

**LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**  
**PUBLIC MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF Tuesday, March 11, 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, March 11, 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 Chris Sainato, Commissioner Dan Kennedy, Mike Grippo, Rebecca Shaffer, Dave Prestopine ad Debbie Wachter 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 Deputy Chief Clerk at another time, and she 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.

Mr. Vogler asked everyone keep New Beaver Borough resident and council member, Dave Hairhoger in their thoughts. He passed away at 91 years of age. He was a very kind man that loved New Beaver Borough and was on borough council for 49 years. He took great pride in his work. Dan has known him since he was 6 years old and he will be greatly missed.

Mr. Vogler stated that NCTV45 also broadcasts our meetings.

**ROW OFFICERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

None

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**FISCAL AND CONTRACTUAL**

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| A. Repository Properties:                                     | None |
| B. Advertise for bids/proposals:                              | None |
| C. Receipt for bids/proposals:                                |      |
| 1. Planning-Bids for County Parks and Boat Launch Maintenance |      |

Two (2) bids were received:

- |                                   |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Beyond Corp-Edinburg           | \$70,960.00 |
| 2. Piatt's Landscaping-New Castle | \$72,980.00 |

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to table said bids for further review.  
Motion carried 3-0.

D. Warrant Registers:

1. March 4, 2025

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

### **MINUTES AND CORRESPONDENCE**

A. Approval of Minutes:

1. March 4, 2025

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

B. Presentation of Written Communications:                      None

### **REPORTS**

A. Staff Reports:    None

B. Commissioner Reports    CS,DV,DK

Commissioner Sainato stated he attended the NACO conference last week. He met with Senator McCormick & Senator Fetterman about issues such as Medicare, school bonding tax exempt status and FEMA. He attended the Eagle Scout Ceremony on Sunday. He also announced there is a grant program through the Redevelopment Authority where small businesses can receive up to \$25,000 with a grant match. March 31st deadline is the deadline for small businesses to apply.

Commissioner Vogler stated the Eagle Scout Ceremony for Megan Blasko in New Wilmington was very nice. Next Tuesday there will not be a Commissioners' meeting as two (2) of the Commissioners will be at the CCAP Conference and he has jury duty next week. He also stated that on Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Commissioners' meeting will be held at 9:00AM due to a noon meeting in Pittsburgh.

Commissioner Kennedy stated there will be five (5) Eagle Scouts from New Wilmington this year. Dr. Patton in Mohawk had four (4). Dan met with Ben Bush yesterday in Pittsburgh with businesses to come to Lawrence County.

## **NEW BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS**

### **RESOLUTION        R-2025-50**

**WHEREAS**, the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners desires to enter into an agreement with the Lawrence County Economic Development Corporation regarding the Steelite Expansion Phase 2 Project located in Millennium Park, Keystone Drive, New Castle, PA 16105 in Neshannock Township, Lawrence County; and

**WHEREAS**, the project was awarded an RACP grant from the Pennsylvania Office of the Budget in the amount of \$3,500,000.00. This agreement with a public taxing body is a required element of all RACP projects from the PA Office of the Budget and follows the same format as agreements in the past; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by and between the County of Lawrence and the Lawrence County Economic Development Corporation concerning their respective obligations to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and each other with respect to the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program grant for the Steelite Expansion Phase 2 Project located in Millennium Park, Keystone Drive, New Castle, PA 16105 in Neshannock Township, Lawrence County; and

1. This agreement shall commence upon the date of execution by the last signatory and shall end at such time as all conditions of the Grant have been satisfied.

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

### **RESOLUTION        R-2025-51**

**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 Acollective Consulting LLC shall be in effect for the period of July 01, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

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:

**Acollective Consulting LLC  
800 York Road Cottage #14  
Warminster, PA. 18974**

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

**RESOLUTION                      R-2025-52**

**WHEREAS**, Katie Kerr, a full-time supervisor, is requesting to attend the Child Welfare Education and Leadership Program (CWEL) at Pennsylvania Western University to pursue an advanced degree in Social Work; and

**WHEREAS**, will participate in the program part-time online while continuing to work fulltime, and

**WHEREAS**, Katie Kerr shall maintain county employment post-graduation for a period of time established by her CWEL contract which is equal to the period of time that a fulltime student would take to complete the program.

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

1. Authorization is hereby given to Katie Kerr to participate in the CWEL program as outlined in this attachment.

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

**R E S O L U T I O N                      R-2025-53**

**WHEREAS**, County Ordinance No. 203 of 1996 titled *Increasing the Recording Fees of Deeds and Mortgages to Support and/or Enhance the County of Lawrence Local Affordable Housing Efforts* authorized the Recorder of Deeds to increase the fees charged for recording deeds and mortgages; and

**WHEREAS**, 85% of the additional revenue is set aside in a separate account to be used to fund affordable housing efforts in Lawrence County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Carpenter's Group is a non-denominational intergenerational program in Ellwood City that assists homeowners with repairs that they are unable to complete themselves with no charge to the homeowners and no requirements for homeowners to provide financial information; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**, that the Carpenter's Project will be given \$15,000.00 from the Affordable Housing fund to be used to repair housing in the Ellwood City area.

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

#### **RESOLUTION**

**R-2025-54**

**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** 911 Grant Disbursement Revenue Account: 50334000.355002 by \$1,387.93; and

**INCREASING** 911 Statewide Project-Lawrence ILEC Post Migration Expense Account: 50421693.403000.23038 by \$1,387.93

***Reason: ILEC Post Migration Legacy Project***

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

#### **TRANSFERS (ADMINISTRATIVE)**

a. Human Resources from Contingency to Advertising for \$3,000.00

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to approve said Transfer(s). Motion carried 3-0.

### **RESOLUTIONS ON THE TABLE**

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| A. Resolutions on the table:              | None |
| B. Resolutions to be taken off the table: | None |

### **ORDINANCES**

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

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. The next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 25, 2025 @ 10am in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.

B. There will not be a Commissioners' Meeting on Tuesday, March 18, 2025 due to the CCAP Conference.

C. The Lawrence County Planning Commission Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 12, 2025 has been **CANCELLED**.

D. There will be a Lawrence County Prison Board Meeting on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 12:00 Noon in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.

E. There will be a Salary Board meeting on Thursday, March 13, 2025 @ 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.

The legal ad was in yesterday, Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>'s paper.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Debbie Wachter asked the following questions:

What is being built at Steelite in Phase 2? Mr. Kennedy answered another warehouse building.

How much is left in the Affordable Housing Account? Mr. Venasco answered roughly \$50,000.00. She further asked what happens to those funds if they are not allocated? Mr. Vogler stated the funds stay in the account and roll over to the following year.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to adjourn the Lawrence County Commissioners' meeting dated Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 10:40 am.

