

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, AUGUST 13, 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

Commissioner Metzger reiterated that going forward in order for online comments to be read at the meeting the person must list their full name and where they are from just like the people present at the meeting do. If this information is not included the comments will not be read at the meeting but will appear in the minutes.

None

2.0 REPORTS

- 2.1 Nicki Gottschall – Vote to ratify accounts payable cash requirement report for invoices due through 8/19/26 to be paid on 8/12/26 in the amount of \$3,760,096.81.

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

3.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

- 3.1 Frank Pellegrino, Chairman, Airport Authority – Airport Update Comments attached. Presented after Action Item 5.7. Also present were board member William Martin and Executive director of the Airport Eric McKitish. For more detailed information on the Airport discussion please click on the link listed under 8.0

- 3.2 Michael Hagen – Elected Officials Personnel Actions:
Internal Changes:

Sheriff – Michael Orwig, Deputy Sheriff 1st Class, Part-Time, DS, \$30.006283 per Hour, Not to Exceed 1000 Hours Annually, Effective Date: August 6, 2026.

Sheriff – Glenn Murchison Jr., Deputy Sheriff 1st Class, Full-Time, DS, \$26.996913 per Hour, 80 Hours per Pay Period, Effective Date: August 23, 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

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

- 5.1 Gary Staggert - Vote to approve the repairs to the fuel station by Professional Petroleum Services in the amount of \$54,682.60. (Not a 2026 approved budgeted item – funds available - Capital funds)

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

Cody Alexander answered questions regarding leachate system. See attached information.

- 5.2 Leslie Kilpatrick – Vote to approve the Amendment to the Agreement with Revize, LLC in the amount of \$5,775.00. (2026 approved budgeted item – Operating Expenses)

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

- 5.3 Jenny Picciano – Vote to approve the 2nd Amendment to the Agreement with ILK Family, LP extending the terms of the Agreement through 12/31/2027.

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

- 5.4 Jenny Picciano -Vote to approve the American Rescue Workers 2024/2025 PHARE Subrecipient Agreement in the amount of \$100,000.00. (Approved budgeted item – 2024/2025 PHARE funds)

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

- 5.5 Jenny Picciano – Vote to approve the STEP 2024/2025 Subrecipient Agreement in the amount of \$50,000.00. (Approved budgeted item – 2024/2025 PHARE funds)

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

- 5.6 Shanean Edmonds – Vote to approve the MATP FY 2026-2027 Grant Agreement with the Department of Human Services.

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

- 5.7 Shannon Barnes – Vote to ratify the Agreement of Sale for the parcel 164 Beach Road, (Vacant Lot) Montoursville in the amount of \$80,000.00.

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

Commissioner Metzger explained that the property at the County farm was subdivided. There is the farmhouse and the lot next to it which is vacant. There is a party that wishes to purchase the lot. The house is still for sale. We are voting on the sale of the lot. The money from the sale will be put back into the budget for operating the farm.

Commissioner Sortman added that this is a full list price offer. He reviewed some of the repairs that are needed for the barn. The goal is to get money back into the farm and make it an educational center for our local farmers and school districts.

Commissioner Sortman and Commissioner Mussina announced that on September 9th there will be an event at the farm – Farm Outreach Days. He encouraged all to attend. Information on the event will be posted on the website.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM 3.1

Due Mr. Pellegrino's arrival being delayed he presented after action items were completed. James May, Congressman Meuser's assistant added that Congressman Meuser fully supports the airport, its efforts and needs.

Commissioner Metzger commented that it is difficult for airlines in rural communities. The Airport Authority continues to work on this. The county is responsible for the debt at the airport. The Commissioners work closely with the Airport Authority and rely on their knowledge and expertise. Commissioner Metzger praised Mr. Pellegrino's passion and efforts.

Commissioner Mussina commented on the need for airline service and its impact on the community.

For more detailed information on the Airport discussion please click on the link listed under 8.0

6.0 COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Commissioner Sortman stressed that the airport is sustainable regardless of the presence of commercial flights. The commercial side is an investment for the community. The financial investment will be paid out of Act 13 monies. Commissioner Sortman stressed the need for the residents to use the service. Utilization is what will make it sustainable. Commissioner Sortman praised Mr. Pellegrino's passion, knowledge, drive and commitment to the Lycoming Airport and its services. Commissioner Sortman also praised Jason Fink, Chamber of Commerce CEO for the speech he made about Lycoming County on the news.

The Commissioners all commented on the excitement of the Little League World Series and all the people visiting the area.

