

Commissioners
SCOTT L. METZGER
Chairman
MARC C. SORTMAN
Vice Chairman
MARK MUSSINA
Secretary

CHRISTOPHER H. KENYON
Solicitor



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**LYCOMING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025
10:00 A.M.**

Present: Commissioner Metzger, Commissioner Sortman, Commissioner Mussina, Mya Toon Director of Financial Management, and Solicitor Christopher H. Kenyon.

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

None

1.6 Proclamation – Brad Shoemaker – Corrections Employee Appreciation Week
Brad Shoemaker, Warden formally accepted the proclamation on behalf of county prison employees, emphasizing that corrections encompass all staff members including correctional officers, safety and security personnel, maintenance, treatment, food service, administrative staff, volunteers, and other professionals. He highlighted that, despite the inherently unpredictable and sometimes dangerous environment, it also involves routine operations that staff diligently maintain. Mr. Shoemaker discussed significant changes in the correctional system over the past 30 years, noting that modern corrections aim not only to incarcerate and ensure community safety, but also to provide inmates with services that support their success upon release. He mentioned ongoing staff training in mental health first aid and the partnership with the Joinder which has resulted in two full-time mental health professionals providing inmate care. Mr. Shoemaker expressed appreciation for the dedication and teamwork among corrections staff, the Board of Commissioners, Prison Board, Courts, Sheriff's Office, Adult Probation, and external agencies, emphasizing that effective corrections require a collaborative effort.

Commissioner Metzger discussed the evolution of the prison system over the years, highlighting the adaptations required of prison staff. He emphasized that the primary goal is to prevent re-incarceration and support the successful reentry of individuals into society. Commissioner Metzger also noted the significant influence that correctional staff, including guards and counselors, have on achieving this objective. Additionally, he addressed the expansion of staffing levels at the Pre-Release Center and County Prison over the past 30 years to better support these efforts.

Commissioner Sortman commented that pursuing a career in corrections requires a specific personality, as it involves maintaining a positive outlook amidst challenging circumstances and guiding individuals toward a better life. He extended gratitude to the county's corrections employees, acknowledging that this profession is not suitable for everyone, and expressed his appreciation to those who have chosen to serve in this role.

Commissioner Mussina commended the county prison, noting that since his and Commissioner Sortman's election approximately a year and a half ago, the Board of Commissioners has not needed to address issues concerning the prison system. He also highlighted improvements in the prison's healthcare services, indicating that the facility is making notable progress in that area.

2.0 SERVICE AWARDS

2.1 Board of Commissioners – Recognize the following individual for his service to Lycoming County:

- Erick Fortin – 30 years

Dave Goodwin, Chief of Adult Probation – Comments-

First off, Erick, Congratulations on achieving the milestone of 30 years with Lycoming County. Thirty years, That's three decades, and 1,560 Mondays! You have worked longer than 7 of our employees have been on this earth. You began your journey when this field looked very different. What I know hasn't changed, is your commitment to the people we serve and your fellow employees. As a supervisor, you are always available for your staff. You give honest feedback and truly care about them. I have worked with you only for the past three (3) years, but, I have benefited from your advice more times than not. You've always had the ability to be a voice of reason when needed most. This may be your wisdom? I wanted to end with a quote. Simon Sinek, says:

"Leadership is not a license to do less, Leadership is a responsibility to do more."
I think that this describes your approach to your work and to your employees.
Congratulations again on 30 years. Here's to another 30!

John Stahl, Deputy reflected on notable events from 1995, the year Erick Fortin graduated from Lycoming College. He highlighted Mr. Fortin's high school and college athletic pursuits as a wrestler and shared personal memories from their time working together. Mr. Stahl noted that Mr. Fortin began his career in the Juvenile Probation Office, emphasizing the essential qualities for success in corrections, such as patience, communication, adaptability, critical thinking, organization, compassion, and understanding. He outlined the scope of Mr. Fortin's responsibilities, noting that he consistently demonstrates these traits despite facing numerous challenges. Deputy Stahl commended Mr. Fortin's dedication and hard work, even in supervisory roles, and extended his congratulations and respect.

