

LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES OF Tuesday, October 7, 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, October 7, 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, County Administrator, Joseph Venasco, Rebecca Shaffer, Al Burick, Dave Allegro 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 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

None

FISCAL/CONTRACTUAL

- A. Repository Properties: NONE
- B. Advertise for bids/proposals:
- C. Receipt for bids/proposals:
1. Planning-Shenango Township CDBG

Six (6) bids were received:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| a. Cronin Enterprises-Emperial, PA | \$180,428.31 |
| b. Fryer Excavating-Beaver Falls, PA | \$98,045.00 |
| c. GEM-New Castle, PA | \$106,463.20 |
| d. Jenco, Inc.-Arizona | \$373,067.53 |
| e. Mahoning Builders-New Castle, PA | \$139,440.00 |
| f. Verardi Landscapes-Pittsburgh, PA | \$168,385.00 |

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

D. Warrant Registers:

1. September 30, 2025
2. October 3, 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. September 30, 2025

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

B. Presentation of Written Communications:

1. Hilcorp Energy Co-Request to DEP Air Quality Program to renew their General Plan Approval & Operating Permit for the operation of emission sources @ NCD Central Facility (North Beaver Twp).
2. Frank B. Taylor Engineering, Inc.-Act 14 Notification for Raymond Szelest @ 221 Ligo Drive, New Wilmington for Single Residence Sewage Treatment Plant (Wilmington Twp.)
3. Frank B. Taylor Engineering, Inc.-Act 14 for Anthony Cast @ 2208 Squaw Run Road, Ellwood City for a Single Residence Sewage Treatment Plant (Slippery Rock Twp.)

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to file said written correspondence. Motion carried 3-0.

REPORTS

A. Staff Reports:

B. Commissioner Reports:

Mr. Vogler stated the Commissioners have a commitment at 11AM today and will follow up with more detail on their meetings next week. He did state that he and Commissioner Sainato attended the NWCCA meeting in Forest County yesterday.

Mr. Kennedy had no comment.

Mr. Sainato had no comment.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION R-2025-316

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Department of Public Safety has entered a professional service agreement with Dell Financial Services, L.L.C., One Dell Way, RR8-23, Round Rock, Texas 78682, to provide a five (5) year Service Agreement, attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

WHEREAS, Dell Financial Services, L.L.C. agrees to provide a five (5) year Service Agreement in the amount of Two Hundred and Seven Thousand Five Hundred Forty-five and sixty (\$207,545.60) Dollars to be paid annually in the amount of Forty-Seven Thousand Thirteen and Forty-four (\$47,013.44) Dollars. This agreement will not be construed to create a partnership, joint venture or employment relationship between DELL FINANCIAL SERVICES, L.L.C. and LAWRENCE. DELL FINANCIAL SERVICES, L.L.C. will not represent itself to be an employee or agent of LAWRENCE and cannot enter into any agreement on LAWRENCE's behalf or in LAWRENCE's name without express written authorization from a duly authorized representative of LAWRENCE to do so.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS that authorization is given to execute on behalf of the Lawrence County Department of Public Safety, all documents related to the Dell Financial Services, L.L.C. service agreement to provide a five (5) year agreement. Dell Financial Services, L.L.C. will perform the services not to exceed the total amount Two Hundred and Seven Thousand Five Hundred Forty-five and sixty (\$207,545.60) Dollars to be paid annually in the amount of Forty-Seven Thousand Thirteen and Forty-four (\$47,013.44) Dollars.

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

RESOLUTION R-2025-317

The regulations of outdoor burning in Lawrence County; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners are desirous of providing for the health, safety and welfare of the people of Lawrence County; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners in cooperation with its volunteer fire fighting organization and the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry is desirous of regulating the outdoor burning; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners are desirous of protecting the people of Lawrence in every possible way from the dangers and threats of uncontrolled and unsafe fires;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, it is ordained as Follows:

1. Definition - Open burning is defined as the ignition and subsequent burning

of any combustible material (garbage, leaves, grass, twigs, litter, paper, vegetative matter involved with land clearing, or any sort of debris) out-of-doors in either a burn barrel, (screened or unscreened) fire ring, or on the ground. The use of propane or gas stoves, charcoal briquet grills, or the use of tobacco in any form is not covered under this act. *Campfires in campgrounds are allowed in fire rings that confine and contain the campfire, and where all flammable materials have been removed for a radius of 5 feet.*

2. Prerequisite - Prior to the adoption the county shall have received a written recommendation from the district forester who has received or solicited verbal requests from at least ten fire chiefs or 50% of the fire chiefs in the county, whichever is less, from various sections of the county recommending and requesting the imposition of a temporary countywide burn ban on open fires.

