvene Commissioners' Public Meeting

6.0 ACTION ITEMS

- 6.1 Tiffany Krajewski- Adoption of Ordinance 2021-02: Lycoming County Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance Text Amendments. **Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.**
- 6.2 Doug Forrester/Mya Toon- Vote on Client Services Agreement with Integrity Health. Not 2021 budgeted item. **Subject to final legal and administrative review and approval.**
Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.
- 6.3 Mya Toon- Vote on MOU for Act 198 funds with West Branch Drug and Alcohol for the assessment and treatment of adult DUI and/or drug offenders in the amount of \$40,000.00. 2021 budgeted it by the Courts.
Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.
- 6.4 Mya Toon- Vote on MOU for Act 198 funds with West Branch Drug and Alcohol for prevention and case management or treatment of juvenile probation clients in the amount of \$10,000.00. 2021 budgeted it by the Courts.
Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.
- 6.5 Mya Toon- Acknowledge the list of Agreements approved by the Director of Administration for the month of May. 2021 budgeted items.
Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.
- 6.6 Mya Toon- Vote on Amendment to Agreement with Woody Williams Foundation, Inc. in the amount of \$50,607.00. Act 13 Legacy Funds.
Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.
- 6.7 Jerry Kennedy- Vote on Agreement with e-Plus for core network switch support renewal in the amount of \$22,400.63. 2021 budgeted item.
Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.

- 6.8 Director McDermott- Vote on appointment of new Director for Children & Youth to Matthew Salvatori.
Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.
- 6.9 Beth Baylor- Vote on Improvement Guarantee Agreement with Wolf Township in the amount of \$307,391.00. 2021 budgeted item.
Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.
- 6.10 Beth Baylor- Vote on Amendment to Agreement with the City of Williamsport.
Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.
- 6.11 Beth Baylor- Vote on Addendum to Agreement with the City of Williamsport for police dispatch services.
Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.
- 6.12 Jenny Picciano- Vote on Amendment to Agreement with City of Williamsport for Brodart Neighborhood Improvement Program in the amount of \$2000,000.00. 2015 PHARE funds.
Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.
- 6.13 Jenny Picciano- Vote on Amendment to Agreement with the City of Williamsport for Historic Properties Rehabilitation Program in the amount of \$225,000.00. 2016 PHARE funds.
Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.
- 6.14 Jenny Picciano- Vote on Amendment to Agreement with the City of Williamsport for Park Avenue Neighborhood Rental Rehabilitation Program in the amount of \$200,000.00. 2019 PHARE funds.
Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.

7.0 COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Mr. Mussare- Why does the media write captions to divide us? Caption makes people think certain things. We need to support the treasure in our back yard! He checked out the books from the Library and they did help him understand better, change his position.

Mr. Mirabito- He often thought about how fascism came to the world.

Mr. Metzger- Reminder that Juneteenth is this coming Saturday. He will be at Brandon Park and enjoying the celebrations all day. He read his opening prayer again- May we unite to foster community harmony. He will not make an apology for his values or who he is. " I love everyone" Believes in the JV Brown Library and services! How to best educate the children should be done in the home.

Believes it is an intense personal matter to handle in private.

8.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

The following members of the Public addressed the Commissioners' about the recent comments regarding Pride Month Display at the JVB Library: [Please see the Live Stream YouTube Video of the meeting for full details.](#)

John Shadleski-Linden, Mary Sieminski- Fairfield Twp, Amanda Waldman- Montoursville, Dan Maneval- Williamsport, Alison Rupert- Penn Twp, McKenna Long-Hughesville, Mary Wright- Williamsport, Rae Bierly-Piatt Twp, Doris Henderson-Basstress, Elizabeth Downey, Jennifer Lange, Bob Wallace- Retired Pastor, Faye Moore-Williamsport, Kenna Peters-Williamsport, Brad Young-Linden, Jeff Breon, Karen Koch-Lewis Twp, Rebecca McAnany, Linda Morris- Williamsport, Jeramy Mohler- Trout Run, Summer Bukearich- South Williamsport, Robert Iacuzio, Rick Hauser- Loyalsock, Don Peters- Pastor, Gianna Backner- Williamsport, Joanne Rinker, Michelle Hazel, Isabella Bartholomew, K. Neidig, Rigel Bechtel " Rico", Mitchell Miller, Sherry Burgess, Morgan McAnany, Elaine Karschner, Jeff Stroehman- Woodward Twp, Jenny Brown.