Erick Fortin expressed his gratitude to his colleagues Dave Goodwin and John Stahl, emphasizing that their differing perspectives strengthen the team. He thanked the Commissioners for recognizing his 30-year tenure at Lycoming County, which he considers a significant achievement in today's workforce. Mr. Fortin reflected on the longevity of his father's 42-year career at Williamsport National Bank, suggesting it may have inspired his

own commitment. He acknowledged the support and collaboration of colleagues including Jennifer McConnell, Judge Butts, Adrienne Stahl, Sara Johns, and others, highlighting their contributions to his positive work experience. Mr. Fortin reminisced about the evolution of his role since he started and shared his intention to continue working, expressing hope to return in 30 years for his 60-year service pin.

Commissioner Metzger commended Erick Fortin for his extensive 30-year career, highlighting his background in Juvenile Probation and successful transition into Adult Probation, which has been instrumental in working with youthful offenders. He commended Mr. Fortin's professionalism, dedication, and caring approach to his work. Additionally, Commissioner Metzger shared personal memories of Mr. Fortin's lighthearted interactions with his partner, Jeff Whiteman. He noted Mr. Fortin's strong desire to help others, including his involvement in teaching wrestling to children. Additionally, Commissioner Metzger expressed admiration for Mr. Fortin's family life, describing him as a great father and family man. Concluding, Commissioner Metzger expressed gratitude for Mr. Fortin's 30 years of service and acknowledged the support and guidance he provides to his staff as a knowledgeable supervisor.

Commissioner Sortman expressed appreciation to Erick Fortin for his 30 years of dedicated service to Lycoming County. He remarked that such long-term commitment is increasingly uncommon and expressed hope for society to return to this level of stability. Additionally, he highlighted that extensive experience brings added value to one's role.

Commissioner Mussina commended Erick Fortin for his dedication to the community, highlighting his involvement as a youth wrestling mentor. He praised Mr. Fortin's commitment to his role, contributions to society and the local community, and expressed appreciation that Mr. Fortin will continue serving the county after 30 years

3.0 BID OPENING

3.1 Nicki Gottschall – Open the following bid:

- 2025 Emergency Watershed Protection Project

| 2025 Emergency Watershed Protection Projects | | |
|--|------------------|----------------|
| Company Name | Submitted Amount | Date Submitted |
| Aquatic Resource Restoration Company | \$4,020,000.00 | 5/2/2025 |
| Cuz Excavating LLC | \$689,305.00 | 5/2/2025 |
| DGR Excavating LLC | \$1,902,760.00 | 5/2/2025 |
| Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. | \$2,416,750.00 | 5/2/2025 |
| Mitchell Knorr Contracting | \$2,360,210.00 | 5/2/2025 |
| Smith Excavating & Construction | \$834,998.21 | 5/2/2025 |

Mya Toon clarified the reasoning behind the variations of cost for the project.

4.0 REPORTS

- 4.1 Nicki Gottschall – Vote to ratify the accounts payable cash requirement report for invoices due through 5/14/25 to be paid on 5/7/25 in the amount of \$901,156.32.

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

- 4.2 Nicki Gottschall – Vote to ratify the payments due to Poll Workers for training in the amount of \$13,357.50.

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

Commissioner Metzger expressed gratitude to poll workers remarking that it's a low wage job and takes a considerable time commitment. Commissioner Metzger expressed appreciation for their dedication and commitment that is vital to the community.

- 4.3 Nicki Gottschall – Vote to ratify the credit card cash requirement report of purchases from 03/27/2025 through 04/24/2025 I the amount of \$3,183.72

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

5.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

- 5.1 Mya Toon – Acknowledge that the County is requesting bids for dishwashers needed for the Coroner's Office Build.

