

LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES OF Tuesday, October 15, 2024

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, October 15, 2024, 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, Ron Halackna, Dorothy Burchett, Bob Burchett and 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.

ROW OFFICERS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

None

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bob Burchett is against the employees giving a donation to the United Way for a permissive absence day off.

Ron Halackna stated he was the first person to verbally suggest the development of Quaker Falls. Professor John White from YSU was the first to write a story about Quaker Falls. He gives a lot of credit to Mr. White, former Commissioners Steve Craig and Bob Del Signore and Rebecca Shaffer and the Planning Department for what the park is today.

FISCAL/CONTRACTUAL

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| A. Repository Property: | None |
| B. Advertise for bids/proposals: | None |
| C. Receipt for bids/proposals: | None |
| D. Warrant Registers: | |
| | 1. October 9, 2024 |
| | 2. October 10, 2024 |

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. October 8, 2024

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

B. Presentation of Written Communications:

1. R.A.R Engineering Group, INC, Ellport Borough Sewage Treatment permit modification (Ellport Borough).
2. Penn Power Cascade Street (City of New Castle) 69kV Transmission Line Rebuild Project.
3. Amerikol Aggregates proposes to conduct overburden and production blasting in (Wayne Township).
4. Act 14 Notification Ellwood Industrial Facilities intent to file an NPDES permit renewal to DEP 700 Moravia Street (City of New Castle).

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

REPORTS

A. Staff Reports:

None

B. Commissioner Reports

DK, DV, CS

Mr. Kennedy stated he attended the ceremony at Quaker Falls last week. Rebecca Shaffer and the whole Planning Department have done a great job at the park. Debbie Wachter did a nice story and WFMJ from Youngstown was in attendance. Dan and Commissioner Sainato attended the soft opening of the new Vietnamese restaurant located downtown and it was very good. A positive step in the right direction for the downtown area. He also mentioned he is very happy today is his last day of cardio rehab.

Mr. Vogler congratulated Commissioner Kennedy on his completion of cardio rehab and is very happy he is feeling better. On the 12th, he attended the Economic Development Conference @ The Confluence, spearheaded by former Commissioner Brian Burick. It was a great meeting and Nick Vercilla from the New Castle News attended. This Friday, at 3PM, there will be a dedication of a pedestrian bridge into the Environmental Center, in name of former Professor Floyd Zare.

Mr. Sainato stated that Governor Walz is in Washington Township today, by invitation only. On Friday, he attended the Northwest Commission year end meeting. He stated he attended the soft opening of the new Vietnamese restaurant and it was delicious and wished them well. He attended the Veterans' Stand Down on Friday and thanked Jesse Putnam and her staff for the wonderful job they do. This was the 14th annual Stand Down Event and there were a record number of people in attendance. He attended the Economic Development Summit downtown. There were a diverse group of people discussing issues and the meeting was very positive. There is a new restaurant open behind West Side Mini Mart, named Our Spot.

NEW BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION R-2024-314

WHEREAS, FLEMING STEEL COMPANY has filed a tax appeal FLEMING STEEL COMPANY vs LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS, at case number 70111; and

WHEREAS, all of the parties to that action have reached a compromised settlement regarding the value of the property, and

WHEREAS, the compromised settlement with the property designated by Parcel ID ('s) below will have a ASSESSED value of \$689,100 for 2024 and beyond. The value for this property is as follows:

Tax Year	Parcel Number	Market Land	Market Improvement	Market Total
2024	25-162100	\$611,000	\$689,000	\$1,300,000
Tax Year	Parcel Number	Assessed Land	Assessed Improvement	Assessed Total
2024	25-162100	\$328,100	\$370,000	\$698,100

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: that County of Lawrence approves the compromise settlement with the property designated by Parcel ID ('s) above will have a Assessed value of \$689,100 pursuant to the consent order.

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

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

RESOLUTION R-2024-315

WHEREAS, Lawrence County wishes to approve a Permissive Absence Day for employees who make a minimum donation to the United Way for the year 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners approve a Permissive Absence Day for the year 2025 with a minimum donation of \$5.00 per pay; and

WHEREAS, all employees (union/non-union) with the exception of jail personnel may participate and this is strictly voluntary for the employee; and

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

The Lawrence County Commissioners authorize the approval of a Permissive Absence Day for employees (union/non-union) who make a minimum donation of \$5.00 per pay towards the United Way for the year 2025.

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

RESOLUTION R-2024-316

WHEREAS, budgets cannot always anticipate every extraordinary, ordinary, or contingency situation which arises throughout the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, Section 1784 of the County code permits the Commissioners by resolution to authorize budget transfers from any encumbered balance; and

WHEREAS, the need to provide additional appropriations to certain accounts now exists; and

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

1. Authorization is hereby given to the appropriate administrative officials to transfer a total of \$12,550.00 described in detail on the attachment(s) designated as T-2024-26.

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

TRANSFERS (Administrative)

- a. Sheriff form materials and supplies to land and building rental for \$210.00.
- b. Sheriff from material and supplies to uniforms for \$2,000.00.
- c. Sheriff from capital expenditure contingency to capital expenditure sheriff vehicles for \$177,388.00.
- d. Public Defender from contingency to land and building rental for \$3.00.
- e. Jail from materials and supplies to postage for \$300.00.
- f. Tax Claim from minor equipment to materials and supplies for \$1,200.00.
- g. Controller from contingency to travel & training for \$1,500.00.
- h. Central Court from contingency to material and supplies for \$500.00.
- i. Coroner from act 182 contingency to act 182 major equipment for \$11,500.00.
- j. Commissioners from capital expenditure contingency to capital expenditure other improvements for \$57,663.00.

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

RESOLUTIONS ON THE TABLE

- A. Resolutions on the table: (R-2024-312)
 - 1. Resolution for discussion and possible approval of Assessment Appeal for Steven F. Hoye and Steven Warner.

The Resolution stayed on the table.

- B. Resolutions to be taken off the table: (R-2024-312)
 - 1. Resolution for discussion and possible approval of Assessment Appeal for Steven F. Hoye and Steven Warner.

The Resolution was not removed from the table.

ORDINANCES

- A. Discussion: None
- B. On the Table: None

- C. For Introduction: None
D. For Final Action: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. The next Commissioners' Public meeting will be held on October 22, 2024 @ 10:00AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.
- B. The Prison Board Meeting will be held on October 22, 2024 at 12PM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bob Burchett asked if the permissive absence day is a paid day off? Mr. Vogler stated yes it is. He stated he does not feel that is the American way.

Dorothy Burchett asked if Tim Walz is in Washington Township today. Mr. Sainato replied yes, by invitation only to discuss rural PA.

Ron Halackna credited everyone at the Courthouse for the development of Quaker Falls. The Commissioners stated safety is much better now at the park and is their #1 priority at the park.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to adjourn the Lawrence County Commissioners' meeting dated Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at 10:50 am.