9.0 NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next Commissioners Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday June 22, 2021 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/UCSRDCV2YEbfonPDRfPMnEuw/videos>

I take the remarks by County Commissioners Scott and Metzger regarding taking down books in the JV Brown Library as repugnant and a personal offense. I may be white, heterosexual and Christian, but this suggestion is so wrong on some many levels. How do you know at what age a young person becomes aware of their sexual identity? We have far too many children in stress and therapy that have NOT had access to the books you referenced. Parents of our younger population should have access to these books. I applaud the library's wisdom to have not only gained these books but to display them. It gives me sorrow to read of what is either ^a your lack of knowledge or bigotry. Your remarks are dangerous and taking down books from a public library is a path not to be traveled down. The citizens of Lycoming County do not need nor authorize more expensive lawsuits. Furthermore, doesn't this go against laws on discrimination? It seems education as to sensitivity and inclusivity is needed by county commissioners. (Elizabeth Anstadt Downey, 6-15-21, Meeting of the Lycoming County Commissioners)

Thank you, oh, I mean to the James V. Brown Library of Williamsport for doing the pride displays at our downtown library for the gay pride month of June 2021. Actually, I guess I should also thank the commissioners for NOT wanting to also shut down the adult display upstairs. For in that adult display, I am proud to be included in one of those books, Out in Central Pennsylvania. The book contains life stories and lgbt history based from interviews done of about 15 central Pennsylvania gay citizenry, 3 of which are from Lycoming County originally. 2 of them have now chosen to reside elsewhere, can you blame them? Our best lgbt people know that the grass certainly is greener for them elsewhere. But I digress. But if you ever want a lecture or a speaker on what it is like to be a lgbt minority person in this area, call me. It's far from easy.

Let me tell you my personal history, and I'll be quite brief. When i was a poor, small boy in Williamsport, Pennsylvania (paraphrased from an old line from Danny Thomas, who?) My mother, on a Saturday, would take me to the James V. Brown Library, where i would find the very small section designed for children's literature. And I would pick up a book from Dr. Seuss. I can't tell you how many times i read Green Eggs and Ham or Horton Hears A who? Those were about the only selections available at that time. I'd really like to quote a line or two from one of them.

"I am lucky to be what I am! Thank goodness I'm not just a ham, or a clam, or a dusty jar of sour gooseberry jam! I AM WHAT I AM!! That's a great thing to be!! Dr. Suess.

Let me repeat that one line--I AM WHAT I AM!!! That has amazingly gone on to be a gay international anthem taken from a Broadway show, La Cage Aux Folles, and a very funny movie, The Birdcage.

Now, I know that this might shock you, but even as a child, I knew I was different. I could not define it. I could not explain it. I could not talk about it. When i went to my aunt's house for a visit, there were boys in one room watching football and girls in another room playing with dolls. You guessed it, I went into the room with the girls and the dolls. I was different and I knew it. I struggled and struggled while growing up, but i could not even come out to myself until almost 25 years of age. Such time wasted.

Now to the present, a young child nowadays definitely has a lot more exposure to the word's gay, lesbian, transgender than anyone before. You can't watch tv for several hours without encountering a gay character. You can't browse a newspaper without seeing a story with those words. I guarantee you even a small child has read or heard them. So, for a young child, to walk into the large children's wing, and to find a small display table with a few gay related books on them is monumental. If that child were me at my young age, I might have been saved from myself so much earlier. A child now upon browsing the beautiful illustrated books that i went in and saw, might say, "Hey, that's me. Oh my gosh, those are my feelings. I want to read more". And believe me in this day and age, with the media exposure I just mentioned, they will know. So, if that display has helped just one child this month, it will have served its purpose, just one. Self-discovery is everything. Later on, they will have to deal with issues beyond the imagination. but these books may just save a life, suicide is high among gay teens. I'll say it again, just one.

Thank you for your time.

