

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
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WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701

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**LYCOMING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA
THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2022
10:00 A.M.**

**Present In-Person: Commissioner Metzger, Commissioner Mussare, Commissioner Mirabito,
Director McDermott. and Michael Wiley, Solicitor**

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA NOT PREVIOUSLY POSTED

- Action Item 4.7: Revise Resolution from 2022-06 to 2022-07.

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 on Agenda Items Only

1.6 Proclamations:

- Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month
- National Public Safety Telecommunications Week

1.7 Non-Profit Informational Series: "What They Do for You?"

- Duane Hershberger – Greater Lycoming Habitat for Humanity
<https://www.lycominghabitat.org/>

2.0 REPORTS

2.1 Jessica Segraves– Vote to approve the personnel actions report for the month of March, 2022.

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

2.2 Jessica Segraves – Vote to approve TDA action.

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

2.3 Brandy Clemens – Vote to ratify accounts payable cash requirement report in the amount of \$1,493,297.47

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

Recess Commissioners' Public Meeting for the Board of Assessment Revisions

3.0 BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVISIONS

3.1 Convene Board of Assessment Revisions.

3.2 Brooke Wright – (via telephone) Approve the following real estate refund:
• 47-145-125.D – Joseph Grace – \$1,002.77

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

3.3 Brooke Wright – (via telephone) Approve the list of real estate exonerations.
Mr. Mirabito moved to approve. Mr. Mussare 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0.

3.4 Adjourn Board of Assessment Revisions.

Reconvene Commissioners' Public Meeting

4.0 ACTION ITEMS

4.1 Chris Brewer – Vote to approve Ordinance 2022-01 for incurring of nonelectoral debt by the issuance of General Obligation Bonds.

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

4.2 Mya Toon – (via telephone) Vote to approve Agreement with Scotilla Psychological Services, LLC. (2022 budgeted item).

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

4.3 Mya Toon – (via telephone) Vote to approve Master Sales Agreement with Timekeeping Systems, Inc.

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

4.4 Mya Toon – (via telephone) Vote to approve RFQ for UGI Trenching Services to R&L Development Company (2022 budgeted item).

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

4.5 Mya Toon – (via telephone) Vote to approve Community Development Block Grant Program Contract with Department of Community and Economic Development.

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

4.6 Mya Toon – Vote to award ITB for Food Products to Keyco Distributors Inc., Feesers, Inc. and Sysco Central Pennsylvania.

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

4.7 Kristin McLaughlin – Vote to approve Resolution 2022-07 to allocate the County's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to revenue loss.

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

4.8 Brooke Wright – (via telephone) Vote to approve Agreement with Palmetto Posting, Inc. (2022 budgeted item).

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

4.9 Beth Baylor – Vote to approve Amendment to Agreement with MCM Consulting Group, Inc. (2022 budgeted item).

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

4.10 Jerry Kennedy – Vote to approve professional services proposal with Melillo Consulting (2022 budgeted item).

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

5.0 COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Mr. Metzger invited everyone to attend the ARPA funds discussion with Early Childhood in the Board Room and ARPA Fund Public Meeting Discussions with Farmers. Encourages everyone to visit as many Fire Hall events as you can to help support. He thanked everyone for the birthday wishes, fondly spoke of his family, and to all thanked all the county employees for what they do for the community.

Mr. Mussare wished Mr. Metzger a happy birthday and thanked him for all his service, his prayers, and all he does for the County.

Mr. Mirabito wished Mr. Metzger a happy birthday and spoke regarding a Sun Gazette article from April 01, 2022 (see attached comments).

6.0 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.

Thomas Adams, Williamsport

Reminds everyone to appreciate difficult job public officials have. Spoke of the importance of honesty and integrity with work and actions. Excited about the upcoming physical therapy program that the County is going to have will be valuable for your employees to reduce the need for drugs. America cannot cease to be great.

7.0 NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next Commissioners Public Meeting will be held on **Thursday, April 14, 2022, 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 go to:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GxU_jZmNb_o&t=9s

PUBLIC DISPLAY OF WAGES

COMMENT BY COMMISSIONER RICK MIRABITO April 7, 2022

I SAW AN ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN THE SUN GAZETTE ON APRIL 1 ENTITLED "Lycoming County gov't complies with right-to-know request." THE ARTICLE WAS ABOUT THE MEETING HELD ON MARCH 10 AT WHICH THE COMMISSIONERS VOTED TO APPROVE THE REORGANIZATION OF THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

I WAS ABSENT FROM THE MARCH 10 MEETING DUE TO AN ILLNESS IN MY FAMILY, AND I DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING.

