

Commissioners
SCOTT L. METZGER
Chairman
MARC C. SORTMAN
Vice Chairman
MARK MUSSINA
Secretary



COUNTY OF LYCOMING
48 West Third Street
Williamsport Pennsylvania 17701
Telephone (570) 320-2124
Fax (570) 320-2127

CHRISTOPHER H. KENYON
Solicitor

www.lyco.org
county.commissioners@lyco.org

**LYCOMING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026
10:00 A.M.**

Present: Commissioner Metzger, Commissioner Sortman, Commissioner Mussina, Shannon Barnes, Director of Management & Operations, Solicitor Christopher H. Kenyon.

1.0 OPERATIONS

- 1.1 Opening Prayer
- 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.3 Convene Commissioners' Public Meeting
- 1.4 Approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

- 1.5 Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

None

- 1.6 Proclamation - Matthew Long – Conservation Week –

Mr. Long touched on various District programs and noted that this year is the 70th anniversary of the Lycoming County Conservation District. He talked about the annual funding that ranges from 1.5 to 2 million that they utilize for their various programs. Specifically, the \$500,000 in Dirt and Gravel & Low volume Roads program that are used each year to help the local municipalities fix roads in an environmentally sensitive way. The program started in the mid 1990's and has been very successful with many municipalities participating. He also highlighted the roughly \$400,000 that the Agricultural Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) used to help local farmers make environmental improvements to their operations. The West Nile Virus program was also mentioned. It is a newer program having started in the last 8 years. This program conducts surveillance and testing of mosquitoes in the county for West Nile Virus. This disease can be very impactful to at risk people we health concerns. In some cases, it can be fatal. It is also lethal to horses that are not vaccinated against it.

Commissioner Metzger acknowledged the wonderful work the Conservation District does and their great staff, especially Tina who organizes everything for the monthly board meetings. He also commented on the good job they do educating the youth through their various programs.

Commissioner Mussina pointed out different problems that the Conservation Department addresses and the important impact this makes on our environment. Commissioner Mussina thanked them for the great job they do noting that they are essential to keeping our planet clean

2.0 REPORTS

- 2.1 Nicki Gottschall – Vote to ratify accounts payable cash requirement report for invoices due through 2/11/26 to be paid on 2/4/26 in the amount of \$5,043,890.90.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

Recess Commissioners' Public Meeting for the Salary Board

3.0 SALARY BOARD - SALARY BOARD MINUTES CAN BE FOUND ON LYCO.ORG>ELECTED OFFICIALS>CONTROLLER

- 3.1 Convene Salary Board.
- 3.2 Vote to approve the minutes from the April 16, 2026 Salary Board Meeting.
- 3.3 Vote to approve the following Salary Board Actions:
Adult Probation Office – Add Collections enforcement Officer (FT, PG 8) position to the TDA (as long as funding is available – funded from Justice Reinvestment Initiative 2 Grant)
- 3.4 Adjourn Salary Board.

Reconvene Commissioners' Public Meeting

4.0 PERSONNEL ACTIONS

- 4.1 Mike Hagen – Approve the following Personnel Actions as conditional offers of employment, subject to the successful completion of a background check and all other employment conditions as outlined in Attachment (A).

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

Recess Commissioners' Public Meeting for the Board of Assessment Revisions

5.0 BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVISIONS

- 5.1 Convene Board of Assessment Revisions.
- 5.2 Brook Wright - Approve/Deny the following real estate refund
26-331-234 – George & Marilyn Bidlespacher - \$82.40

Mr. Mussina moved to approve the reimbursement of 82.40. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

- 5.3 Brooke Wright - Vote to approve the Real Estate Exonerations as listed in Attachment B.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve the exonerations. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

- 5.4 Adjourn Board of Assessment Revisions.

