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

CHRISTOPHER H. KENYON
Solicitor

COUNTY OF LYCOMING
48 West Third Street
Williamsport Pennsylvania 17701

Telephone (570) 320-2124
Fax (570) 320-2127

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

LYCOMING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8TH, 2026
10:00 A.M.

Present: Commissioner Metzger, Commissioner Sortman, Commissioner Mussina, Shannon Barnes, Senior Director of Operations, and 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

Todd Lauer, Jersey Shore asked how do citizens know what the action items are prior to being voted on. He requested a more detailed description on the agenda. Nicki Gottschall, Controller responded that he can submit a Right to Know Request for detailed information on the agreement.
Mr. Lauer asked why some positions are 80 hours and some are 75 hours. Mr. Hagen responded and explained that 80 Hour positions are Union positions. The other positions are not and ensured Mr. Lauer that they work the hours listed.

2.0 REPORTS

2.1 Nicki Gottschall – Vote to ratify accounts payable cash requirement report for invoices due through 10/14/26 to be paid on 10/7/26 in the amount of $1,741,626.32.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0
Commissioner Sortman commented that a half a million of the total is pass through money and not coming out of taxpayer's money.

2.2 Nicki Gottschall – Vote to approve the credit card cash requirement report for purchases from 8/28/26 through 9/25/26 in the amount of $10,557.89.

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

3.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

3.1 Michael Hagen – Elected Officials Personnel Actions
New Hire:
Courts – Kimberly Poorman, Tipstave, Part-Time, PG1, $12.6786 per Hour, Not to Exceed 1000 Hours Annually, Anticipated Start Date: October 26, 2026.

4.0 PERSONNEL ACTIONS

4.1 Michael 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
Commissioner Sortman congratulated Angela Scocchera on her promotion.

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Nancy Schenck– Vote to approve the Agreement with the County of Northampton. (2026 approved budgeted item – Operating Expenses)

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

5.2 Leslie Kilpatrick– Vote to approve the Agreement with Keyser Consulting Group, LLC in the amount of $2,142.60. (2026 approved budgeted item – Operating Expenses)

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

5.3 Shannon Barnes – Vote to approve the Amendment to the Agreement with Paul D. Connor, PH. D. (2026 approved budgeted item – Operating Expenses)

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

5.4 Shannon Barnes - Vote to approve the Agreement with W. Joel Schneider. (2026 approved budgeted item – Operating Expenses)

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

5.5 Shannon Barnes - Vote to approve the Agreement with Natalie Novak Brown PhD. (2026 approved budgeted item – Operating Expenses)

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

5.6 Shannon Barnes - Vote to approve the Amendment to the Agreement with Akaga Campbell. (2026 approved budgeted item – Operating Expenses)

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

5.7 Shannon Barnes – Vote to approve the appointment of Roger Jarrett to the Industrial Authority Board effective term dates: 1/1/2027 through 12/31/2031.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0
Commissioner Metzger thanked Mr. Jarett and all those volunteering to serve on the various boards for their time to make the county better.

5.8 Shannon Barnes – Vote to approve the Agreement of Sale for parcel 164 Beach Road and parcel 59 Beach Road in the amount of $315,000.00 pending final solicitor review.

Mr. Mussina moved to approve. Mr. Sortman 2nd the motion. Approved 3-0
Commissioner Metzger clarified that this is for the farmhouse and the lot next to it. The rest of the farm is not being sold. The money from the sale will be put back into the farm.

6.0 COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Commissioner Sortman explained that on the agenda each item lists whether or not it is an approved budgeted item and where the money is coming from such as grants, operating expenses, etc. It is his opinion that taxpayers should know if the item is coming from their tax dollars. Commissioner Sortman explained that taxpayers pay for both the defense and prosecution during a trial.