THE ARTICLE REPORTED THAT THE SUN-GAZETTE HAD FILED A RIGHT-TO-KNOW REQUEST TO FIND OUT THE SPECIFIC AMOUNTS THAT THE COMMISSIONERS HAD APPROVED TO PAY EACH EMPLOYEE AS A RESULT OF THE REORGANIZATION.

FIRST, ALTHOUGH I DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING, I WILL APOLOGIZE TO THE SUN-GAZETTE AND THE PUBLIC FOR THE FACT THAT A RIGHT-TO-KNOW REQUEST HAD TO BE FILED TO OBTAIN INFORMATION THAT BELONGS TO THE PUBLIC. CONTINUED

AS THE PUBLIC MAY NOTICE, ABOUT 6 WEEKS AGO WE CHANGED THE WAY THAT WE REPORT PERSONNEL CHANGES AND THE SALARY CHANGES IN OUR AGENDA.

LET ME EXPLAIN HOW WE ARRIVED AT THIS JUNCTURE.

THE COMMISSIONERS HAVE BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT MORALE ISSUES WITH EMPLOYEES AND, IN PARTICULAR, DISSATISFACTION WITH COMPENSATION.

THE COMMISSIONERS BELIEVED THAT SOME OF THESE MORALE ISSUES WERE DRIVEN BY THE PUBLICATION EACH WEEK OF SALARIES AND CHANGES THAT RESULTED FROM REORGANIZATIONS, PROMOTIONS, OR OTHER CHANGES IN COMPENSATION.

AFTER DELIBERATION, WE DECIDED TO TERMINATE THE PUBLICATION OF THE WAGE AND SALARY INFORMATION EACH WEEK.

WE AGREED TO CONTINUE TO RELEASE AT THE END OF EACH MONTH THE SUMMARY OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS WITH WAGE AND SALARY CHANGES.

AFTER OBSERVING THE PRACTISE FOR 6 WEEKS, I HAVE CONCLUDED THAT THE PRACTISE IS INEFFECTUAL AND NOT CONSISTENT WITH OPEN, TRANSPARENT GOVERNMENT.

THE REASON THAT THE PRACTISE IS INEFFECTUAL IS THAT EMPLOYEES STILL WILL SPEAK WITH EACH OTHER AND SPECULATE ABOUT THE WAGE AND SALARY CHANGES. INDEED, THE LACK OF SPECIFIC INFORMATION SIMPLY FEEDS A RUMOR MILL THAT HAS WORSE OUTCOMES.

MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE MORALE ISSUE, HOWEVER, IS THE ISSUE OF DEPRIVING THE PUBLIC FROM INFORMATION ON A TIMELY BASIS ABOUT HOW GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SPEND THEIR TAX DOLLARS.

WE SHOULD NOT DENY THE INTRINSIC RIGHT OF THE PUBLIC TO KNOW ABOUT EXPENDITURES OF TAX DOLLARS IN AN ATTEMPT TO DEAL WITH AN EMPLOYEE MORALE ISSUE.

*THE COUNTY'S POLICY ON INFORMATION MIRRORS THE STATE RIGHT-TO-KNOW LAW: ALL INFORMATION THAT IS NOT EXEMPT IN SOME WAY IS PUBLIC INFORMATION AND SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC **WITHOUT** THE PUBLIC HAVING TO FILE A RIGHT-TO-KNOW REQUEST.*

THE RIGHT-TO-KNOW REQUEST IS ONLY A TOOL TO PROTECT GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM ALLEGATIONS THAT NOT ALL INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED.

THE RIGHT-TO-KNOW REQUEST SHOULD NOT BE AN ANTECEDENT ACTION NECESSARY TO OBTAIN PUBLIC INFORMATION. IN OTHER WORDS, THE PUBLIC SHOULD NOT HAVE TO JUMP THROUGH HOOPS TO FIND OUT HOW GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SPEND THEIR TAX DOLLARS.