Dan Maneval, Williamsport

I take the remarks by County Commissioners Scott and Metzger regarding taking down books in the JV Brown Library as repugnant and a personal offense. I may be white, heterosexual and Christian, but this suggestion is so wrong on some many levels. How do you know at what age a young person becomes aware of their sexual identity? We have far too many children in stress and therapy that have NOT had access to the books you referenced. Parents of our younger population should have access to these books. I applaud the library's wisdom to have not only gained these books but to display them. It gives me sorrow to read of what is either your lack of knowledge or bigotry. Your remarks are dangerous and taking down books from a public library is a path not to be traveled down. The citizens of Lycoming County do not need nor authorize more expensive lawsuits. Furthermore, doesn't this go against laws on discrimination? It seems education as to sensitivity and inclusivity is needed by county commissioners. (Elizabeth Anstadt Downey, 6-15-21, Meeting of the Lycoming County Commissioners)

Good morning my name is McKenna Long and I am a resident of Lycoming County. I am the mother of two extremely smart, beautiful biracial children... I am also the very proud mother of a daughter who is a member of the LGBTQ+ community. Just to set the background, I was born right down the road at Muncy Valley hospital... I grew up not only in Hughesville, but also in Williamsport. My family were extremely involved members of the community. Due to a career switch, my mother moved us down to the Washington DC area and then for almost 30 years I'd been a resident of Atlantic City New Jersey, until recently coming home. The relevance of all that is simply this... after leaving here, I was blessed to discover that there is a whole other world out there... With so many amazing beautiful people with so many different beautiful faces and colors and religions and ideals and identities.... And although I lived elsewhere, I would always come back here to see my family, who's lived here, in the same house, for over 60 years. This place was and is always MY HOME, one of the most beautiful places I've ever been to, and always brought me comfort, peace and happiness.

It was those same attributes that brought me back here to live as an adult, with my children, after I was injured as the victim of a crime...I needed that comfort, peace and happiness to balance myself and get back to normal.

But what I feel here now is ANYTHING but comfort. I no longer feel safe. I don't feel my children are safe. I've had to tell my daughter that it'd probably be best to not advertise that she's bisexual, you're already black, don't overload them... I've had to have talks with my black son, and how he should walk home, and how to carry himself so as not to get harassed, or worse. I had a security system set up immediately after the death of George Floyd. You know what my neighbors did right before I did that? Hung a huge confederate flag right next to their Rambo Trump sign... just for us.

And it is behavior like yours that justifies and gives these types of people the fuel they need to continue to spread hate and intolerance and just be bullies.

I saw Mr. Metzger's post. I also saw when he hid it....and then I saw when he made it public again. I saw all of the comments. You may be a bit out of touch, but there's an ENORMOUS LGBTQ community here in Lyco, many just keep it under wraps out of fear. Some oddly enough may have even voted for you. You've got to be kidding yourself if you didn't notice the ratio of comments against you as opposed to agreeing with you. Although, I'm sure you had plenty of your fellow bigots message you privately of their support. I also see Mr. Mussare has been awful quiet, letting Mr. Metzger take all the heat, not that it bothers me, but it should you. You sexualized these books, yet these books have nothing to do with sex, nor relationships. They about being comfortable with one's self and feeling that who you are not wrong and you are not alone.... period. And it is Pride month and a lot of local places have celebratory displays. Although I'm sure they were not passively aggressively bullied and told how much money they're given by any of you in an attempt to apply pressure to fall in line. Although, there was one correct statement in that post... let kids be kids...yes... Let kids be happy and play and comfortable and secure .and not be threatened or bullied or insecure or confused, or God forbid even think about taking their life, which is what these books help prevent. So let kids be kids by having access to kids' books, and let them be on display during Pride month, so children AND parents that might have been afraid can now see there ARE books out there, and they can check the book out and take it home, with no judgement...and then that kid be a happier kid.

And as far as the comments of your supporters crying, they don't need to walk in the library and have this shoved down their throats" Well, I can't even step out of my house without having my neighbors political and racial ideal and belief signs shoved down MY throat...still...because ordinances aren't enforced by you, if they think like you. I'd actually love to see your library card and how many times you actually go there.

