

LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES OF Tuesday, August 5, 2025

The Lawrence County Commissioners' Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a Moment of Silence.

The Lawrence County Commissioners' Meeting of Tuesday, July 29, 2025, was called to order by **Commissioner Daniel Vogler**, at 10:00 AM at the Lawrence County Commissioners Meeting Room. **Deputy Chief Clerk, Vanessa Bayless**, called the roll. Those in attendance were **Commissioner Dan Kennedy, Commissioner Chris Sainato, Mike Grippo, John Bout, Warden Mahlmeister, Scott Baldwin, Jennifer Elliott, Holly Wright, Ron Krhousky, Tyler Coushenour, Lisa Haddad, Mitchell Whiting, Ken Ritter, Dave Prestopine, Kevin Drapola, Deputy Warden Howard Simmons, Jim Bish and no one from the New Castle News**. It was stated for the record that the meeting is being taped. Those wishing to speak shall be given five minutes. If they need more time, they are to see the Chief Clerk at another time, and he will arrange for them to meet with the Commissioners. Those speaking are to state for the record their names, addresses and the nature of their business.

ROW OFFICERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

None

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Ritter asked the Commissioners to review his son's case with the Mental Health office.

FISCAL/CONTRACTUAL

A. Repository Properties:

RESOLUTION

R-2025-221

WHEREAS, all bids made to purchase property from the Lawrence County Tax Claim Bureau Repository must be approved by the taxing municipality; and

WHEREAS, Laine Lordi placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at Lawrence Avenue, Parcel ID No. 11-063800; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at Lawrence Avenue, with a Parcel ID No. 11-063800; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS, that the Board is authorized to execute the Bid Acceptance Form accepting the bid made by Laine Lordi, in the amount of \$500.00 for

Repository Property located at Lawrence Avenue, and having a Parcel ID No. 11-063800, Ellwood City Borough.

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION

R-2025-222

WHEREAS, all bids made to purchase property from the Lawrence County Tax Claim Bureau Repository must be approved by the taxing municipality; and

WHEREAS, CDBR Heritage Hills LLC-Dustin Kircher, MBR placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at 228 Beechwood Blvd., Parcel ID No. 29-903103; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at 228 Beechwood Blvd., with a Parcel ID No. 29-903103; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS, that the Board is authorized to execute the Bid Acceptance Form accepting the bid made by CDBR Heritage Hills LLC-Dustin Kircher, MBR in the amount of \$500.00 for Repository Property located at 228 Beechwood Blvd., and having a Parcel ID No. 29-903103, Pulaski Township.

RESOLUTION

R-2025-223

WHEREAS, all bids made to purchase property from the Lawrence County Tax Claim Bureau Repository must be approved by the taxing municipality; and

WHEREAS, CDBR Heritage Hills LLC- Dustin Kircher, MBR placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at 213 Beechwood Blvd, Parcel ID No. 29-903729; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at Beechwood Blvd, with a Parcel ID No. 29-903729; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS, that the Board is authorized to execute the Bid Acceptance Form accepting the bid made by CDBR Heritage Hills LLC- Dustin Kircher, MBR in the amount of \$500.00 for Repository Property located at 213 Beechwood Blvd, and having a Parcel ID No. 29-903729, Pulaski Township.

RESOLUTION

R-2025-224

WHEREAS, all bids made to purchase property from the Lawrence County Tax Claim Bureau Repository must be approved by the taxing municipality; and

WHEREAS, CDBR Heritage Hills LLC- Dustin Kircher, MBR placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at 399 Poplar Dr, Parcel ID No. 29-900568; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at 399 Poplar Dr, with a Parcel ID No. 29-900568; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS, that the Board is authorized to execute the Bid Acceptance Form accepting the bid made by CDBR Heritage Hills LLC- Dustin Kircher, MBR in the amount of \$500.00 for Repository Property located at 399 Poplar Dr, and having a Parcel ID No. 29-900568,, Pulaski Township.

RESOLUTION

R-2025-225

WHEREAS, all bids made to purchase property from the Lawrence County Tax Claim Bureau Repository must be approved by the taxing municipality; and

WHEREAS, CDBR Heritage Hills LLC- Dustin Kircher, MBR placed a bid of \$500.00 on property located at 336 Heritage Cir, Parcel ID No. 29-902420; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence wishes to accept the above bid for property located at 336 Heritage Cir, with a Parcel ID No. 29-902420; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS, that the Board is authorized to execute the Bid Acceptance Form accepting the bid made by CDBR Heritage Hills LLC- Dustin Kircher, MBR in the amount of \$500.00 for Repository Property located at 336 Heritage Cir, and having a Parcel ID No. 29-902420, Pulaski Township.

