



County of Lackawanna

Lackawanna County
Government Center
at The Globe
123 Wyoming Ave
Scranton, Pennsylvania
18503

Meeting Minutes

Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, September 4, 2019

10:00 AM

Commissioner's Conference Room

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:06am.

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 Presentations

[19-0220](#)

Proclamation Declaring September 2019 as "Suicide Prevention Awareness Month" in Lackawanna County.

Presented

[19-0221](#)

Small Business Spotlight: Vintage Kitchen, Scranton

Presented

Convention & Visitors Bureau Overview

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

No comments

Ordinances - Second Reading

[19-0209](#)

Ordinance #261

Disposition of Opioid Settlement Monies

A motion was made by Patrick O'Malley, seconded by Laureen Cummings, that this Ordinance be Adopted on Second Reading. The motion carried by the following vote.

Commissioner Laureen Cummings-this is so future commissioners can't take

this money and spend it elsewhere-no general funding.

Atty Don Frederickson- money would have to go toward our social service agencies, and treating additional funding of addiction in the future, not toward fixing roads.

Atty John Cerra- like the tobacco fund, was supposed to be used for specific purposes, was used for other purposes. Treatment for this will never end. We thought, it might be more prudent, to limit it to just treatment going forward, the wording of this ordinance, leads me to think that it might just be used to plug a budget. I think it's been done with the tobacco funds statewide. If the fund sits there, so what, given the nature of the problems, I see continued expenses going forward.

Atty Don Frederickson - the reason we drafted it this way, the lawsuit we filed vs the Purdue Pharmaceutical Company seeks reimbursement for money we spent already through our social service agencies, for our part of the settlement is for reimbursement we have spent on addiction services. If we limit it, it might hinder our damages going forward.

Commissioner Lauren Cummings- thank you to my fellow commissioners for your continued support in this issue.

Atty Don Frederickson - the lawsuits across the country are having an effect on doctors and pharmacies, with the liability increasing.

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

Resolutions

19-0219

Approving Current Payables

Attachments: [3H50APVU](#)
 [3H50APVT](#)

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

Controller Gary DiBileo- no bills for the AG probe. A few UNC payables through the Clerk of Judicial Records and WDB and AAA and the Homeless Assistance Program. We have been holding a \$15,000 check for UNC from June- Homeless supportive housing.

Commissioner Lauren Cummings- I'm not looking at the agency, I'm looking at the department itself.

Atty Don Frederickson - we need to make a motion to include the \$15,000 check that has been held since June, add that to the motion to approve the payables.

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

19-0210

Entering into a CWIS Data Sharing Agreement

Attachments: [OYFS-CWIS Agreement 10-1-19 to 9-30-20](#)

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

[19-0211](#)

Approving the Human Services Block Grant

Attachments: [HSBG Plan FY 2019-2020 Budget Detail](#)
 [HSBG Plan Narrative FY 2019-2020](#)
 [DHS-HSBG Assurance of Compliance for FY 2019-20 Plan](#)

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.

Commissioner Lauren Cummings- medical marijuana foster parents- can they have a medical card, and still be foster parents?

Bill Browning- we haven't had that issue arise yet.

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

[19-0212](#)

Entering into a Service Agreement with Chester County

Attachments: [OYFS-Chester County Detention Bed Agreement FY 2019-2020](#)

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

[19-0213](#)

Entering into an Agreement for the Employment Advancement and Retention Network Project

Attachments: [EDSI FINANCIAL AGREEMENT #EARN-01-PY2019 with Payment Schedule](#)

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

[19-0214](#)

Entering into an Agreement with Res-Care, Inc.

Attachments: [ResCare FINANCIAL AGREEMENT #WIOA-02-PY2019 with Payment Schedule](#)

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 Laureen Cummings

[19-0215](#)

Entering into an Agreement with Educational Data Systems Inc.

Attachments: [EDSI FINANCIAL AGREEMENT #WIOA-01-PY2019 with Payment Schedule](#)

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

[19-0216](#)

Entering into an On-Line Data Processing Service Agreement with Infocon Corporation

Attachments: [Infocon Contract](#)

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

[19-0222](#)

Appointment to the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority

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

[19-0223](#)

Appointment to the Convention and Visitors Bureau

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

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

Motions

[19-0217](#)

Motion to award the 'Interior Demolition and Restoration of the First Floor of the Bank Towers Building' to Sean Byrne Construction, the lowest and most responsible bidder at \$29,954.00.