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

None

8.0 NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next Commissioners Public Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 20th, 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=_93dQBhpChA

ATTACHMENT (A)

PERSONNEL ACTIONS:

New hires:

Prison – Cole Sheppard, Correctional Officer, Full-Time, Union, \$21.50 per Hour, 80 Hours per Pay Period, Anticipated Start Date: August 24, 2026.

Prison – Maverick Harding, Correctional Officer, Full-Time, Union, \$21.50 per Hour, 80 Hours per Pay Period, Anticipated Start Date: August 24, 2026

COMMENTS FROM FRANK PELLEGRINO AUTHORITY CHAIR OF THE WILLIAMSPORT MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Thank you for the invitation to speak at your county commissioners meeting to the public regarding the WILLIAMSPORT REGIONAL AIRPORT. As you know the Williamsport Regional Airport is run by a county appointed board acting as a municipal authority chartered by the County and we operate independently not supported by County tax dollars and totally funded by revenues generated at the Airport. The revenues come from sources such as rent paid by those using authority property, landing fees and/ from charges or fees paid by individuals. Not ever from taxes collected from a municipality or local government nor from school district taxes.

The Airport will soon be celebrating a 100th year Anniversary, whereby in July of 1929 the first airfield opened with a flight by none other than Emilia Earhart herself.

More than 30000 individuals were in attendance for this ceremony. Over the years more than 6 different carriers were supported by the flying public at the airport. From Pan Am airways, TWA, Pennsylvania Central Airlines (PCA/CAPITAL AIRLINES), to Allegheny Airways, to US Air, US AIRWAYS now AMERICAN, Presidential, Continental Airways, United, Southern and soon to be a new airline that we hope could be announced in the next few days. Flights traveled from Williamsport to Baltimore, Philadelphia, Dulles/Washington D.C., Pittsburgh, Boston, Upstate NY-Binghamton, Harrisburg, Newark, LaGuardia/NYC and others believe it or even direct to California left from IPT.

Passengers embarking at the Airport were as high as 85000+ annually.

Rural America's growth is dependent upon reliable air transportation, rail, bus or multimode transportation and Lycoming County and the 8-county region demands and deserves nothing less.

Our flying public service-region is comprised of more than a half million people, serving Lycoming, Union, Northumberland, Montour, Tioga, Bradford, Clinton, Snyder, Columbia, even parts of Centre.

3 Major Health Care Systems, Located in the region UPMC , Geisinger Inc. owned by Risant Health of Kaiser/Permanente. and WELLSPAN deserve reliable air transportation and an airport for systems like LIFE VAC, LIFE SUPPORT, ANGEL FLIGHTS organ transport and donations and MEDIVAC. This area is represented by more than 25000 College students representing colleges and universities like Bucknell, Lycoming, Pennsylvania College of Technology, Susquehanna University, Luzerne County Community College in Shamokin, PASCHE's Commonwealth University of PA, with campuses at Mansfield, Lock Haven and Bloomsburg, Triangle Tech Inc-Sunbury and the Miller-Motte College-Berks Technical Institute-Lewisburg.

These students represent all 50 states and more than 24 other countries and travel to our area for the educational experience that each institution offers.

A small and rural community airport like WRA, is a main economic driver for our region and for it to be attacked by the big 3 carriers without service and the FEDERAL Government is a crime on rural America and all of its constituents. We all deserve more and the right to have air service is so important and you must be heard and you are a stakeholder that has suffered greatly with the loss of daily air service.

There are five Pennsylvania airports currently [among the 110 that are eligible](#) as EAS communities – Altoona, Bradford, DuBois, Johnstown and Lancaster.

The Essential Air Service (EAS) and Small Community Air Service Development program (SCASD) are two programs providing air-service to rural and smaller communities. However, the EAS program is currently closed off to airports who want to join the program, per the 2012 FAA Reauthorization, making the reauthorization bill all the more important.

The efforts of **Rep. Dan Meuser** (R-09), in Congress has always been to help rural airports like ours and to ensure that individuals living in middle America can easily, affordably get to the rest of the world, while simultaneously reducing congestion at our Nation's major airports. Regional airports serve a great purpose for air travel not only for convenience, stress free travel but as an economic catalyst for so much more development and growth objectives.

Independent studies have validated for decades that locally controlled small and midsize airports are truly economic engines and the impact on the economy have shown that some of these airports have impacted their region in excess of nearly \$5 billion annually.

(News provided by [Ontario International Airport](#) Aug 11, 2026, 08:00 ET)

These studies confirm without question that travelers, businesses and communities all agree that regions become powerful economic engines with strong regional airports and without them growth stagers. Airports support jobs, gross domestic product, educational uplift of an area and total efforts of an area in tourism, aid in turnarounds of regions in blight and recovery. Passenger movements, cargo movement, life saving flights all happen at WRA.