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve Resolutions R-2025-222 up to and including Resolution R-2025-225. Motion carried 3-0.

B. Advertise for bids/proposals:

C. Receipt for bids/proposals: Commissioners-Car Sales (4)

Mr. Prestopine opened 12 bids that were received for the (4) vehicles. They are as follows:

- 1) Dana Fortuna-\$525 Vehicle#4
- 2) Dana Fortuna-\$600 Vehicle# 1
- 3) Dana Fortuna-\$250 Vehicle#2
- 4) Ringwood Motors-\$1,180 Interceptor#1
- 5) Ringwood Motors-\$1,180 Interceptor #2
- 6) Ringwood Motors -\$1,180 Vehicle #4
- 7) Ringwood Motors-\$1,180 Vehicle #3
- 8) Ryan Dimuccio-\$1,046.97 Interceptor #1

9) Ryan DiMuccio-\$1,057.99 Interceptor #4

10) Jeff Smith-\$1,680.00 Vehicle #1

11) Jeff Smith-\$1,680.00 Vehicle #4

12) Mitchell Whiting \$1,025.00 Vehicle #3

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to table said bids for review.

Motion carried 3-0

D. Warrant Registers:

1. July 31, 2025

Moved by Mr. Kennedy seconded by Mr. Sainato to approve and file said warrant register(s). Motion carried 3-0.

MINUTES AND CORRESPONDENCE

A. Approval of Minutes:

1. Tuesday, July 29, 2025

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve said minutes. Motion carried 3-0.

B. Presentation of Written Communications: None

REPORTS

A. Staff Reports:

None

B. Commissioner Reports

Mr. Vogler spoke about the event last Thursday in Ellwood City Borough that was named Operation Healthy Ellwood, which gave free medical services.

Mr. Sainato thanked everyone for their services @ Operation Healthy Ellwood.

Mr. Kennedy was very impressed with the event in Ellwood City.

NEW BUSINESS **RESOLUTIONS**

RESOLUTION

R-2025-226

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence County Correctional Facility is requesting to secure sealed bids for the repair and or renovation of its elevators; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence is requesting bids from contractors to complete the above-mentioned items at the Lawrence County Correctional Facility; and

WHEREAS, the County will advertise for bids on August 6 and August 13, 2025, with bids being due by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 22, 2025; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that the Board of Commissioners will be advertising for bids for the Lawrence County Correctional Facility's elevator repair, with bids being due by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, August 22, 2025 and bids will be opened at the Lawrence County Commissioners' Meeting on Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the Lawrence County Commissioners' Meeting Room.

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2025-227

WHEREAS, the Mental Health and Intellectual Disability Act of 1966 allows for the purchase of appropriate services; and

WHEREAS Lawrence County, through its Mental Health and Developmental Services contracts for certain services; and,

WHEREAS the Mental Health and Developmental Services is responsible for the diagnosis, care, treatment, and rehabilitation of County residents who are mentally disabled; and

WHEREAS, from time to time it is necessary to make amendments to the original Agreement;

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Mental Health and Developmental Services currently has a Base contract with **Community Alternatives, Inc.** for the period from **July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT:

1. It is specifically understood and agreed that the stated maximum of **\$150,000.** for various services shall be adjusted to **\$300,000.** Revised budget page(s) is/are attached to support these changes. There is no language change to this contract.
2. All provisions of the agreement dated **July 1, 2024,** between the parties shall remain as heretofore established.

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION

R-2025-228

WHEREAS the Mental Health and Developmental Services is responsible for the diagnosis, care, treatment, and rehabilitation of the mentally disabled, and

WHEREAS Lawrence County, through its Mental Health and Developmental Services, desires to contract for certain services; and

WHEREAS the Mental Health/Intellectual Disability Act of 1966 and the Department of Public Welfare fiscal regulations provide for the purchase of office equipment and services, and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners, that:

1. The agreement listed in item 2 shall be approved starting July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026

2. Authorization is hereby given to execute the following addendum:

Cray Youth and Family Services, Inc.- as detailed in attachment designated 2025- _2026_ Program description and rates are also listed within the attachment.