Enough. The horrifying bigotry that is rampant through Lycoming County is not only disgusting, but dangerous. Especially when it's coming straight from our elected community officials. Community...noun... "a unified body of individuals living in a particular area broadly" we are ALL Lycoming County, and you are here to SERVE all of us, not just who your cherry pick. This little bubble, this little "good old boys club" here in Lycoming County, it's going the way of the dinosaurs... ways of thinking are much different, and you are outnumbered. This is already been spreading negatively on the internet, and that could cause a lot of negative attention for our area, which is unacceptable by your hands. And it's for reasons like this, and people like these gentlemen, that I am running for council in my town because we've been harassed by the powers that be THERE for just being who we are, nothing more. We should want everybody to be happy here and love living and visiting here.

As an ally, it is an honor when a friend 'comes out' to you. It means that they trust you and feel safe in the space you've created. As a parent, when your child comes out to you, it's an emotional roller coaster because you know that every future joy will be shadowed by the intolerance of others. Will a bakery refuse to make her wedding cake? Will she need to avoid countries that are unsafe? These were not my thoughts when I read *Sleeping Beauty* to her. My friend sets an empty place for her son each Thanksgiving because he was not safe to come out to her. So instead of a happy gay son, she got to bury her idea of a straight one.

I wish these books had been on display for us when we were young so that we could have more understanding and a lot less fear. I am thrilled they exist and are readily found on display, because books, like people's identities and their love, should never have to be hidden. If one child gets to feel normal or has the compassion to accept others' differences, this display has done its work.

--

Mary Wright

(pronouns she, her)

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(570) 567-4726

Alison Rupert, Penn Township

Comment for Lycoming County Commissioners meeting

June 15, 2021

Re: JV Brown Library Pride Month Display

Thank you, Commissioners Metzger, Mussare and Mirabito for this opportunity to speak.

I believe every person in this room wants their children and grandchildren (and everyone else's children) to thrive.

We want every child to grow up knowing that they are a valued member of our community – no matter what skin color, ethnic background, physical appeal, artistic gifts, athletic ability, intelligence quota or gender traits they were born with.

The library's Pride Month display conveys that very important message to our kids. To call for the display's removal is to send our kids the opposite message.

In years past, you'd see mostly *people of color* fighting racial discrimination, mostly *women* fighting gender discrimination, mostly *disabled people* fighting discrimination against them, etc.

But today you see multiple advocacy groups coalescing in solidarity to fight prejudice and discrimination against any group. Commissioners, I hope you agree with us that no child should ever be made to feel they're unacceptable. I hope you'll join us in supporting our library's message that Lycoming County is a welcoming, inclusive place for kids to grow up in...and for adults to settle in.

Thank you.

County Commissioner Testimony--DRAFT

June 15, 2021

Mary L. Sieminski

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak today.

I understand your concern for the mental health of the young people of Lycoming County, but removing books that you object to from the display of the children's room of the James V. Brown Library is not the way to help young people.

I speak as a librarian—the retired director of the Penn College Library with nearly 50 years of experience in public and academic libraries—and as a concerned citizen. As a matter of fact, my first job was as a page in the Brown Library when I was a senior at Williamsport High School 62 years ago.

Now that we have proved that I am old, I want to tell you that libraries are deeply committed to the basic principal that “all libraries are forums for information and and that the basic policies guide their services. This is from what is called The Library Bill of rights.

One of those principles, article II of the Bill of Rights, is that, and I quote, “Libraries should provide material and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.” And I might add in the case of your concerns, Mr. Mussare and Mr. Metzger, your own personal beliefs.

And I speak passionately about Article III, “Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.”

So, your request for the James V. Brown Library to basically hide their books for young people on sexual and gender identity defies the basic principles of good community library service, excellent service our public library has provided since its founding in 1906.

And furthermore, reading a book about being gay or being transgender will not make a young people gay or transgender. As a wise 11-year-old that I know said:

“That’s not the way it works.

Reading a book about cats, did not make me a cat.”

As an advisor to the LGBTQ group at Penn College twenty or so years ago, I can assure you that these young college students, questioning their identity during a time period not so open as today, did not turn gay by reading a book. As a matter of fact, sometimes finding their own experiences reflected in a book might have saved their sanity—and perhaps their lives.

And here I will switch gears and speak to you about the dangers—actually the evils—of banning books. The Nazi final solution did not begin with extermination camps, but rather be demonizing “undesirable” minorities—Jews, homosexuals, the mentally ill or intellectual disabled, Roma, Jehovah’s Witnesses, and political dissidents. Book burnings were part of the Pre-war scheme and sadly rallied large swaths of ordinary Germans, some of them good people, to believe in and then enable them to act in hateful and genocidal ways.