I can tell you that your airport under the local authority has accountability, professional management, and a long-term commitment to this region and demonstrated by its history and its track record in service is not a burden but a catalytic winner. The dedicated airport professionals align themselves with airline partners, public safety agencies, business and educational partners and the communities in which we serve besides all levels of government.

We are the epicenter for the largest natural gas deposit in the world and home to some major industries including Shop Vac, Spartronics, world leaders in mission critical military and medical

electronics, Stellant, the best electronic equipment and services including airport radar systems, Textron Lycoming, home of the Lycoming aircraft engine, Construction Specialties, First Quality Paper Manufacturing plants, Kellogg, Frito Lay, West Pharma, LeClerc Manufacturing, Bimbo Bakeries and so many and much more that the list would overwhelm you.

The gateway to the beautiful Allegheny Mountains, Appalachian trail, the Susquehanna River, the Lycoming and Loyalsock creeks, and its tributaries and for sure some of the best hunting, fishing, hiking expeditions, that the world has to offer right here in our backyard. The rails to trails and the gateway to the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon. The visitors and tourists to these attractions deserve air travel and air connections into and out of Williamsport.

The airport is an economic engine increasing economic output yearly, aiding in gross domestic product out of this area, job growth of our area both at the airport and surrounding counties, and tax revenues from airport related activities and jobs.

You have to look at our area as a total ECO SYSTEM and the gateway to NORTHCENTRAL PA. This ecosystem needs healthcare, needs arts, needs businesses, needs highways and infrastructure to support modern transportation, needs educational systems from PRE-K thru higher education and airport is part of that. The important role that IPT air service plays in the economies of North Central PA is always understated.

The Airport's greatest achievement over the past decade wasn't simply its growth. It was becoming an institution whose success is sustained by strong leadership, dedicated employees and a shared regional vision that could sustain a pandemic and weather the storm and move forward down a path to real sustainability, while the overall industry is evolving and changing ever more so with PILOT SHORTAGES, FAA SHORTAGES AND EQUIPMENT SHORTAGES, AIRCRAFT SHORTAGES, MANDATORY RETIRMENT BUBBLES CREATING UNPRECEDENTED EDUCATIONAL TRAINING ISSUES FOR PILOTS, MECHANICS AND CONTROLLERS,

THE Airport has never been better positioned to serve NCPA and to strengthen the local economy and continue creating opportunity for the communities, businesses and travelers who depend on us.

WITH A LOCAL BOARD WHO TAKES OWNERSHIP THAT DOES NOT QUIT AND IS INVESTED IN THE REGION AND TAKES THE AREA SERIOUSLY AS IT IS THEIR AREA, THEY DON'T EVER STOP FIGHTING FOR THE OPPORTUNITIES. THAT IS WHAT IS HAPPENING BEFORE YOU. MOST COMMUNITIES WOULD HAVE GIVEN UP, NOT IPT/WRA THE FIGHT AND PLAN IN PLACE WAS EXECUTED TO THE TEE. TO KEEP TSA AT THE AIRPORT BRIDGE THE GAP, SPEND THE RESOURCES AND ENERGY SHORT TERM TO KEEP FLYING AND TO RETURN TO THE DAYS OF GLORY OF 50 TO

60,000 EMBARKMENTS. THE STRATEGIC PLAN IS IN PLACE BUT ALL PLANS ALL MISSIONS ARE CRITICAL, MUST BE EXECUTED AND MUST BE NIBLE TO ADJUST AS NECESSARY.

ABOUT WILLIAMSPORT REGIONAL AIRPORT

A SMALL REGIONAL AIRPORT WITH COMMERCIAL AIR SERVICE WITH DEMONSTRATED SERVICE PROVIDED TO MORE THAN 88000 PASSENGERS YEARLY. ONE FIXED BASE OPERATOR LOCATED AT THE AIRPORT, INDEPENDENTLY RUN, ENERGY AVIATION WITH FUELING, FLIGHT SCHOOL AND MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS. HANGAR AND RENTALS SPACES, COORDINATED CHARTERS AND EQUIPMENT LEASING. 3 RUNWAYS AND MANNED TOWERS.

Authority Initiatives

1.Revenue generation

- FBO OPERATIONS -LEASE
- INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS AIR SIDE AND LAND SIDE
- AGGREGATE MINING
- TERMINAL RENTAL SPACE
- PARKING
- LANDING FEES
- PASSENGER FEES

2.PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT -CLEAN FILL AGREEMENT

Facility improvements

- Initiative to fill areas west of FBO to generate additional leasable real estate.
- Initiative to Upgrade all property to generate additional leasable real estate.
- Initiative to ensure that all leases are long term, sustainable and Leaser/Leasee relationships are maintained in the best possible relationships without issue.