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION R-2025-229

LAWRENCE COUNTY CONSORTIUM LEAD HAZARD REDUCTION GRANT

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence is desirous of obtaining funds in the amount not to exceed \$5,700,000.00 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Healthy Homes & Lead Hazard Control for the provision of making properties lead safe authorized by Section 1011 of Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992;

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence, is desirous to provide lead-based paint hazard control activities fundable under Title X of the Housing & Community Development Act of 1992;

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence will enter into a subcontract with Lawrence County Social Services, Inc. (LCSS) as its administrative agency for the duration of the grant period; and

WHEREAS, the expected service areas will include, at a minimum, the following targeted areas: Lawrence County, Mercer County, Butler County, Indiana County,

Clearfield County, Crawford County and Delaware County, with potential new partners in other target areas throughout the Commonwealth.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The County has granted Lawrence County Social Services, Inc. to make application for and administrate such funds in the amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.00 of Lead Hazard Reduction Grant funds with an additional \$700,000.00 in Healthy Home Supplemental funding;
2. The County of Lawrence will execute the adoption of this Resolution in preparation of furnishing a copy to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and
3. The Chairman Commissioner is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents pertaining to the application for funds as well as the administration of these funds throughout the grant contract period.

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION

R-2025-230

WHEREAS, Lawrence County, through its Children and Youth Services Department, desires to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Isaiah 117 House for a period of one-year; and

WHEREAS, Isaiah 117 House provides a transitional housing space for children in custody at no cost to Lawrence County; and

WHEREAS, Isaiah 117 House has no responsibility for the care or supervision of the children in the custody of Lawrence County Children and Youth Services (LCCYS); and

WHEREAS, Isaiah 117 House provides temporary space where LCCYS caseworkers and child may be together in a child-friendly environment while a placement is being searched for; and

WHEREAS, Isaiah 117 House provides a minimum of two trained volunteers during each shift that have all required clearances and background checks; and

WHEREAS, Isaiah 117 House is not governed by rules applicable to state-licensed child-care facilities or child-placing agencies; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners, that:

1. **Lawrence County Children and Youth Services (LCCYS) may enter into a voluntary agreement in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding**

with no financial obligation with Isaiah 117 House located in Butler County, PA.

Isaiah 117 House
296 Holyoke Road
Butler, PA 16001

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION

R-2025-231

WHEREAS, Lawrence County, through its Children and Youth Department, desires to contract certain social services; and

WHEREAS, the County has the authority and duty to provide social services to children and youth subject to the regulations established by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (DHS)

and the Juvenile Code:

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners, that:

1. The Purchase of Service Agreement under the provider Cray Youth and Family Services, Inc. (In-home Service) shall be in effect for the period of July 01, 2025, through June 30, 2026.
2. Costs are incurred only if the provider or service is being used by Lawrence County per the Agreement.
3. Authorization is hereby given to execute an Agreement with the following service provider:

**Cray Youth and Family Services, Inc.
44 S. Beaver Street
New Castle, PA. 16101**

RESOLUTION

R-2025-232

WHEREAS, Lawrence County, through its Children and Youth Department, desires to contract certain social services; and

WHEREAS, the County has the authority and duty to provide social services to children and youth subject to the regulations established by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (DHS)

and the Juvenile Code:

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners, that:

1. The Purchase of Service Agreement under the provider Cray Youth and Family Services, Inc. (Special Grants) shall be in effect for the period of July 01, 2025, through June 30, 2026.
2. Costs are incurred only if the provider or service is being used by Lawrence County per the Agreement.
3. Authorization is hereby given to execute an Agreement with the following service provider.

**Cray Youth and Family Services, Inc.
44 S. Beaver Street
New Castle, PA. 16101**

RESOLUTION R-2025-233

WHEREAS, Lawrence County, through its Children and Youth Department, desires to contract certain social services; and

WHEREAS, the County has the authority and duty to provide social services to children and youth subject to the regulations established by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (DHS) and the Juvenile Code:

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners, that:

1. The Purchase of Service Agreement under the provider The Bair Foundation of Pennsylvania shall be in effect for the period of July 01, 2025, through June 30, 2026.
2. Costs are incurred only if the provider or service is being used by Lawrence County per the Agreement.
3. Authorization is hereby given to execute an Agreement with the following service provider:

**The Bair Foundation of Pennsylvania
241 High St
New Wilmington, PA. 16142**

RESOLUTION R-2025-234

WHEREAS, Lawrence County, through its Children and Youth Department, desires to contract certain social services; and

WHEREAS, the County has the authority and duty to provide social services to children and youth subject to the regulations established by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (DHS) and the Juvenile Code:

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners, that:

