



County of Lackawanna

Lackawanna County
Administration Building
200 Adams Avenue
Scranton, Pennsylvania
18503

Meeting Minutes

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, August 2, 2017

10:00 AM

Commissioner's Conference Room

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:03am.

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

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

No comments

Resolutions

17-0203

Approving Current Payables

Attachments: [3H5078LG](#)

[3H5078LH](#)

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

Commissioner Cummings: abstaining due to a CCAP conference payment, that I went to-payment to me.

Aye: 2 - Patrick O'Malley and Jerry Notarianni

Abstain: 1 - Laureen Cummings

17-0202

Approving a Project for Pennsylvania LTC

Attachments: [DOC003](#)

[DOC064](#)

[TEFRA Approval \(Lackawanna County Commissioners Resolution\) - Pennsylvania LTC, Inc. 2017 DMEAST 30115203\(1\)](#)

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.

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

17-0131

Appointments to the Multi-Purpose Stadium Improvements Board

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.

Aye: 2 - Patrick O'Malley and Lauren Cummings

Nay: 1 - Jerry Notarianni

17-0204

Approving a Change Order

Attachments: [signed Motion McDade Park](#)
 [pay app #1 with CO#1 #2 7-24-17](#)

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.

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

Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board

Joan Hodawanitz, Scranton: Children's Library events; turning on the water for the near homeless in Archbald- glad the son has reimbursed the county-is there a written policy for the conditions under which you would provide that assistance again, for private citizens? That is more appropriate for non-profits to provide. You have a responsibility, and that doesn't fit into the budget. Only common sense for you to tell us how you are going to handle events in the future.

Martina Sodine, Library: Jason Miller film series in the month of August.

Commissioners' Other Business

Commissioner Lauren Cummings: Archbald water situation- over 40 families, and the office of Children and Youth were brought in, because there were over 25 children- and our director called it a 'critical crisis' and had placement been required, it would have cost \$1000 a day per child, and we were looking at those costs as well. We went up the next day, quite a scene- and it's not over. I am concerned that if issues are happening all over the county, and we aren't aware of it. The family came here, and are trying to rectify the situation.

Solicitor Don Frederickson: the CYS budget has a line item, and it is not the first time that that office has paid to keep families together, to cover these kind of emergencies, and there budget is 80% covered by the State. And also, the policy question, we go by the OYFS policies and procedures, since it came out of their budget.

Solicitor John Brazil: also, the water had been shut off a few days before, so the kids were up there without water for days. It must be clear, this is a one-time thing, so the Dept of Human Services could have a little breathing room to get them help, and otherwise they would all be in foster care.

Solicitor John Cerra: water is life- and the Red Cross was there, but I don't think they had the capabilities to handle it.

Commissioner Laureen Cummings: and it was really devastating- there wasn't any water buffalo up there. We are working 24/7. They delivered the water buffalo at 1am.

Commissioner Jerry Notarianni: we just have to question how it gets to that point at the trailer park- OYFS have been involved there for years, and it's not the first time that this has happened. I spoke to the Mayor and Council members, they have been trying to deal with this place for ever- they the park owes a considerable amount of taxes. We put a band aid on it, and we hope the elected official in Archbald can help get it resolved, and get it done properly.

Commissioner Patrick O'Malley: we stepped up to the plate to make sure that there was water there- we looked at all different avenues- we spoke to the emergency serve department of the water company, and they said, 'we will see you tomorrow when you bring the check'. We brokered a deal- we were working all night long on this. I was going to pay with my own credit card, but the company wouldn't allow it- our biggest concern was that those kids didn't have any water, and we made sure of it, and that's the way it should be- our government is here to protect the people. When Harrisburg didn't come through with a budget two years ago, the county was able to fund all the departments, those dependent on the State, well we made sure it was going to happen. The owner was a derelict landlord, and those issues never came across our desk.

3 on 3 basketball tournament- great weekend- and our Rail Riders are at 69 wins- 1st in the East Division. AAA World Series at PNC Field- come cheer them on. NEPA Air Show next weekend! After a 17 year hiatus- please come out. Downtown movies- free on the Courthouse on Thursdays. Please be safe, and enjoy your summer.

Adjournment

A motion was made that this be Adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote.

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