We will not let that happen in Lycoming County and will do all we can to uphold the Library Bill of Rights and preserve basic morality in the county we love

Thank you for your time.

Good morning Commissioners,

My name is Amanda Waldman. I would like to comment on the statements made during the last meeting by commissioners Mezger and Mussare.

There are a number of things I expect to hear discussed at the county commissioners meetings. Issues like

What is the county's response to SB 1 that if passed would dramatically increase the property taxes on EVERY resident in the county, and the state as a whole.

Or

Certain townships who were not, and are still not compliant with Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) regulations, that is not only harming our waterways, but also damaging properties.

Or

The lack of affordable, accessible housing for our disabled residents

Or

The rapid decline of population in our county and ways we can slow, if not stop, the brain drain of our young people.

What I never expected to hear were you two gentlemen using inflammatory language as you discussed the PRIDE month display in the children's section of the James V. Brown Library. Words like Indoctrinate and promote were chosen to intentionally incite fear. Fear of people who are different. Fear by a select few of a perceived threat to our lives; our families; our country.

I wish I could say I was shocked, or even slightly surprised. But I wasn't, because throughout history, these words have been used to incite fear of every group of people who have been perceived as different:

German, Irish, Italian, Jewish, People of Color, Women...and now the LGBTQ community.

You both repeatedly stated you were not discriminating against the library OR the LGBTQ community, yet that is EXACTLY what you did last week during the meeting, AT the library, and in the poorly written comment on social media.

THIS IS WHAT DISCRIMINATION LOOKS LIKE.

And this is what brings us here today. You had the opportunity to open up a dialogue between people & encourage tolerance, inclusiveness, and diversity. But instead you chose to act rashly based upon your personal feelings and beliefs.

I spent a large portion of this past year seeking out and talking to people who have a different view of the world than I do. WHY? Because THAT is what being a representative of the people looks like. Having open, honest, respectful conversations. Actually listening to others. Trying to find common ground. It's a phenomenon known as CIVIL DISCOURSE. And it is absolutely possible.

I am sorry the path you both chose to take was to be divisive and polarizing. But we are all here to ask you to engage in civil discourse with us. We have already listened to everything you had to say last week. This week it's your turn to listen to us. We are all so much better than the divisive rhetoric. Let's take this opportunity to have civil discourse, and help our community become a tolerant, inclusive one.

Doris Anderman, 492 Morgan Valley Road, Williamsport,

Commissioners,

I read each of the three books mentioned in Mr. Metzger's Facebook post from cover to cover, which from your comments, Mr. Metzger, I am not sure you can say you did. The one book does talk about a boy's parents' reactions to his desire to wear a dress to school but at the end of the book his mother helps him sew one and he does wear it to school. One book is about two siblings and how the one learns to accept the others decision to be a boy. The third book is about a boy who wants to be a mermaid.

I am not sure if I am more upset with Mr. Metzger and Mr. Mussare's desire to hide these books and their message from public view or the thought that they question the library's right to display books for Pride Month in the Children's room.

According to a recent survey conducted by the organization, Just Like Us, "Young LGBT+ people are three times more likely to self-harm and twice as likely to contemplate suicide as their non-LGBT+ peers. This study surveyed 2,934 pupils aged 11-18, including 1,140 pupils who identify as LGBT+, between December 2020 and January 2021. Dominic Arnall, chief executive of Just Like Us stated, "LGBT+ young people need to hear from their families and schools that there is nothing wrong with who they are and that they can have a bright future ahead of them." This speaks to the reason why these books should be on display in our library. These students surveyed here, did not wake up one morning as a youth and identify as a member of the LGBTQ+ community. Most of them will relate stories of themselves as young children, and the struggles they experienced.

As a retired teacher and former church youth leader, I am glad to see these books are available to open discussion for all children. I support the library's right and choice to display these valuable books.