Recess Commissioners' Public Meeting for the Salary Board

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

- 6.1 Convene Salary Board.

- 6.2 Vote to approve the Salary Board minutes from the May 1, 2025 meeting.

- 6.3 Adjourn Salary Board.

Reconvene Commissioners' Public Meeting

7.0 PERSONNEL ACTIONS

- 7.1 Mike Hagen – 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 (A).

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

8.0 ACTION ITEMS

- 8.1 Nancy Schenck – Vote to approve the Juvenile Courts Judges Commission JPO Services Grant Award Notification in the amount of \$242,417.00.

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

- 8.2 Nancy Schenck– Vote to approve the Agreement with George Junior Republic in PA. (2025 approved budgeted item).

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

- 8.3 Ken George – Vote to approve the Change Order #3 with Silver Tip, Inc. (2025 approved budgeted item)

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

- 8.4 Ken George – Vote to approve the Change Order #4 with Silver Tip, Inc. (2025 approved budgeted item)

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

- 8.5 Leslie Kilpatrick – Vote to approve the Agreement with Revize Web Services in the amount of \$36,500.00. (2025 approved budgeted item)

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

- 8.6 Stacy Folk – Vote to approve the following appointments to the Local Emergency Planning Committee:

- Michael Hagen
- Elizabeth Blausen
- Samuel Miller

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

- 8.7 Maleick Fleming – Vote to approve the Amendment to the Agreement with Lycoming-Clinton Joinder Board 2022-2023 PHARE. (2025 approved budgeted item)

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

- 8.8 Mya Toon – Vote to approve Resolution 2025-08 to expand the RVTA Board of Directors.

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

Commissioner Metzger stated they plan to recommend two members in the future.

- 8.9 Mya Toon – Vote to approve the Community Development Block Grant Program Contract in the amount of \$590,736.00. (2025 approved budgeted item)

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

- 8.10 Mya Toon– Vote to approve the Agreement with Sapphire Health.

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

- 8.11 Rodney Morehart - Vote to approve the Cover Crop Agreements between Lycoming County Conservation District and the following landowners: James H. Bishop, Charles R. Bosch, Lawrence S. Fry, Thomas J. Hamm, JRT Farms, Edwin E. Kitzmiller II, Shane Kitzmiller, Lost Brooke Farm Inc., Lynch Farms, Moser Farms, Wilhelm Schon, Parker L. Smith, Charles Ulmer, Christopher P. Ulrich, Raymond L. Worthington, Walter L. Worthington, Jr. (2025 approved budgeted item)

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

9.0 COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Commissioner Mussina highlighted the significance of Mother's Day as an important unofficial holiday. He noted the societal differences in celebrating Mother's Day compared to Father's Day and advised individuals to honor their mothers by fulfilling their preferences, such as encouraging them to take a break by leaving the house for a few hours while the family manages household responsibilities.

Commissioner Sortman expressed his gratitude for his mother's presence, reflecting on the importance of family. He acknowledged the recent tragedy that occurred on May 4th, 2025, emphasizing life's fleeting nature and the value of cherishing every moment. He urged everyone to hold onto what is precious and not to be consumed by worries. Additionally, Commissioner Sortman extended the County's thoughts and prayers to the affected family.

Commissioner Metzger spoke about his recent attendance at a Brotherhood Alliance dinner at the Genetti Hotel on May 7th 2025 and extended his congratulations to the award recipients for their dedication to community service. He emphasized that these individuals, who often humbly serve without seeking recognition, exemplify genuine care for the community. Metzger also highlighted the late Loni Gamble, an award recipient who passed away last year, acknowledging his contributions to society through organizations like Cappa and his involvement in music. He expressed his honor in having met Mr. Gamble's family and noted that his legacy and love will continue on.

10.0 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.