Reconvene Commissioners' Public Meeting

6.0 ACTION ITEMS

6.1 Gary Staggert – Vote to approve the Landfill Expansion Proposal.
Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

Jay Alexander, Management team for RMS explained that there is currently approximately six years of capacity left at the landfill. He explained that the permitting process to expand can take up to five years. The approval today will start the process. He reported that DEP is aware of the situation and will work with us, but must adhere to all standards and protocols. Mr. Alexander also touched on some of the work that needs to be done prior to submitting the application to DEP such as drill wells and monitor them for a specified period.

Commissioner Metzger thanked the Alexanders for their leadership.

Commissioner Sortman spoke about the tour they recently took at the landfill. He reported that the plan included ground that already existed in addition to the new ground. This will allow for the permitting on the new ground to be done before space runs out. He commented that this will help pave the way for the future. It is important to have a place for the waste and this impacts future development in the county.

Mr. Alexander added that they anticipate being able to pay for it out of RMS funding. He reported that in March RMS was positive \$170,000.00 which includes paying all the fees. In response to a question Mr. Alexander explained the importance of the landfill to the central region.

6.2 Gary Staggert – Vote to approve the Agreement with BAI Group, LLC in the amount of \$317,500.00 for the landfill expansion. (Not a 2026 approved budgeted item – funds available from Capital Expenses)
Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

6.3 Gary Staggert – Vote to approve the Agreement with Meiser & Earl in the amount of \$300,000.00 for the landfill expansion. (Not a 2026 approved budgeted item – funds available from Capital Expenses)
Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

6.4 Gary Staggert – Vote to approve the Sponsorship Agreement with Williamsport Crosscutters in the amount of \$2,920.00. (2026 approved budgeted item – Operating Expenses)
Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

6.5 Shannon Barnes for Adrienne Stahl – Vote to approve the Agreement with Patricia Shipman, Esq. (2026 approved budgeted item – Operating Expenses)
Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

6.6 Sheriff Spiegel for Michele McDermott – Vote to approve the Agreement with Permittium LLC.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

6.7 Sheriff Spiegel for Michele McDermott – Vote to approve the Agreement with Real Auction LLC.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0
Commissioner Mussina expressed his appreciation for the smooth transition in the Sheriff's office.

6.8 Brad Shoemaker – Vote to approve the Agreement with Global Sector (Not an approved budgeted item - funds available through Operating Expenses)

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

6.9 Brad Shoemaker – Vote to approve the Amendment to the Agreement with Intrinsic Intervention. (2026 approved budgeted item – Operating Expenses)

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

6.10 Chris Smith– Vote to approve the following appointments to the Local Emergency Planning Committee: Gordon Bennett, Kelsey Green, Kevin Maloney, Forest Rothchild, Robert Brown, Tracey Harer, Scott Jennings, Kohl Knopp, Dean Miller, Charles O'Brien, Dustin Williams, Todd Winder

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

6.11 Forest Rothchild– Vote to approve the MOU with Geisinger Medical Center Police Department.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

6.12 Hanyu Zeng– Vote to approve the 2024 PHARE Amendment to the Agreement with American Rescue Workers.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

6.13 Shannon Barnes – Vote to approve to participate in the New National Opioids Six Remnant Defendants Settlement.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

6.14 Shannon Barnes – Vote to approve the MOU with Penn State University on behalf of Lycoming County Penn State Extension.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

6.15 Shannon Barnes – Vote to approve the Deed of Dedication for the County Farm Road to become a public county road.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

6.16 Shannon Barnes – Vote to rescind the Lease Agreement with Danko Holdings for the property located at 435 Hepburn Street in the amount of \$1,974.00 monthly

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

- 6.17 Shannon Barnes – Vote to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Lycoming County FOP Bargaining Unit and the Lycoming County Detectives effective dates 1/1/2026 to 12/31/2028.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

- 6.18 Shannon Barnes – Vote to approve the Agreement between the County of Lycoming and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees of the Lycoming County Prison, effective dates 1/1/2026 to 12/31/2028.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

- 6.19 Shannon Barnes- Vote to approve the Agreement between the County of Lycoming and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees of the Pre-Release Center Local 3403, effective dates 1/1/2026 to 12/31/2028.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

- 6.20 Shannon Barnes – Vote to approve the Agreement between the County of Lycoming and the Teamsters Local Union No. 764 representing employees of the White Deer Golf Course, effective dates 1/1/2026 to 12/31/2030.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0

7.0 COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Commissioner Sortman commented that he is thrilled that the Union negotiations went smoothly and were settled fairly quickly. He thanked all those involved.