3. Project to modify 100-YEAR-old Hangar (99-year lease terminated) exterior to be upgraded, roofing etc., rehaul and refurbishment to be for Anniversary

Removing unnecessary windows.

Roofing and HVAC to be replaced

4. Main ENTRANCE to AIRPORT from Interstate 180 to TERMINAL and FIELD

Safety

Access

Funding

Direct Shoot to airport from Highway

5.EAS initiative/SCASDP (SMALL COMMUNITY AIRSERVICE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM)

- Congressman Meusser leading.

- Expecting support from Congressman Thompson and Perry. Have Senators Fetterman and McCormick on Board

American Airlines leaving the Williamsport airport has been the number one issue that everyone is talking about in the community. The pilot shortage, the equipment (Planes) and part shortage is not something that is a quick fix-itself-issue. There is no one answer or quick fix approach. We need everyone to assist our community in this fight to restore air service. The airport is open and is ready for business now more than ever. We are serving corporate, charter and private aircrafts on a regular basis and have handled the Little League Baseball charter flights and the Major League Baseball Charter flights without incident. We are a strong busy airport in Pennsylvania, and aircraft operations remain viable, with Life Flight, MediVac, Angel Flights and the Federal Prisons flying in and out daily. The economic impact from the loss of our commercial flights is being felt and the revenue and loss of employment and secondary employment and contributory employment and impact is a reality. We must restore commercial air service and the efforts have not stopped since American stopped flying. The business community and leisure traveler that utilizes the airport for work and vacation travel has been drastically impacted. Costing them time and money to have to travel much distance for connections and rearrange schedules. It is a huge inconvenience for both sectors.

MORE THAN \$50 MILLION DOLLARS INVESTED LOCALLY AT THE AIRPORT IN THE LAST 10 YEARS.

We as a County Airport Authority have invested in our regional airport with a new state of the art debt free terminal with an investment of more than \$16 million dollars, we have invested in our runways and approaches more than \$13 million dollars and over the last 2 years are investing another \$19 million in infrastructure, improvements and general aviation additions and improvements to ensure that we are the airport of choice. We need a connection to the rest of the country, our businesses need a connection in and out of Williamsport Regional, our leisure traveler needs a connection in and out of Williamsport Regional. Our performance as a region and an airport not only speaks for itself but together, we have outshined all other areas. The airport opened in 1929 during the great depression and we will be open for business 100 years later and still be flying.

STAY TUNED AND AS THEY SAY LISTEN CAREFULLY TO THE FACTS AND WATCH THE HEADLINES FOR THE LATEST NEWS IT WILL BE BIG. IPT IS READY FOR BUSINESS AND WE WANT YOU TO FLY WITH US, WE ARE HERE FOR YOU TO USE AND TO ENJOY.

IT'S ABOUT CONVENIENCE.

Leachate Information:

We have implemented grade control on the lifts of the garbage being placed, which is the top of the cover soil when we get up to grade. We are focused on using dirt for cover now instead

of shale that was being used. This helps keep rain water as storm water and doesn't go into the leachate system. We have a long way to go, but the operators have learned how to be much better at controlling grades with the GPS systems and ultimately influencing where storm water runs off the cover dirt and not just letting everything run into the leachate system. Complicated process, but we are making good progress and with more success, we should lower the annual leachate generation number by 15-20%.

So currently we aren't recirculating any leachate via the levels haven't pushed us to do it right now, but when our levels were high, we would send 4-8 tanker (truck already owned by RMS) truckloads of leachate back to the top landfill and dump it back into the garbage. As it percolated don't through the garbage 10-20% gets lost in the biological process and helps the dryer garbage produce ore landfill gas, that we sell.

Another thing we have changed is the chemical we run through the leachate force main. Over time, leachate can create hard layers (like shale) inside of the pipes and create "scale". The chemical that was being used before acted like a softener for the scale but didn't clean the pipe. This softener chemical cost roughly \$26,000 a tote. The new chemical we are running is a descaler. Over time it breaks down the scale in the pipe and will keep and scale from building back up. A tote of the chemical cost roughly \$7500. We had to use a few totes to start the process but we are dialing back the chemical flows to a steady flow rate now.

If the new chemical continues working, it will extend the life of the current leachate force main line significantly. RMS had a new force main budgeted for this year, and it would've cost 1.5 million dollars minimum and the design was not in the right location anyhow.