1. The Purchase of Service Agreement under the provider The Children's Home of Pittsburgh shall be in effect for the period of July 01, 2025, through June 30, 2026.
2. Costs are incurred only if the provider or service is being used by Lawrence County per the Agreement.
3. Authorization is hereby given to execute an Agreement with the following service provider:

**The Children's Home of Pittsburgh
5324 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA. 15224**

RESOLUTION

R-2025-235

WHEREAS, Lawrence County, through its Children and Youth Department, desires to contract certain social services; and

WHEREAS, the County has the authority and duty to provide social services to children and youth subject to the regulations established by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (DHS) and the Juvenile Code:

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners, that:

1. The Purchase of Service Agreement under the provider The Lutheran Service Society of WPA shall be in effect for the period of July 01, 2025, through June 30, 2026.
2. Costs are incurred only if the provider or service is being used by Lawrence County per the Agreement.
3. Authorization is hereby given to execute an Agreement with the following service provider:

**The Lutheran Service Society of WPA
1323 Freedom Road
Cranberry Township, PA. 16066**

RESOLUTION

R-2025-236

WHEREAS, Lawrence County, through its Children and Youth Department, desires to contract certain social services; and

WHEREAS, the County has the authority and duty to provide social services to children and youth subject to the regulations established by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (DHS) and the Juvenile Code:

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners, that:

1. The Purchase of Service Agreement under the provider Corrisoft, LLC shall be in effect for the period of July 01, 2025, through June 30, 2026.
2. Costs are incurred only if the provider or service is being used by Lawrence County per the Agreement.
3. Authorization is hereby given to execute an Agreement with the following service provider:

**Corrisoft, LLC
1648 McGrathiana Pkwy., Suite 225
Lexington, KY. 40511**

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve Resolution R-2025-231 up to and including Resolution R-2025-236. Motion carried 3-0.

The Commissioners and Mr. Venasco thanked Mike for his years of service and will miss him. He is a very caring person and first class professional. They wished him the best in his retirement.

RESOLUTION

R-2025-237

WHEREAS, each local area within the State is required to have a Workforce Investment Board whose terms are staggered and are appointed by the local elected officials; and

WHEREAS, the Governor is responsible for establishing the criteria for use by the chief elected officials in appointing the WIB members; and

WHEREAS, the mandatory members of the WIB consist of at least a majority of private sector representatives, at least two representatives of local educational entities,

at least two representatives of labor organizations, and at least two representatives of economic development agencies; and

WHEREAS, the West Central Job Partnership recommends six (6) individuals be appointed, and re-appointed, to the Workforce Investment Board.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, to reappoint the following individual to the Workforce Investment Board:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Sector</u>	<u>Term of Office</u>
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1. Ms. Alecia Bean	Office of Vocational Rehabilitation	09/01/2025-06/30/2027
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Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Bureau of Blindness and Visual Services, Erie District Office, 4200 Lovell Place, Erie, PA 16503

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTION

R-2025-238

WHEREAS, Section 1784 of the County Code, *Supplemental Appropriations Transfer of Funds; Appropriation Limits*, authorizes the Board of Commissioners, by resolution, to make supplemental appropriations for any lawful purpose from any funds on hand or estimated to be received within the fiscal year and not otherwise appropriated; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Board of Commissioners to adjust the existing FY2025 Budget; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS to amend the 2025 Lawrence County Budget as follows:

INCREASING Transfer from DEA/TFO General Revenue Fund Account: 01391000.391146 by \$20,000.00; and

INCREASING DA Overtime General Expense Fund Account: 01419400.110400 by \$20,000.00

Reason: DA Overtime

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

TRANSFERS (Administrative)

- a. Domestic Relations from office minor to water/sewage for \$325.00
- b. Domestic Relations from contingency to telephone for \$1,000.00
- c. Domestic Relations from office minor to uniforms for \$3.88
- d. Public Safety from contingency to travel/training for \$1,000.00

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE TABLE

None

RESOLUTIONS TO BE TAKEN OFF THE TABLE

None

ORDINANCES

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| A. Discussion: | None |
| B. On the Table: | None |
| C. For Introduction: | None |
| D. For Final Action: | None |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. The next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 5, 2025 @ 10:00 am in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.
- B. There **will not** be a Commissioners' Meeting on Tuesday, August 12, 2025, due to not having a quorum.
- C. There **will** be a Retirement Board Meeting on Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at 11:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.
- D. There **will not** be a Commissioners' Meeting on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, due to the CCAP Conference

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to adjourn the Lawrence County Commissioners' meeting dated Tuesday, August 5, 2024 @ 11:15 AM.