Larry Stout of Montgomery discussed the recent tragedy that occurred on Sunday, May 4th, 2025. He elaborated on the dedicated efforts of Lycoming County volunteers in their search of the Susquehanna River for the missing child.

YOU TUBE PUBLIC COMMENT

C

caricheck the sound system

MC

MC GreenWhat is the status of the juvenile holding facility for Lycoming County?

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Thomas Adamsopen. This is a well-run and respected prison. All spaces are being utilized in a very effective and financially responsible manner. I think the Governor is using this to give more unnecessary land

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Thomas Adamsto PSU. This will be very devastating to the local economy, families of local communities of prisoners and employees. This is causing a

T

Thomas Adamstremendous amount of undue stress on the entire prison population, staff and inmates alike. May 15'th is the target date for a decision. Thank-you for your work and dedication to our county.

11.0 NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next Commissioners Public Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 15th, 2025 at 10:00 A.M. in the Commissioner's Board Room, 3rd Floor, 33 West Third Street, Williamsport, PA 17701

To View This Meeting and For More Detailed Information Click on The Link Below:

https://www.youtube.com/live/JJ_4BKI3kms?si=sLLvu8HwFSBBMb2h

ATTACHMENT (A)

PERSONNEL ACTIONS:

Juvenile Probation – Jesse Wagner, Juvenile Probation Officer II, Union, Full-Time, \$23.82 per Hour, 80 Hours per Pay Period, Anticipated Transfer Date: May 11, 2025.

Prison – Stephanie Starr, Licensed Practical Nurse, 10, Full-Time, \$30.00 per Hour, 80 Hours per Pay Period, Anticipated Start Date: May 19, 2025.

Prison – Hailey Phillips, Correctional Officer, Union, Full-Time, \$20.00 per Hour, 80 Hours per Pay Period, Anticipated Transfer Date: May 11, 2025.

Resource Management – Randy Clayton, Equipment Operator, 6, Full-Time, \$21.6815 per Hour, 80 Hours per Pay Period, Anticipated Start Date: May 12, 2025.



CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WEEK

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, Pennsylvania's corrections system, originating under the leadership of William Penn in 1682, was the first to suggest changes in punishment for crimes, and continues to evolve;

Whereas, the "Pennsylvania System" as it became known, was the leading influence in the development of penology throughout the 19th century and the forerunner of modern corrections; and

Whereas, in 1984, Ronald Reagan issued Proclamation 5187 "National Correctional Officers' Week", and formally recognized the corrections profession, and the difficult and at times dangerous nature of corrections work; and

Whereas, correction officers are trained law enforcement professionals dedicated to maintaining safe correctional facilities and ensuring public safety; and

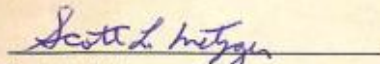
Whereas, the secure and safe operation and management rests in the hands of trained, skilled, and dedicated professionals from correction officers to treatment specialists to parole agents to reentry specialists and workers in various areas all committed to a common goal: the effective and humane operation of our correctional facilities; and

Whereas, correctional officers and employees teach, train, mentor, counsel, and treat inmates, in order to provide inmates with direction, hope and new focus while assisting reentry and life outside corrections; and

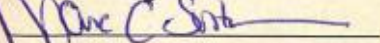
Whereas, selfless concern, and the courage to endure whatever ordeal they face, are commonly held values among our corrections officers and employees. Their contributions of hard work, sacrifice and dedication often go unnoticed.

Therefore, Be it Resolved that we, the Commissioners of Lycoming County, proudly proclaim the week of May 4th through May 10th, 2025 as **Corrections Employees Week**, in recognition of the vital role performed by Corrections Employees in protecting the public and providing the care, custody and control of inmates, and urge all citizens to support the efforts of correction employees and recognize the many areas of operations of the system in which they are involved on our behalf.

Lycoming County Commissioners



Scott L. Metzger, Chairman



Marc C. Sortman, Vice Chairman



Mark Mussina, Secretary

