

LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES OF Tuesday, January 20, 2026

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, January 20, 2026, 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, County Administrator, Joseph Venasco, Donald Andrews 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 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

None

FISCAL/CONTRACTUAL

- A. Repository Properties: None
- B. Advertise for bids/proposals: None
- C. Receipt for bids/proposals: None
- D. Warrant Registers:
 - 1. January 13, 2026
 - 2. January 15, 2026

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. January 13, 2026

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

- B. Presentation of Written Communications: None

VI. REPORTS

REPORTS

- A. Staff Reports:
- B. Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Kennedy thanked Commissioners Vogler and Sainato for signing the paperwork for the closing on the former St. Joseph's Church last week, while he was off sick. He also stated 2 sisters, ages 19 & 17 have opened a cookie/coffee shop in New Wilmington and a ribbon cutting ceremony was very well attended on Saturday.

Commissioner Sainato stated how nice it is to see young people starting a new business and the cookie/coffee shop should be good for the college students in New Wilmington. He attended the Martin Luther King, Jr. service on Sunday and it was very nice.

Commissioner Vogler echoed Commissioner Sainato's comments about the Martin Luther King, Jr. service and stated it was well attended and very moving. He stated last week at the West Central Governing Board Meeting, Commissioner Bill Finley was elected as Chair.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION

R-2026-04

WHEREAS, Ja'Von Clark, a full-time Fiscal Operations Officer III, is requesting to attend the Child Welfare Education and Leadership Program (CWEL) to pursue an advanced degree in Social Work; and

WHEREAS, Ja'Von Clark will participate in the program part-time while continuing to work full-time, and

WHEREAS, this resolution is contingent upon acceptance to the CWEL program and participating university program, and

WHEREAS, Ja'Von Clark 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 full-time student would take to complete the program; and

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

1. Authorization is hereby given to Ja'Von Clark to participate in the CWEL program as outlined in this attachment beginning the 2026-2027 academic year.

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

RESOLUTION R-2026-05

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 Pathways Adolescent Center, Inc. shall be in effect for the period of July 01, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

2. That the contract for Pathways Adolescent Center, Inc. was approved on 07/22/2025, request to be amended to include the Transitional Living Program.
3. Authorization is hereby given to execute an Agreement with the following service provider:

Pathways Adolescent Center, Inc.
370 N. Seneca Street
Oil City, PA. 16301

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

RESOLUTION R-2026-06

WHEREAS, The Lawrence County Commissioners wish to enter into an agreement with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank;

WHEREAS, the attached agreement shall be effective beginning January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2026; and

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

1. The attached "Agency Partner Agreement" with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, located at 1 North Linden Street, Duquesne, PA 15110, is hereby approved.
2. The appropriate County Officials are authorized to sign the necessary agreement forms.
3. All terms and conditions are in the attached agreement.

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

Transfers (Administrative)

a. Assessor from Contingency to Professional Appraisal for \$5,000.00

Motion by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve the administrative transfer. 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, January 27, 2026 @ 10AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.
- B. There is a Prison Board Meeting tomorrow, Wednesday, January 21, 2026 @ 12:00PM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.
- C. There is a special Election Board Meeting today at 11:00AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Commissioner Sainato thanked Commissioner Vogler for his service on the West Central Governing Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mr. Sainato to adjourn the Lawrence County Commissioners' meeting dated Tuesday, January 20, 2026 @ 10:20 AM.