THE FACT THAT WE PUBLISH THE INFORMATION AT THE END OF THE MONTH DOES NOT PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH TIMELY, UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

*THE ABSENCE OF TIMELY INFORMATION IS MORE LIKELY TO ENCOURAGE THE PUBLIC TO **DISENGAGE** FROM GOVERNMENT.*

IF I RECALL CORRECTLY, I MADE THE MOTION IN MY FIRST TERM TO PUBLISH THE MONTHLY SUMMARY OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS. THAT MOTION WAS NOT TO REPLACE THE PRACTISE THAT WE HAD OF PROVIDING THE INFORMATION ON A WEEKLY BASIS.

ACCORDINGLY, I AM SEEKING TO REACH A CONSENSUS WITH MY FELLOW COMMISSIONERS THAT WE RETURN TO THE PRACTISE OF PUBLISHING THE WAGE AND SALARY INFORMATION EACH WEEK WHEN WE VOTE ON THE ISSUE WHICH GIVES RISE TO THE CHANGE. THIS IS THE PRACTISE THAT WE HAVE UTILIZED FOR AT LEAST THE PAST 10 YEARS AND POSSIBLE LONGER.

I BELIEVE THAT THE PRACTISE SERVES THE PUBLIC WELL AND FULFILLS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO HAVE OPEN, TRANSPARENT GOVERNEMENT WHICH EMPOWERS THE PUBLIC TO HOLD ELECTED OFFICIALS ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS.

THANK YOU.



Whereas emergencies can occur at anytime that require police, fire or emergency medical services;

Whereas when an emergency occurs the prompt response of police, firefighters and EMS personnel is critical to the protection of life and preservation of property;

Whereas the safety of our emergency service providers is dependent upon the quality and accuracy of information obtained from citizens who telephone the Lycoming County Communications Center and the Pennsylvania State Police, Montoursville barracks;

Whereas Public Safety Telecommunicators are the first and most critical contact our citizens have with emergency services;

Whereas Public Safety Telecommunicators are the single vital link for our emergency service providers by monitoring their activities by radio, providing them information and insuring their safety;

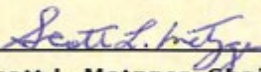
Whereas Public Safety Telecommunicators of Lycoming County have contributed substantially to the apprehension of criminals, suppression of fires and treatment of patients;

Whereas Telecommunicators exhibited compassion, understanding and professionalism during the performance of their job in the past year;

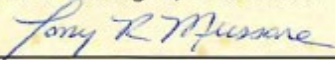
Therefore Be It Resolved that the Lycoming County Commissioners declare the week of April 10 through 16, 2022 to be *National Telecommunications Week* in Lycoming County, in honor of men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our county and citizens safe.

Signed this 7th day of April, 2022

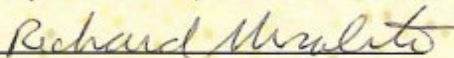
Lycoming County Commissioners



Scott L. Metzger, Chairman



Tony R. Mussare, Vice Chairman



Richard Mirabito, Secretary





Pennsylvania 811

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the month of April 2022 recognized as “Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month”, and the initiative sponsored by Pennsylvania 811, a utility notification information center celebrating its 50th year of continuous service to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania 811 received close to 1,050,000 excavation notifications in 2021, and transmitted approximately 6.7 million notifications to their member facility owners and operators allowing essential utility and construction crews to provide vital underground services and repair of critical infrastructure to communities throughout Pennsylvania, and

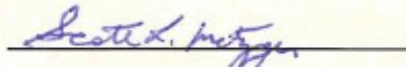
WHEREAS, when dialing 811, at least three business days before digging, a homeowner or a contractor is connected to a unique service that notifies the appropriate underground utility operators in the municipality in which the work will be performed, and

WHEREAS, by notifying 811 of their intent to dig, the homeowner or contractor is knowingly helping to protect the underground utilities, themselves, the work crew, and their neighbors from any unsafe digging practices within their community, and

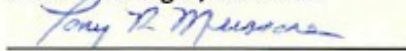
WHEREAS, upon receiving the notification from Pennsylvania 811, the facility owners and operators disperse to the said work site to mark the approximate location of their underground utility lines with flags, paint, or both, to establish an eighteen-inch tolerance zone of the outside wall or edge of their line or facility, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The County of Lycoming Pennsylvania in support of the Pennsylvania Underground Utility Line Protection Law, PA Act 287 of 1974, as amended, we do hereby proclaim April 2022 as “Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month”, and encourage all Pennsylvanians to visit the Pennsylvania 811 website at www.paonecall.org for information about digging safely.

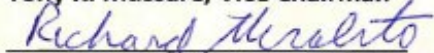
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