We are here today to talk about books. A few particular books in this case and the role they play in the lives of our children. I would like to talk about a book as well but a different book. A few years ago a rather well known woman wrote a book inspired by the African proverb "it takes a village to raise a child". The idea that it takes a village reflects the premise that children are a product not just of their home but of the world, the village if you will, in which they live. That it takes not just the family they live with but the broader family of the village as a whole to provide the life experiences necessary to grow that child to be well-rounded, whole, and healthy. A child well prepared to take on all of life's challenges and to live a fulfilling life. But not just part of the village, not just some of the village, but it takes all the village to raise that child. No single one or two - of us gets to choose who is more valuable and as such should have a greater role to play in the village and the raising of its children. Instead we should recognize the value and importance of each and every one of us. I believe this. That we all have an important role to play in providing experiences that are not limited to those of just a few in the village but all. Understanding that inclusivity begets empathy and banishes bigotry. Our public library is part of our village and plays an important role in bringing the world to every child, to allow our children to experience what is often out of reach in their everyday lives. The library nurtures children in age appropriate ways that allow them to see the full spectrum of human existence. And I trust them to always have the best interest of the children at heart. The commissioners play an important role in our village as well but I do not believe it should be one that attempts to limit who in the village is deemed important and necessary, who in the village has a role to play in raising the children based on... well based on what exactly? Educating children about the breadth of human experience isn't wrong...is it?

Allowing everyone in the village to make positive contribution to the lives of our children is a good thing...isn't it? Recognizing that diversity is what allows us to thrive as a people is important...isn't it? I guess we will find out, won't we?

Raye Bierly

Jersey Shore

County Commissioner Meeting 6/15

	Last Name	First Name	Speaking	Speaking Order	Have Statement
1	Carpenter	Michelle	Yes	Mary Sieminski	Yes
2	Colimar	Theresa	Yes	Amanda Waldman	Yes
3	Mule	Donna		Dan Maneval	Yes
4	Shireman	John	Yes	Alison Rupert	Yes
5	Waldman	Amanda	Yes	MCKenna Long	Yes
6	Sieminski	Mary	Yes	Mary Wright	Yes
7	Maneval	Dan	Yes	Raye Bierly	Yes
8	Rupert	Alison	Yes	Doris Anderman	Yes
9	Long	MCKenna	Yes	Tara-Day Ulrich	
10	Wright	Mary	Yes	Elizabeth Downey	Yes
11	Day-Ulrich	Tara	Yes	Michelle Carpenter	
12	West	Greg		Theresa Colimar	
13	Jenkins	Gaye			
14	Bierly	Raye	Yes		
15	Anderman	Doris	Yes		
16	Baldy	Mary Lou			
17	Landers	Gail			
18	Hirsch	Alison			
19	Collins	Regina			
20	Collins	Len			
21	Baumann	Lauren			
22	Fenderson	Bill			
23	Peeling	Dianne			
24	Downey	Elizabeth	Yes		
25	Cross	Ardythe			
26	Cross				
27	Cross				
28	Karschner	Leeann			
29	Allyn	Morgan			

	Miriaman	Marty			
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639 Signatures

change.org

Recipient: Constituents of Lycoming County

Letter: Greetings,

Support Inclusive reading Materials for Children

Signatures

Name	Location	Date
Mary Wright	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Sue fulton	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Marilyn Mulvihill	Sewickley, PA	2021-06-09
Gail Ritchey	Linden, PA	2021-06-09
Leann Karschner	Pennsylvania	2021-06-09
Jared Richardson	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Jill Kaplan	Montoursville, PA	2021-06-09
Jared DeLoof	Meridian, ID	2021-06-09
A Silverstrim	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Darbie Johnson	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Alissa Herrera	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Daniel Walz	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Allan Meck	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
bella aljets	Calhan, US	2021-06-09
Gaye Jenkins	Allenwood, PA	2021-06-09
DEVIKA SOROKHAIBAM	Imphal, US	2021-06-09
laryssa shaffer	Jersey Shore, PA	2021-06-09
Natalie D	Bangor, US	2021-06-09
Lara Collins Breon	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Thomas Powell	Harleysville, PA	2021-06-09

