

LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES OF Tuesday, February 17, 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, February 17, 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, Rebecca Shaffer and noone 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. February 11, 2026
2. February 12, 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. February 10, 2026

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

- B. Presentation of Written Communications:
- a. Ellwood City Forge-Act 14 Notification-800 Commercial Avenue (Ellwood City Borough)
 - b. AMG Chrome-PADEP Air Quality Division Operating Permit Renewal Application-599 Northgate Circle (Neshannock Twp.)

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

VI. REPORTS

REPORTS

- A. Staff Reports:

B. Commissioner Reports:
Commissioner Kennedy had no comment.

Commissioner Sainato stated the Perry Township Elementary School event with the Declaration of Independence was a special event that he and Commissioner Vogler attended last week. He also attended the spaghetti dinner for the Boy Scouts. He also honored Isaac George that passed away. He was the last surviving Pearl Harbor Veteran in Pennsylvania. He was 104 years old. He was a true hero.

Commissioner Vogler echoed the comments about Perry Township Elementary School. The Planning Commission meeting held last week was well attended and Flowline was there to discuss their ongoing expansion, which will create up to 30 new jobs.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION

R-2026-19

WHEREAS, the Mental Health and Intellectual Disability Act of 1966 allows for the purchase of appropriate services; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence County, through its Mental Health and Developmental Services contracts for certain services; and,

WHEREAS, the Mental Health and Developmental Services is responsible for the diagnosis, care, treatment, and rehabilitation of County residents who are mentally disabled; and

WHEREAS, from time to time it is necessary to make amendments to the original Agreement;

WHEREAS, the Lawrence County Mental Health and Developmental Services currently has an agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services; and

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

1. The attached 2026 Administrative Entity Operating Agreement (AEOA) between the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Developmental Programs and Mental Health and Developmental Services is effective **January 1, 2026**; and
2. This Agreement replaces the current Agreement which was effective March 1, 2019; and
3. Terms and Conditions are set forth in the attached Agreement

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

RESOLUTION

R-2026-20

WHEREAS, the commissioners desire to enter into a professional contract with Northwest Media, Inc., with its principal place of business at 326 W. 12th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon, 97401; and

WHEREAS, the contract for Foster Parent College Online Training Course for March 2, 2026, will expire on March 1, 2027. Northwest Media Inc. will be providing access to 70 individuals, through our Lawrence County Foster Care Agency; and

WHEREAS, the fixed annual cost for usage is \$3,500; and

NOW, THEREFORE, by the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners to enter into a professional contract with Northwest Media, Inc.

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

RESOLUTION R-2026-21

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 The Bair Foundation of Pennsylvania shall be in effect for the period of July 1st, 2025, through June 30, 2026.
2. That the contract for The Bair Foundation of Pennsylvania was approved on 8/5/2025, request to be amended to update the rate sheet to include the home study for ICPC.
3. Authorization is hereby given to execute an Agreement with the following service provider:

**The Bair Foundation of Pennsylvania
241 High St
New Wilmington, PA. 16142**

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

RESOLUTION R-2026-22

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence County owns and maintains recreational areas throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, the maintenance of these recreational areas include, but not limited to mowing, trimming and trash collection; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lawrence is requesting bids from contractors to complete the above mentioned items at the County owned recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, the County will advertise for bids on February 20 and February 27, 2026 with bids being due on March 2, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Lawrence County Board of Commissioners that the Board of Commissioners will be advertising for bids for "County Parks and Boat Launch Maintenance", with bids being due on March 2, 2026.

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

Transfers (Administrative)

- a. Assessment from Contingency to Professional Appraisal for \$4,500.00
- b. Maintenance from Maintenance & Repair to Vehicle Expense for \$10,000.00

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, February 24, 2026 @ 10AM in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.
- B. There is a Prison Board Meeting on Wednesday, February 18, 2026 @ 12:00 Noon @ the Commissioners' Meeting Room.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to adjourn the Lawrence County Commissioners' meeting dated Tuesday, February 17, 2026 @ 9:32AM. Motion carried 3-0.