Attachments: [SLHDA Bids](#)

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

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

[19-0218](#)

Motion to authorize Nasser Real Estate to list for sale the properties:

Tax Map #	Street Name	Acreage
22002010007	"Off of Lehigh Rd"	7.49
2200201000701	"Lehigh Rd"	66.1
22004020002	"Lehigh Rd"	80.75
22801010023	"Freytown Rd"	8.08
17004050001	"Front St"	51.12
18105010001	"Smith St"	19.08
18002030040	"Front St & Simmerson Rd"	1.51
21304020005	"Lehigh Rd"	30.40
22103010000301	"Off of Lehigh Rd"	30.40
18105010001	"SR 435" Commercial Parcel	2.54

Attachments: [LackawannaCounty Nasser Real Estate](#)

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

Commissioner Jerry Notarianni- this is just to list the properties?

Atty Don Frederickson – yes-if they get an offer they come back to the Board for final approval.

Commissioner Lauren Cummings- can any of this be sub-divided? If someone comes to the county and asks for it; also, will be advertising this on our website?

Atty Don Frederickson – the county can't go through the expense of sub-dividing it. That's an expense, you would have to approve it, and we would have to have it surveyed, have maps drawn up, and have it approved by the local zoning board and such. And yes we can have a connector or something on our website. Nasser appraised all these last year.

Commissioner Lauren Cummings-why do we have all this land, these properties, when did we purchase them?

Atty Don Frederickson – These properties were acquired over the decades.

Commissioner Jerry Notarianni- Why are they just appearing now?

Commissioner Patrick O'Malley- Economic Development brought this to our attention.

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

Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board

Joan Hodawanitz, Scranton- SLHDA bid, was 1/3 of what Bank Towers surmised. Cost of new government center- need a concrete number and not a

generalization. Tax payers need to know- we are 9 months into this New Year. 200 Adams closing- taxes? Prison guard charges dropped- he wants his job back- will he be entitled to back pay, now that the charges were dropped.

Commissioner Laureen Cummings-the Bank Towers bids don't include the carpet removal though.

Commissioner Patrick O'Malley- I will try and get you a real number, on the Globe, for next meeting.

Atty Don Frederickson - scheduled to close on September 30th. It is a personnel matter, but, the commissioners made a decision to terminate once they were charged, now for this individual the charges were dropped, so there is a possibility of back pay.

Joan- Another guard, put on admin leave, is he back to work? I filed a RTK for all three taxing authority's hiring policies. Jobs posted should be open to all qualified people. But you can't apply for a vacancy unless you know it exists, which is why I did the right to know. County's hiring policy- here is the response: "the county is an equal opportunity employer, when a vacancy occurs, the job may be advertised in the newspaper or on the website or both. The department head and HR review all the applications received. Many applications are dropped offed, unsolicited, on a daily basis. Interviews are then scheduled with the most qualified candidates who meet the jobs requirements and specifications. For vacancies in union positions, collective bargaining agreement terms are followed in filling the internal positions." It should be opened to every qualified taxpayer. We don't advertise everything- I see advertisements for other counties in our paper, and for local teachers. The younger generations need the opportunities in the area to apply for vacancies that come up- if you compare the government vs the private sector locally, its good. Best person to get the job- need to aggressively advertise.

Commissioners' Other Business

Commissioner Laureen Cummings-congrats to Joan on city council, trying out. Jobs in the paper. Example- the Sheriff- he's an elected official, and he seeks to hire employees coming out of the graduating classes at Lackawanna Cadet; as do other elected officials, as they have 1620 Rights, and they have the right to hire, fire and supervise. It's not as easy as people think, when dealing with county factions. People come in, at least 50 a week, with applications in the HR department, and they do get positions here. Then HR will give the director a stack of applications and resumes that we have, and then they interview, and if they don't, then they can advertise. The Unions, Collective bargaining issues, have their own set of rules and issues with part time workers. Lots of answers as to why it wasn't advertised; I guess you need to ask who approved the hire. I do want to make sure we have the most qualified, and that young people apply; there are of course some people hired that I don't agree with. If there is a specific question about hiring let us know. Glad to see we are getting rid of those properties we have that we don't need; hope the kids have a great back to school.

Commissioner Patrick O'Malley- collecting taxes for the city- a meeting is set up with the administration to discuss it. This upcoming Saturday at McDade Park is the cross country invitational- over 20 districts involved. 9/11 McDade

Park Memorial Service. September 13th- Blood Drive At The Globe Store. September 14th is Heroes' Day at 911. Good luck to all the kids for the beginning of the school year, and with any sports they are involved in. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Patrick O'Malley, seconded by Commissioner Laureen Cummings, that this be Adjourned at 12:02pm. The motion carried by the following vote.

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