Commissioner Sortman explained that the farm house and lot are not connected to anything. Additionally, the farm house has been vacant for several years. The barn needs work which the sale will pay for. The farm itself is being maintained. The plan is to use the farm for educational purposes, especially for the Youth of the County. There is also value in raising crops and cattle. In order to achieve this, the money from the sale of the farm house and adjacent property is needed to fix up the barn.

Commissioner Metzger added that the farm is a legacy and pointed out that Lycoming County is the only county to own a farm. It can be used to educate our youth and the farmers since this is an agricultural area.

Commissioner Mussina reminded all that the last date to register to vote is October 19th. He encouraged all to register to vote, obtain a mail in ballot if you are unable to vote in person and to get out and vote. Commissioner Mussina commented on the cost of death penalty cases versus a life sentence to the tax payer.

7.0 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.

Todd Lauer, Jersey Shore – Commented on the article *Community Members March against Lycoming County District Attorney's Office*. As a taxpayer in Lycoming County my opinion is this is despicable behavior to pick up a newspaper and see this. People protesting DA Marino's actions. It stuns me to see this, when Lycoming County is screaming for more police presence in combating violent crime, especially homicide, and in particular juvenile homicides and other drug related juvenile crimes.

What do these actions convey to the community? This tells me that these people are concerned about the above-mentioned crimes only at the time they are committed. However, when action is taken to combat this criminal behavior hypocrisy reigns supreme. Now law enforcement is somehow profiling or being racist against the black community while preforming their duties.

The same people also want more juvenile control and more juvenile programs to try to help control these actions but at taxpayers' expense. Want more control? Then learn how to and actually be a parent and control your child at your expense. Lycoming County taxpayers have enough to deal with without having to babysit your children. I also wonder how many of these people are taxpayers or even residents of Lycoming County.

We lifelong Lycoming County Tax payers and residents have in the last 35 to 40 years witnessed not only the severe increased in criminal activities, theft, assault, homicide and

100-fold in drug distribution. But most astounding of all is Lycoming County never had any types of gangs even mentioned
Myself, I whole heartly, squarely put the blame on the influx trash that Mayor Jesse Bloom allowed to parasitize Lycoming County. Terrorize our citizens and communities alike, poison our citizens and our most vulnerable, our youth with heroin, crack, meth, fentanyl and illegal guns.
I believe the last murder in Williamsport before the influx in the mid – late 1980's was in 1907. That is a timespan of between 70 – 80 years. Now we have had approximately 25 -30 homicides county wide with several unsolved. The facts speak clearly about where not only but also whom is most culpable in the destruction of Lycoming County. I sat in on hundreds of PV hearings and was witness to the asking why these criminals come to Williamsport to buy heroin. Violators were from Scranton, Pittsburgh, Erie areas. There answers were all the same. It is the cheapest city in PA to buy heroin.
My demand as a taxpayer to Lycoming County commissioners is while working on the budget is now the time to remove and stop completely any and all funding that is extremely favorable to influx and a bare minimally favorable to taxpayers and citizens of Lycoming County alike. Also, while preparing the budget, you need also to tweak outside agencies. Lycoming County would also benefit if somehow, we could collect the approximately $40,000.00 in unpaid fines and court costs that could be used to finance juvenile programs. So instead of protesting law-enforcement actions, why don't you people protest non payment by criminals, I'm sure you know someone that owes. Also attend these commissioner meetings and have input where it counts and helps, not hurting our law – enforcement community, citizens and our sky rocketing budget. Use common sense, if it is called common sense why is it so uncommon. I say Mr. Marino is doing his best with what resources at his disposal and these people owe an apology to Mr. Marino and his office.

Limor Laramy – Comments attached

Commissioner Metzger commented on the atrocities the people experienced at the music festival three years ago in Israel, the need for anti-Semitism to be addressed and stopped.

Commissioner Sortman thanked Ms. Laramy for making a comment.