Commissioner Mussina explained that due to the Sunshine law only one Commissioner is allowed to sit in on the negotiations. We wanted the employees to know that they are respected and appreciated but we also have to stay within a budget. He reported that the talks were cordial and professional and they are happy that a resolution was reached.

Commissioner Metzger echoed Commissioner Mussina’s comments. He added that it is a tough job to balance the best interest of the tax payers while balancing the needs of the employees to have a livable wage. Commissioner Metzger noted that it is always best to settle differences in house and work together for a resolution.

8.0 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Speakers who wish to address the Board of Commissioners will be limited for no more than three (3) minutes on any particular item. The speaker must state his/her name and address for the record. Any deviation from this rule must be approved by the Board Chairman.

Jason White, AFSCME Representative thanked Director Barnes and Commissioner Mussina for their efforts in the negotiations.

John Shireman, Jersey Shore spoke about his concerns regarding the Lawshee Run Project as well as the history of this project. Mr. Shireman voiced his dismay that only one Commissioner was present at the recent meeting, indicating all of them should have been there. He also commented on Commissioner Sortman's remarks not being able to account for several million dollars. He recommended having a forensic audit done to find out the financial shape of the County.

The Commissioners collectively explained that the many scheduling conflicts they encounter and why only one Commissioner was at the meeting. They assured Mr. Shireman that they support Jersey Shore as they do all of the communities in the County.

Commissioner Metzger responded that they are continuing to work to find the monies for the project and have not given up on it.

Forest Lehman provided the following information on the County's voting system in response to the You Tube comments:

- **Clear Ballot has offices in Boston and New Hampshire**
- **All Voting systems, regardless of their origin, go through an extensive testing & certification process at the Federal & State level before any jurisdiction is allowed to purchase them.**
- **Lycoming County must test every piece of equipment that is used before each election. Fifty to sixty thousand test ballots are put through the machines which is more than the number of people voting in the County.**
- **Every test that has been done on the machines over the last 7 years has the numbers coming out correct.**
- **After the election is over post audits are also done to make sure the system worked correctly.**
- **The important question is not where is the company located, but rather does the voting system work and is it accurate. All of the receipts from the testing done show that the machines we use are.**

YOU TUBE PUBLIC COMMENT

mc-g581 Respectfully correcting the record from last week's agenda about Clear Ballot voting machines: the company is now headquartered in New Hampshire, not Massachusetts. it is privately owned.

@mc-g581

#1

An investigation of possible foreign influence from foreigners who are shareholders in Clear Ballot voting machine company was requested. What is its status?

Lycowatch According to the Dun&Broadstreet business directory, the company LinkedIn profile, Tracxn (who tracks the world's most promising companies), and the companies own website, they are still based in

@Lycowatch

#2

Boston, Ma. They do have an office branch in New Hampshire. They have an office branch in London. They may have European investors, as do most companies of this size. I personally don't want my tax

Lycowatch

#1

dollars wasted on investigating the millionaires who may fund a large corporation. It doesn't affect lycoming county.

@TheLocalMusicianWas just about to say something similar. While the HQ appears to be registered in NH, their operations are in Boston.



@TheLocalMusician

#3

A quick check at corporate tax rates demystifies that question: taxes are cheaper in NH than MA



@mc-g581

#3

Sorry to disagree publicly but my source of most recent info is correct and we should be concerned about voting machines that may not be reliable.

@Lycowatch

#1

I think what's throwing you off is its designation as a foreign profit corporation. That doesn't necessarily mean international. In the US it means a company incorporated in one US State, but operates



@Lycowatch

#1

In another state.

