



County of Lackawanna

Lackawanna County
Administration Building
200 Adams Avenue
Scranton, Pennsylvania
18503

Meeting Minutes

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, September 7, 2016

10:00 AM

Commissioner's Conference Room

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05am.

Present 3 - Patrick M. O'Malley, Jerry Notarianni and Laureen A. Cummings

Reading and Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Patrick O'Malley, seconded by Commissioner Laureen Cummings, to Dispense with the Reading and Approve as Prepared. The motion carried by the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Patrick O'Malley, Jerry Notarianni and Laureen Cummings

Proclamation Presentation

[16-0248](#)

Proclamation declaring September 7, 2016 as "Monsignor Joseph Quinn Day" in Lackawanna County.

Presented

[16-0249](#)

Good Works Certificate of Recognition for the S.T.A.R.S. (Students That Attend Regularly Succeed) Community Campaign.

Presented

[16-0250](#)

Small Business Spotlight: Electric City Escape, Scranton

Presented

Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board (Agenda Items Only)

Departmental Overview: Area Agency on Aging

Rebecca Munley: dedicated staff, whose primary focus is to empower and advocate for the elderly.

Lackawanna County Government Center Update

Andrew Wallace: Last week two substantive meetings were held with the Commissioners regarding the Government Center at the Globe Store, plans were reviewed and a discussion of financing for the center, proposals were

reviewed, and comparisons were made regarding either bank financing vs. bond financing. After careful analysis, a decision will be made by the Commissioner within the next two weeks. In addition, professional contract services for Architect and Engineering will be voted on at today's Commissioners meeting, as is on our agenda.

An Executive Session was held on Friday September 2nd, at 12:15pm, a conference call with Attorney William Warren from Saul Ewing, occurred to discuss professional contracts for Architectural and Engineering services for the Lackawanna County Government Center. The contracts are placed before the Board for consideration at today's meeting, and Attorney Warren is here to answer any questions.

Attendees: Comm. Patrick O'Malley, Comm. Jerry Notarianni, Comm. Laureen Cummings, Chief of Staff Andy Wallace, Chief Solicitor John Brazil and CFO Tom Durkin

An Executive Session was also held on, Friday September 2nd, at 12:30pm, with Comm. Patrick O'Malley, Comm. Laureen Cummings, Chief of Staff Wallace, Solicitor John Brazil, CFO Tom Durkin, to discuss potential purchase of real estate for Lackawanna County. The Board authorized Solicitor Brazil to contact a real estate agent to ascertain whether a six month purchase option on a property could be exercised.

In addition, Atty. Don Frederickson is here as Solicitor to the Board, and also we have an intern here from the University of Scranton, Anne Graefe, she is interning in Human Resources with Deputy Director Loughney.

Ordinances - First Reading

[16-0243](#)

Authorizing the Tax Claim Bureau to Extend or Defer the Time for the Discharge of Tax Claims for Elderly Property Owners

Introduction of First Reading

Ron Koldjeski: to extend payments for delinquent taxes for the elderly, those with serious illness, and unemployed-must be a permanent resident of PA, reside on Lackawanna County. Application process with AAA, Tax Claim, Human Services; a lot of elderly people on the County, who have trouble paying their taxes, we need tax reform in Pennsylvania.

Resolutions

[16-0244](#)

Approving Current Payables

Attachments: [3H505NBX](#)
[3H505NBZ](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Patrick O'Malley, seconded by Commissioner Laureen Cummings, that this Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Patrick O'Malley, Jerry Notarianni and Laureen Cummings

16-0245

Entering into a Service Agreement

Attachments: [Shred-IT - Lackawanna County Location Addendum#1 - Domestic Relations](#)
[Shred-IT - Lackawanna County Master Agreement](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Patrick O'Malley, seconded by Commissioner Lauren Cummings, that this Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.

Kevin Mitchell: two year agreement for Domestic Relations

Aye: 3 - Patrick O'Malley, Jerry Notarianni and Lauren Cummings

16-0246

Entering into an Agreement with Globe Digital Business Services

Attachments: [globedigitalcontract](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Patrick O'Malley, seconded by Commissioner Lauren Cummings, that this Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.

Mauri Kelly: project to include scanning and imagining of criminal docket books- over 19 books, to take two months to complete, will preserve the aged books, the data dates back to the beginning of the County.

Aye: 3 - Patrick O'Malley, Jerry Notarianni and Lauren Cummings

16-0247

Entering into an Amendment with Tyler Technologies

Attachments: [20160824 Lackawanna Cover](#)
[0507-16A1F 0824 Ent CAD Upgd \(16A5J 0824\)](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Patrick O'Malley, seconded by Commissioner Lauren Cummings, that this Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.

Dave Hahn: last of the major upgrades to the Center- CAD upgrade to current system. To enhance the services to EMS, Fire and Police; adding a mobile app for the police cars, ability to do reports and run license plates and print tickets from the vehicles- providing the service, not the computer. CAD mapping, and messaging, dispatch, fire equipment searches, HAZMAT searches, etc. Approx. one year to complete.