3. Duration - Any burn ban imposed under this section shall remain in effect for no more than 30 days. The county commissioners, upon the recommendation of the district forester may extend the ban for up to an additional 30 days.

4. Construction - Any burn ban imposed shall supersede any municipal ordinance to the contrary.

5. Enforcement:

(a) Enforcing officials - Any sworn police officer when available, including the Pennsylvania State Police, shall be responsible for enforcing the provisions of this act.

(b) Limitation - Whenever a violation of this act occurs in a city, borough, incorporated town or township which has in effect an ordinance prohibiting open burning, the police officer may cite the violation under either the municipal ordinance or the county resolution.

Under no circumstances shall any person be cited for violations of both the county resolution and the municipal ordinance for the same violation.

6. Penalty - A person who violates this act commits a summary offense and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to any a fine of not more than \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for the second offense and \$300 for the third offense.

7. Effective Date - The resolution shall require a minimum notice of 48 hours prior to the imposition of a temporary countywide burn ban.

Authority Act 1995-52 of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Discussion was held on the burn ban. Mr. Dave Allegro, Taylor Township Supervisor and Fire Chief stated he agrees with Mr. Chad Strobel and encourages the Commissioners to implement the burn ban. It is currently very dry out and after today's rain, there is no rain forecasted for the next week or more.

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

RESOLUTION R-2025--318

BE IT RESOLVED, by authority of the Lawrence County Board of

Commissioners of Lawrence County, and it is hereby resolved by authority of the same, that the Chairman Commissioner of said Municipality be authorized and directed to sign Reimbursement Amendment No. R22110035-1 on its behalf.

ATTEST:

Lawrence County

Administrator (Signature)

Dp Chief Clerk

By:_____
County
(Signature)

I, Daniel J. Vogler, Chairman of the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners, held the 7th day of October, 2025.

Date: October 7, 2025

Chairman
Commissioner (Signature)

NOTE: Signature on the Agreement must conform with the signature on this Resolution.

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

RESOLUTION R-2025-319

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners wishes to authorize a Letter of Intent to purchase St. Joseph the Worker Church and Campus, located at 1111 S. Cascade Street, New Castle, Lawrence County, PA 16101; and

WHEREAS, said Letter of Intent will offer \$600,000.00 to purchase St. Joseph the Worker Church and Campus from the Pittsburgh Diocese; and

WHEREAS, the Letter of Intent will also specify terms for usage and the continuation of the current food bank at the current location for 18 months at no cost or rent to the Diocese; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, that the Board enter into a Letter of Intent for the purchase of St. Joseph the Worker Church and Campus for \$600,000.00. Said purchase is contingent upon acceptance by the Pittsburgh Diocese and execution by both parties of a Purchase Agreement.

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

RESOLUTION R-2025-320

WHEREAS, Section 1784 of the County Code, Supplemental Appropriations Transfer of Funds; Appropriations Limits, authorizes the Board of Commissioners, by resolution, to make supplemental appropriations for any lawful purpose from any funds on hand or estimate 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 IT BE RESOLVED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS to amend the 2025 Lawrence County Budget to add the CDBG FY2024 Expenditures and Revenue accounts and include the following CDBG line item

INCREASING CDBG REVENUES Fund Account: 56331000.331000.14228 by \$109,994.00; and

INCREASING Transfer to Shenango Park CDBG Fund Account: 561418000.999900.58381 by \$109,994.00

REASON: CDBG Grant

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

RESOLUTION R-2025-321

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 \$23,174.00 as further detailed in the attachment(s) designated T-2025-15.

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

Transfers (Administrative)

- a. Commissioners from Opioid Contingency to Opioid Miscellaneous Allocations for \$500,000.00
- b. Domestic Relations from Materials/Supplies to Uniforms for \$450.00
- c. DJ Cartwright from Contingency to Equipment Lease for \$300.00
- d. IT from Contingency to Telephone/Internet for \$1,400.00
- e. Central Court from Contingency to Materials & Supplies for \$2,000.00
- f. Central Court from Contingency to Staples for \$500.00
- g. Tax Claim from contracted consulting to maintenance and repairs for \$400.00

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

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 on Tuesday, October 14, 2025 @ 10AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.
- B. There will be a Planning Commission meeting on Wednesday, October 8, 2025 @ 12PM @ Plain Grove Township Municipal Building (1029 Plain Grove Road, Volant)
- C. There will be a Prison Board meeting on Wednesday, October 15, 2025 @ 12PM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.
- D. The Courthouse will be closed on Monday, October 13, 2025 in observance of Columbus Day.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Debbie Wachter asked how many buildings are on the St. Joseph's Church Campus? Mr. Kennedy answered, the Church, the School, the Apartment Building where the nuns used to live, a House and a Shed.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to adjourn the Lawrence County Commissioners' meeting dated Tuesday, October 7, 2025 @ 10:45AM.