

LAWRENCE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING

MINUTES OF Monday January 15, 2026

The Lawrence County Election Board Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a Moment of Silence. The Lawrence County Election Board Meeting of Thursday January 15, 2026, was called to order by **Commissioner Dan Vogler**, at 2:00 pm at the Lawrence County Commissioners Meeting Room. Administrative Assistant, Ryan Anderson called the roll. Those in attendance were **Commissioner Sainato, Tim Germani Tim Buck, Pattie Scarnas, Betty Stether, Cindy Scarmazza, Randy Dufford, Bill Messner, Al Burick, 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. Those speaking are to state for the record their names, addresses and the nature of their business.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

Opening comments:

Bill Messner stated that polling locations situations of consistency across locations in NC 2-5 Neshannock Township voting, to cut down on cost savings for polling spots. Three or more precincts poll locations. He added that intergrading community service would help allow cost savings. Additionally, he said that all the polling locations need to follow the same rules across the board. He also stated that he was going to be filing a right to know and a police report with the New Castle Police Department.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Mr. Sainato and seconded by Mr. Vogler. Motion carried 2-0 to approve said minutes.

ELECTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Germani had read the reports from the DA's office for the two complaints that were turned over last year regarding the League of Women Voters and the post card that was passed out in New Wilmington's polling location. Mr. Vogler had read both reports from the District Attorney's office into records and asked the County Solicitor Jason Medure if there was any further action that the Election office needed to take, in which Mr. Medure said that there was no further action on both matters.

Mr. Germani stated that the elections office is examining the electronic poll books and that they will have a trial run for them soon. Mr. Germani went on to explain that it is a device that will have all the voters loaded onto the machine and has numerous functions with the poll book. Mr. Vogler asked if they were going to choose polling locations to have the trial run at, he had heard that Mercer County had gone all in with the new electronic polling books. Mr. Sainato said that once they are trained, they think it was very efficient and concurs with Mr. Vogler that a trial run is crucial.

NEW BUSINESS

The hearing ad testimony from the public for the South New Castle Borough. It was voted by the SNCB to merge the two municipalities. The dissolution of SNCB was in effect on 1/1/26. Now residents of shenango combine or make its own precinct. The Election office received two handwritten letters on the matter by Patty Scarnoti and Shirley Nocera via written correspondence.

County Solicitor Jason Medure gave a presentation on the thought process of merging with Shenango 3 which has a population of 646 residents and SNCB having 442 residents. Combines they have a total of 1,088 residents with the election code stating no less than 100 and no more than 1,200 regular electors and are within bounds of the election code. Mr. Medure stated that in Shenango 1 there are 933, Shenango 2 960, Shenango 3 646, Shenango 4 632, Shenango 5 1023, Shenango 6 926, and the proposal of SNCB merging with Shenango 3.

Mr. Sainato stated that Mr. Medure spelled out everything very well pertaining to the presentation and went on to say that other municipalities are comparable.

Mr. Vogler stated that after the courts make their decision, they will be able to let the public know. The SNCB fire station on Byers Ave will allow you to continue voting at the hall.

Al Burick Shenango Township Manager gave testimony that he does support the merging of the two precincts into one and stated that it would be comparable to other precincts.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tim Bucks asked that if and when the courts will decide that another precinct were added that they would need to know due to voting for Democratic Party's upcoming running and that they would be able to run.

Bill Messner asked Mr. Germani to read the letter verbatim from Josh Lamancusa concerning the Constitution party, in which Mr. Vogler read both letters into the record.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:06 pm by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Vogler. Motion carried 2-0.