Lycowatch

#1

Hence, the tax break that the local musician was speaking of.

mc-g581

#3

Investigation of the chain of control of our precious system of voting is absolutely necessary these days.

@TheLocalMusician

#2

Yeah; a 0.5% discount doesn't SOUND like much, but when you're talking \$10-15 million dollars of taxable revenue per year, that discount is like, a whole person's salary in discount.

@mc-g581

#3

It is being reported that all voting machines contain Chinese parts and this raises profound questions.



@mc-g581

#1

The issue of transparency still remains in question due to recent Pa Supreme Court decision.

9.0 NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next Commissioners Public Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 10:00 A.M. in the Commissioner's Board Room, 3rd Floor, 33 West Third Street, Williamsport, PA 17701

To View This Meeting and For More Detailed Information Click on The Link Below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=35T39Kibz1o>

ATTACHMENT (A)

PERSONNEL ACTIONS:

Conservation District – Haley Wilde, West Nile Virus Technician, Part-Time, PG6, \$17.5236 per Hour, Not to Exceed 1000 Hours Annually, Anticipated Start Date: May 11, 2026.

Prison – Gillian McLean, Licensed Practical Nurse, Full-Time, PG10, \$30.00 per Hour, 80 Hours per Pay Period, Anticipated Start Date: May 11, 2026.

Prison – Marcus Tapper, Correctional Officer, Full-Time, Union, \$20.00 per Hour, 80 Hours per Pay Period, Effective Date: May 10, 2026.

Prison – Kyle Cochran, Correctional Officer, Full-Time, Union, \$20.00 per Hour, 80 Hours per Pay Period, Anticipated Start Date: May 11, 2026.

ATTACHMENT B

Date	Parcel Number	Owner's Name	Site Location	From Value	To Value	Diff	City Taxes	Reason
4/30/2026	49-001-604.B	Thomas & Nancy Spearing	34 Evergreen Est	136,870	-	136,870	\$ 889.66	Veteran's Exemption
4/30/2026	43-015-280	Nathaniel Hetzel	27 Casey Dr	143,550		143,550	\$ 933.08	Veteran's Exemption
4/30/2026	12-352-152.28	William Maule	238 Katie Ln	209,980		209,980	\$ 1,364.87	Veteran's Exemption
4/30/2026	41-353-187.B	Ballard Johnson III	329 Carpenter's Ln	112,390	-	112,390	\$ 730.54	Veteran's Exemption
4/30/2026	40-394-160.08	Justin Baysore	599 Fogelman Rd	102,720	-	102,720	\$ 667.68	Veteran's Exemption
4/30/2026	07-392-141	Perry Bullis	1112 State Home Rd	103,410		103,410	\$ 672.17	Veteran's Exemption
4/30/2026	22-002-212	Peggi Reynolds	222 Oak St	67,910		67,910	\$ 441.42	Veteran's Exemption
4/30/2026	49-406-101.D	Rachel Fulkrod	899 River Rd	114,570		114,570	\$ 744.71	Veteran's Exemption
4/30/2026	10-001-528.01	Stepanie Starr	2924 Euclid Ave	143,020		143,020	\$ 929.63	Veteran's Exemption
4/30/2026	55-369-168	Bryant Bitner	1987 Rt 654 Hwy	80,950		80,950	\$ 526.18	Veteran's Exemption
4/30/2026	07-391-157.A	Kevin Bittenbender	193 Wentzel Ln	230,450		230,450	\$ 1,497.93	Veteran's Exemption
4/30/2026	13-337-159.15	Joseph Ellington	112 Deerview Rd	235,500		235,500	\$ 1,530.75	Veteran's Exemption
4/30/2026	69-002-307	Roberta Calderone	429 Germania St	30,200		30,200	\$ 196.30	Veteran's Exemption(Partial)
4/30/2026	10-001-601	Arch Street Complex	6 S Arch St	156,800	119,600	37,200	\$ 241.80	Warehouse destroyed by fire
						-	\$ -	
						-	\$ -	
						-	\$ 42,581.44	