Aye: 3 - Patrick O'Malley, Jerry Notarianni and Lauren Cummings

16-0251

Abatement of Delinquent Real Estate Taxes in Taylor

Attachments: [Abatements Taylor](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Patrick O'Malley, seconded by Commissioner Lauren Cummings, that this Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.

Ron Koldjeski: the school district and the borough have abated the taxes on the property.

Aye: 3 - Patrick O'Malley, Jerry Notarianni and Laureen Cummings

[16-0252](#)

Entering into an Agricultural Conservation Easement

Attachments: [Solicitor signature](#)
[State-Only Agreement-Ankiewicz](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Patrick O'Malley, seconded by Commissioner Laureen Cummings, that this Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.

Jerry Stiles: The Todd Ankiewicz farm is an 85 acre crop farm in Benton Township, Lackawanna County. This is a state funded easement purchase.

Aye: 3 - Patrick O'Malley, Jerry Notarianni and Laureen Cummings

[16-0253](#)

Entering into an Assignment and Assumption Agreement

Attachments: [Assignment and Assumption Agreement](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Patrick O'Malley, seconded by Commissioner Laureen Cummings, that this Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.

Donald Frederickson: there is a sewer line that comes down Montage Mt Road, services the montage area, we own the line, and it treats sewer for Moosic, because of the location, it was cheaper to run the line and service it through Scranton- so this is a joint agreement now, and they are signing this line over to the PA American Water Company, which will now treat the sewage if the deal goes through.

Aye: 3 - Patrick O'Malley, Jerry Notarianni and Laureen Cummings

[16-0254](#)

Entering into a Design Services Agreement

Attachments: [Lackawanna County - Design Services Agreement Part1](#)
[Lackawanna County - Design Services Agreement Part2](#)
[Lackawanna County - Design Services Agreement Part3](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Patrick O'Malley, seconded by Commissioner Laureen Cummings, that this Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.

William Warren: special counsel for the County for off/on 20 years- this agreement is tailored for the County's needs, standard AIA documents with alterations to suite PA contracting needs and requirements. Expansion of basic services-county needs a full understanding of costs associated; the fees themselves are reasonable fees, have secured reduction in fees from Palumbo and GPI; invoices and payment terms are 60 days. Very comfortable with this agreement and the relationship with the firms.

Aye: 3 - Patrick O'Malley, Jerry Notarianni and Laureen Cummings

Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board

Joan Hodawalitz, Scranton: Board/ Authority Board meetings, COLTS board issues, county level boards are appointed by the Commissioners, and once appointed, they are independent and don't report to you anymore. How do you decide who is appointed?

- Commissioner Patrick O'Malley Motion to enter into Executive Session. Commissioner Laureen Cummings seconded the Motion.
- Executive session entered into at 11:20am.
- Public meeting resumed at 11:26am.

Mike Catanzaro, Childs: Budgets-make it more user friendly. List the county bond debt by the maturity date, original principal amount, owned, and the payments-now you have to take the payment and work backwards with the interest and principal. It seems easy enough to fix this budget. What are the taxes paying for and what are the grants a fees paying for? Why are we paying a 2.82 mil library tax, and an additional Culture and Ed. Tax? These organizations receive federal funds, should be paid out of the general fund- the tax brings in 1.4 million, should not be a dedicated tax. Why is there no property tax decrease- there has been millions in savings over the past few years. Using funds from gambling revenues, and now we are paying for forecloses. Sell the county prison- costs over 20 million per year. County reassessment-property taxes will triple, school taxes will double.

Commissioners' Other Business

Commissioner Laureen Cummings: I wish that more people were interested in government, and I am hoping that when we do fill some of the seats, we get people who are truly interested in serving. Thank you for all coming and bringing it to all of our attentions. We went into executive session for a few questions on the budgets, and it will be brought up at a future meeting. The faster we get along with this project, we can save money. Update- September 21st, Commissioners out of office meeting in Old Forge Borough, and November 2nd will be at the Covington Twp Building.

Commissioner Jerry Notarianni: Boards and Authorities, will try to get quality people to serve. As far as the Land bank /reassessment- a lot of that is misconception. There is state law restricting the amount of money, there would be increases to the elderly, and we are one of two counties in the Commonwealth that haven't reassessed is beyond understanding. Business coming into the area look at that-they feel that there is something wrong there. Some states are mandated to reassess every three year, and I don't want to be unfair, I don't think it will have an effect ton most people. Some people abuse the system, and are not paying their fair share- it has to be done properly and fairly, I am just as concerned about the elderly, and they can't afford to pay anymore. It's something we should at least explore.

Commissioner Patrick O'Malley: the boards/authority members serve set terms, and they filed Statements of Financial Interest. County government is effective and efficient, and we will not be raising taxes, if you do a decrease, next year if something comes up, then we will increase taxes again, I believe in

holding the line on taxes. I know all of us in this room knew Robert "Ozzie" Quinn, he really cared about the people, I want to thank his family. Rail fest, Italian Fest last weekend- hotels filled, this is such a great economic impact. Sunday is the 15th Anniversary of 9/11.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Patrick O'Malley, seconded by Commissioner Laureen Cummings, that this be Adjourn ed at 11:47am. The motion carried by the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Patrick O'Malley, Jerry Notarianni and Laureen Cummings