YOU TUBE PUBLIC COMMENT
None

8.0 NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next Commissioners Public Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 15th, 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=XLl-fni3GH0

ATTACHMENT (A)

PERSONNEL ACTIONS:

Internal Changes

Financial Management – Angela Scocchera, Procurement & Grant Officer, Full-Time, PG8, $41,212.2594 Annually, 75 Hours per Pay Period, Effective Date: October 11, 2026.

Pre-Release Center – Sean Diggan, Resident Supervisor, Full-Time, Union, $20.70 per Hour, 80 Hours Per Pay Period, Effective Date: October 11, 2026.

New Hires:

Pre-Release Center – Zachery Miller, Resident Supervisor, Full-Time, Union, $20.70 per Hour, 80 Hours Per Pay Period, Anticipated Start Date: October 12, 2026.

Pre-Release Center – Candida Kingston, Resident Supervisor, Full-Time, Union, $20.70 per Hour, 80 Hours Per Pay Period, Anticipated Start Date: October 12, 2026.

Pre-Release Center – Lutricia Ellman, Resident Supervisor, Full-Time, Union, $20.70 per Hour, 80 Hours Per Pay Period, Anticipated Start Date: October 19, 2026.

Limor Laramy Comments:
We live on a planet where whales sing songs that travel for miles, where trees can recognize their own offspring and protect them underground, where dolphins give each other names, and where lightning can create glass in the sand.
We live on a planet where horses can read human emotions, where rain has a smell before it even arrives, and where the ocean can glow in the dark.
Unfortunately, we also live on a planet where a great deal of people today call for the destruction of one of God's other creations: the Jewish people and the state of Israel.

Yesterday marked the 3-year anniversary of October 7th, 2023. October 7th was the most disgusting day for the Jewish people since the Holocaust.
The atrocities committed on that day were NOT hidden. The people committing them FILMED them.
People were brutally murdered, bodies were desecrated (some while still alive and with their families forced to watch), families were forever torn apart, and people were taken hostage.
If we were to equate the numbers on that day to what it would look like here, in the US, the number affected would be around 41,000 people.

Many of you know that after the Holocaust, Israel and Judaism all over the world said: NEVER AGAIN.
Well, AGAIN happened.
So, because NEVER AGAIN is not just a slogan, Israel went to fight back, to return every single hostage (living or deceased), and to defeat Hamas. It succeeded in completing the first 2, and is still on the mission for the 3rd.
So far, it has eliminated or imprisoned 4000 of the 6000 involved in that terrible massacre of the Jewish people, and will not stop until every last one answers for what they've done.

Yesterday, a mayor in a neighboring state to us decided to hijack our day of mourning for his own agenda, political gain, and to spread of lies and misinformation. Shame on him. Taking away from and diminishing someone's suffering to promote your own cause is abhorrent.

Israel is the ONLY Jewish state in the world, and it has been held to a different standard than the rest of the world – the US included.
It is consistently condemned for fighting back and for defending itself;
it is blamed for the violence of those who attacked it, then expected to tolerate terrorism, give its enemies a platform, and apologize for existing.
This double standard is, in its purest form, antisemitism, anti-Zionism, and anti-Judaism.

I'm here today to commemorate those who lost their lives on that terrible day, those who died while being brutally beaten, starved, kept in cages, forced to dig their own graves, and severely tortured, both mentally and physically while being held hostage, those who have committed suicide because of the terrible things they saw while recovering bodies and cleaning up the massacre, those who have experienced tremendous loss all over the world, resulting from the atrocities and from the fight back, and, finally, those who continue to

suffer, daily, because for Jews, today is day number 1098 and we're still learning how to live, not only since then, but with the new reality that we are not allowed to simply "be".

And I am here to also say: gone are the days where the Jews idly sit by while being targeted. We will NEVER forget, we will NEVER forgive, we will NEVER stop talking about it, and we will NEVER stop fighting for Israel!

On a planet where all of God's magical creations can exist so beautifully and freely, so can we!

AM ISRAEL CHAI!