Name	Location	Date
Kayla Dunlap	Watsonstown, PA	2021-06-09
Kirsten Burkhart	Hughesville, PA	2021-06-09
Jennifer Flick	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Bailey Shawley	Lock Haven, PA	2021-06-09
Alexis Powell	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Heather Rockwell	Waynesburg, PA	2021-06-09
Kerri Kearney	Philadelphia, PA	2021-06-09
Mandy Bair	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Melody Scagnelli-Townley	Bayonne, NJ	2021-06-09
Lynn Zitta	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Amber Phillips	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Beth Z	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Erin Smith	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Charles Day	Lock Haven, PA	2021-06-09
Kate Griffith	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Glenda Heyd	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Carolyn Shade	Philadelphia, PA	2021-06-09
Theresa Hrzic-Colomon	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Rachel Cooper	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Julia Stetts	Hughesville, PA	2021-06-09
Pam Dillett	Lock Haven, PA	2021-06-09
Nicole Forst	Pottstown, PA	2021-06-09

Name	Location	Date
Jennifer Todd	State College, PA	2021-06-09
Jeff Breon	WILLIAMSPORT, PA	2021-06-09
Sondra Perry	Lock Haven, PA	2021-06-09
sandra kingery	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Sheila Bauman	Lock Haven, PA	2021-06-09
Jenny Wilcox	Cincinnati, OH	2021-06-09
Ami McChesney	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Therese Bowen	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Karen Neff	Bellefonte, PA	2021-06-09
Nandi Harrington	Philadelphia, PA	2021-06-09
Amanda Michael	Grand Rapids, MI	2021-06-09
Jessica Mcdermott	US	2021-06-09
Carolyn Stavoy	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Latisha Sweeting	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Tricia Bausinger	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Katie McCaslin	Lock Haven, PA	2021-06-09
Samantha Berry	Beech creek, PA	2021-06-09
Kathryne Titus George	Beech Creek, PA	2021-06-09
Rachael Newman	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Melissa Dally	Woolrich, PA	2021-06-09
kathy yeager	wapwallopen, PA	2021-06-09
Rebecca Strang	Naperville, IL	2021-06-09

Name	Location	Date
Lizzie Pope	Philadelphia, PA	2021-06-09
Annette Varcoe	Brackney, PA	2021-06-09
Mallory Weymer	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Rebecca Oaks	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Sarah Haines-Bertin	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Christina Williams	Reading, PA	2021-06-09
Marypst Dion	Greensburg, PA	2021-06-09
Kacie Hopkins	Pennsylvania	2021-06-09
Tiasha Machuga	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Veronica Echave	Springfield, US	2021-06-09
Elizabeth Benjamin	Wellsboro, PA	2021-06-09
Julie Ross	Lock Haven, PA	2021-06-09
Jean Chagnon	Montréal, US	2021-06-09
Trachanda Garcia	Downingtown, PA	2021-06-09
Eliza Caughey	Ypsilanti, US	2021-06-09
Bettie Duran	San Antonio, US	2021-06-09
Kyle Jensen	Colorado Springs, CO	2021-06-09
Cynthia Sullivan	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
Linda Sosniak	Muncy, PA	2021-06-09
Tara Knight	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-09
taylor hanley	Bellefonte, PA	2021-06-09
Elyse Arseneau	Vancouver, Canada	2021-06-09

Name	Location	Date
Megan Palmer	Seneca, SC	2021-06-12
Megan Sheffield	Easley, SC	2021-06-12
Patricia Foote	Cogan Station, PA	2021-06-12
Samantha Shirk	Philadelphia, PA	2021-06-12
Tara Gingery	Avis, PA	2021-06-12
Mitchell Hart	Lewisburg, PA	2021-06-12
Emma Pentz	Montoursville, PA	2021-06-12
Amanda Flynn	Montoursville, PA	2021-06-12
Sarah Rhone	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-12
Traci Foster	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-12
Denise Dimaio	Lewes, DE	2021-06-12
Lisa Meade	Jersey Shore, PA	2021-06-12
Melissa Gephart	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-12
Kellie Mantle	Philadelphia, PA	2021-06-12
Karis Ritzman	King of Prussia, PA	2021-06-12
Patricia Mattice-Leonard	Davenport, NY	2021-06-12
Leisha Johnson Harvey	Lewisburg, PA	2021-06-12
Katelynn Hanna	Lock Haven, PA	2021-06-12
Robyn Floyd	Harrisburg, PA	2021-06-12
Linda Nye	Cogan Station, PA	2021-06-13
Valerie Leonard	monroe, NJ	2021-06-13
Danielle Gephart	Pittsburgh, PA	2021-06-13

