

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, JULY 23, 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

2.0 REPORTS

- 2.1 Nicki Gottschall – Vote to ratify accounts payable cash requirement report for invoices due through 7/29/26 to be paid on 7/22/26 in the amount of \$2,272,096.40.

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

3.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

3.1 Emily Mrochko – Lycoming County 2027 Liquid Fuels Grant Program
WILLIAMSPORT, Lycoming County – The Lycoming County Planning and Community Development Department, Transportation Division, is now accepting applications for the 2027 Liquid Fuels Grant Program. The grant program is open to all Lycoming County boroughs, townships, and the city. The 2027 grant round has approximately \$150,000 available for liquid fuels eligible projects. An email will be sent to all municipalities containing the informational letter and the application. The application will also be available on Lycoming County's website at www.lycomingcountypa.gov.

Applications will be accepted beginning Monday July 27, through Friday September 4, 2026. The County will provide selected and non-selected applicants notice of their award before October 30, 2026.

If municipalities have any questions, please contact Emily Mrochko, Transportation Planner at eemrochko@lyco.org or 570 320-2141.

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

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

- 5.1 Larissa Hassinger- Vote to approve the FFY 2026 Community Development and Block Grant Project Selection & Finalization. (2026 approved budgeted item – CDBG 2026 Funds)

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

- 5.2 Forest Rothchild – Vote to approve the Amendment to the Agreement with Raymond Shoemaker. (2026 approved budgeted item – Grant Funds)

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

Mr. Rothchild Update – See attached

- 5.3 Nancy Schenck– Vote to approve the Agreement with Cornell Abraxas Group, LLC. (2026 approved budgeted item – Operating Expenses)

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

- 5.4 Leslie Kilpatrick -Vote to approve the newly created Mailroom Policy.

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

- 5.5 Rodney Morehart – Vote to approve the Cover Crop Agreements between Lycoming County Conservation District and the following landowners: David Albert, Gail Bishop, Hunter Blass, Charles Bosch, Doug Bower, Keith Daly, Allen DiMarco, Colton France, Harley Fry Sr., Lawrence Fry, Thomas Hamm, Nathan Harvey, Todd Hillegas, Gerald Houseknecht, JRT Farms Edwin Kitzmiller II, Jeff Liddic, Lorson Angus Farms, LLC, Lost Brook Farm, Inc., Robert Marquardt, Moser Farms, Michael Paternostro, Harry Rogers, III, Wilhelm Schon, Larue Shaner, Scott Snyder, Adam Sonnen, Matt Stahinecker, Vernon Temple, Charles Ulmer, Christopher Ulmer, Christopher Ulrich, Cody and Lance Walz, Dale Wertz, Jr., Mick Wertz, Raymond Worthington, Darien Young,

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

- 5.6 Shannon Barnes – Vote to approve the new Part Time Employee Policy.

- 5.7 Shannon Barnes – Vote to approve the updated Probationary Policy.

- 5.8 Shannon Barnes - Vote to approve the updated Nepotism Policy.

Commissioner Metzger asked to vote to approve 5.6, 5.7 and 5.8 as a whole slate.

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

Commissioner Sortman thanked the staff their work on updating these policies.

Commissioner Metzger added that these have needed to be updated for a long time. These policies are guidelines for both staff and management and need to be checked and updated regularly. He thanked Director Barnes and the staff that worked on them.

6.0 COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Commissioner Mussina reported that since they have been in office, they have been trying to address the issues. The 911 Center has been an issue since 2012. In an effort to address issues we have made changes and are trying to improve the areas that need improvement. He encouraged anyone who has insights to share to come and talk to them either in person or at a public meeting. Commissioner Mussina referenced an incident where there was a miscommunication with a program that got cut. The person came and spoke with them and the issue was resolved.

Commissioner Metzger added that if someone comes to a meeting and addresses the issues in a respectful manner, we will listen to them for more than the allotted three minutes. He reiterated that their door is always open. We are here to serve and help the people.

Director Barnes reported that they are going to be working with a consultant with the juvenile issue starting in September. We are actively trying to create an asset map and will be reaching out to community leaders. This will be available to all agencies. We are trying to do this collaboratively to create solid solutions for this issue.

Commissioner Metzger reported that he has had several people from the community reach out to volunteer for the youth commissions if they are reestablished. We will be reaching out to the courts and juvenile probation, followed up with a public meeting to get these reestablished for lesser offenses. These commissions have been very effective in the past.

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.

None

YOU TUBE PUBLIC COMMENT

@CloverSmith-j2k Why have you guys hired a personal secretary for Cody Alexander (a Waynetownship landfill employee) at \$7 more an hour than the current secretaries working at the Lycoming County landfill?

 C

@CloverSmith-j2k

#1

Why isn't the new secretary's salary being paid out of that \$250,000 you are giving our rival landfill at Waynetownship?

 C

@CloverSmith-j2k

#1

If I was still a Lycoming County employee, I'd be pretty upset. Are the other secretaries at the landfill getting a raise as well.

C

@CloverSmith-j2k

#1

As A Lycoming county tax payer I'm more than upset and again questioning who you commissioners are really working for.

C

@CloverSmith-j2k

#1

Plus what are these rumors that you are in negotiations with Jay Alexander from the Waynetownship landfill to sell out our county landfill's transfer station?

U Tube Response

Commissioner Sortman reported that the transfer station is owned and operated by Lycoming Landfill. It is an asset for the residents. It makes it easier for them to bring trash locally rather than driving over the mountain. It has also been an asset for the local haulers. There is no discussion with Jay Alexander or the Clinton County Solid Municipal Waste to sell the transfer station.

Commissioner Mussina added that the landfill will be better in 2026 than it has been. We are going in the right direction. He reiterated the need for the management company and the good work they have done so far.

Commissioner Metzger spoke about the audits that prove the landfill was not profitable for a long time. He spoke about the change in the recycling part of the business which has declined over the years. There are no longer grants and money for recyclable materials. Taxpayer money is paying for the equipment and buildings. He reported that we are losing approximately \$100,000.00 a month on recycling alone. He added that there are approximately seven years of life left at the landfill without the expansion. This company is being proactive getting the permits ready for this. Sharing ideas and assets makes the entire region better. This is a regional approach.

Director Barnes reported that the volume has increased and expenses have been cut in certain areas. This company was put in place to evaluate the whole operation. It was determined that this position was needed. It is a county position -county employee.

Commissioner Sortman assured all that the Commissioners work for the taxpayers of Lycoming County. The debts were discovered during an audit and the information was supported by the Controllers office. The landfill staff was not aware of the debt. Now it is time to fix the problem and get out of the 27-million-dollar debt.

Commissioner Mussina added that they had tried to figure out ways to resolve the issues before looking for a management company.

Commissioner Metzger added that the audits go back several years and at one time it was making money.

Director Barnes pointed out that the audits were from outside agencies.

8.0 NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next Commissioners Public Meeting will be held on Thursday, July 30, 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=A9cP1JiJcNk>

ATTACHMENT (A)

PERSONNEL ACTIONS:

Internal Changes:

CBU Adjustment: Adult Probation – Avery Eiswerth, Adult Probation Officer, Full-Time, Union, \$22.4643 per Hour, 80 Hours per Pay Period, Effective Date: August 25, 2025.

Adult Probation – Jordan Stugart, Administrative Specialist, Full-Time, PG6, \$17.8672 per Hour, 75 Hours per Pay Period, Effective Date: August 2, 2026.

Consolidated Services – Shirley Hamm, Customer Service Specialist / Floater, Part-Time, PG4, \$16.4616 per Hour, Not to Exceed 1000 Hours Annually, Effective Date: July 19, 2026.

Tax Assessment – Brooke Muthler, Clerk IV – Assessment, Full-Time, PG5, \$17.1675 per Hour, 75 Hours per Pay Period, Effective Date: August 2, 2026.

911 COMMUNICATIONS CENTER HIRING UPDATE

Board of County Commissioners Meeting — Public Remarks

To: Board of County Commissioners / Community
From: Forest W.S. Rothchild, Director of Public Safety
Date: July 23, 2026
Re: 911 Communications Center — Hiring Progress & Community Update

BOTTOM LINE

The County is actively hiring for the 911 Communications Center — 8 of 18 scheduled candidate interviews are complete — and we remain committed to finding the right staffing solution, including continued evaluation of outside agency support.

WHERE WE STAND ON HIRING

- **Interviews underway** — We completed the first 8 of 18 scheduled candidate interviews for the 911 Communications Center yesterday.
- **Candidate quality** — We are pleased with the motivation, diversity, and strength of the candidates we've seen so far.
- **Commitment** — This is part of our ongoing commitment to the 911 team and to the community — to make sure we are there to serve them.

ON THE OUTSIDE AGENCY QUESTION

- **Still evaluating** — We are still in the evaluation process of determining whether Motivation is the right fit for the County.
- **All options on the table** — We will consider any and all potential solutions, including conversations with previous employees.
- **Open to a bridge solution** — We are open to a temporary arrangement if it helps us reach the right long-term solution.

TO OUR COMMUNITY

To the community members who continue to speak up for the 911 team — thank you. You are being heard. It may not be moving at the speed you want, but movement is happening and action is being taken. Following the example our commissioners have set, my door is always open for conversation.