Name	Location	Date
Lena Frederick	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-13
Darlene Little	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-13
Piper Rauch	Jersey Shore, PA	2021-06-13
JOE REUTER	Canton, MI	2021-06-13
Nancy Smith	Ridley Park, PA	2021-06-13
Pamela Mattern	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-13
Kimberly Mills	Latrobe, PA	2021-06-13
Jaime Feeerrar	Jersey Shore, PA	2021-06-13
David Bridge	Latrobe, PA	2021-06-13
Louise Campana	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-13
John Esteves	Lock Haven, PA	2021-06-13
Julie Jackson	Wilmington, DE	2021-06-13
Dr.Rachael Hungerford	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-13
Jim O'Connell	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-14
Michelle Gawblick	US	2021-06-14
Heather Nuding	Ridley Park, PA	2021-06-14
Richard Rupert	Hughesville, PA	2021-06-14
Gabrielle Chermak	Riverton, NJ	2021-06-14
Abigail Burley	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-14
Meredith Chermak	Delran, NJ	2021-06-14
Deborah Leonard	Jersey Shore, PA	2021-06-14
Michael Hogan	Indianapolis, IN	2021-06-14

Name	Location	Date
Kim Follmer	Williamsport, PA	2021-06-14
Megan Carnes	Allentown, PA	2021-06-14

"I would like to thank you for your Pride Month display in both the Children's and Adult wings at James V, Brown Library. I understand that there is an issue with some of our county commissioners complaining that the children's display, in particular, could be "harmful" to Williamsport's youth. I urge you to stand strong and refuse to remove these displays. I know you have procedures in place to handle community complaints/requests for removal (censorship) and I urge you keep this very important display. Holding your funding hostage to threaten you is appalling.

I am a firm ally of the LGBTQ community. I am a staunch patron of the library. I will support you 100% in your efforts to honor Pride month and teach tolerance and understanding to our children."

John F. Piper Jr	439 Clayton Ave Wmst PA 17701
Margaret P. Piper	459 Clayton Ave Williamsport, PA 17701
Margaret C Bowers	450 Clayton Ave Wmst PA 17701
Robert S. Bowers	450 Clayton Ave Williamsport PA 17701
Barth E. Bowers	1966 Sheridan Street, Williamsport, PA 17701
Erica Huffelt	1144 Deer Path Lane "
Christine S. Charney	1630 Lincoln Ave Wmst. PA 17701
Ken S.	1003 Phair Pl. Laurel Md 20707
John Chambl	1630 Lincoln Ave Williamsport Pa 17701
Alexandra Hughes	2120 Reed St. Wmst PA 17701
Tammy (Lester)	3611 Waidman Dr Wmst PA 17701
Daleane Kube	515 Hawthorne Avenue Wmst 17701
Paul W. Bartholomew	317 Eldred St Wmst PA 17701
Deb Surr	2034 Lincoln Dr Wmst PA 17701
Christy D. Hertz	153 Wynward Dr. Coogan Station, PA 17721
Timothy G. Hertz	2120 Reed St. Williamsport PA 17701
Barbara Hertz	2200 Progress Blvd Wmst PA 17701
Patricia Bomer	2200 Progress Blvd Wmst PA 17701
Melissa Fureish	340 Backs St Montoursville Pa 17754
John J. Shurema	220 Mt. Pleasant Ave Wmst PA 17701
William Fenderson	1439 Yeger Road Linden Pa 17701
Janet Marnold	10 N. Hopman Street, Williamsport Pa.
Donna D. Maule	367 Linden Ave. Wmst. PA 17701
Cecythe Cross	800 Diamond St Williamsport PA 17701
Walter Cross	800 Diamond St Williamsport PA 17701
Lauren Baumann Frisco	2056 Reed St, Williamsport PA 17701
Douglas Frisco	2056 Reed St. Williamsport, PA 17701
Sera Altebrando	416 Cypress St Montoursville PA 17754
Terina L. Caruso	557 Lyons Ave., Williamsport, PA 17701
William Kuhn	1970 YALE AVE Wmst PA 17701
Amid Madry	1803 Ginny Lane Williamsport PA 17701
Steph H. Muller	258 Red Oak Lane Antes Fort, PA 17720

