



County of Lackawanna

Lackawanna County
Administration Building
200 Adams Avenue
Scranton, Pennsylvania
18503

Meeting Minutes Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

10:00 AM

Commissioner's Conference Room

Call to Order

Commissioner Corey D. O'Brien called the meeting to order at 10:05am.

Present 3 - Michael J. Washo, Corey D. O'Brien and Bruce A. Smallacombe

Reading and Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Bruce A. Smallacombe, Commissioner seconded by Michael J. Washo, to Dispense with the Reading and Approve as Prepared. The motion carried by the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Michael J. Washo, Corey D. O'Brien and Bruce A. Smallacombe

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

None

Resolutions

11-0222

Approving Current Payables

Attachments: [EFT 10072011](#)
[September 30 2011 Payroll](#)
[10072011 Check Register](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bruce A. Smallacombe, seconded by Commissioner Michael J. Washo, that this Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Michael J. Washo, Corey D. O'Brien and Bruce A. Smallacombe

11-0221

Approving Area Agency on Aging Provider Contracts

Attachments: [Aging Provider Contract 11-12 -1](#)
[Aging Provider Contracts 11-12-2](#)
[Aging Provider Contracts 11-12-3](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Bruce A. Smallacombe, seconded by Commissioner Corey D. O'Brien, that this Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Michael J. Washo, Corey D. O'Brien and Bruce A. Smallacombe

[11-0225](#)

Approving an Agreement between the Department of Human Services and the United Neighborhood Centers

Attachments: [Continuum of Care, UNC](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Michael J. Washo, seconded by Commissioner Bruce A. Smallacombe, that this Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Michael J. Washo, Corey D. O'Brien and Bruce A. Smallacombe

[11-0219](#)

Authorizing the Submission of Community Development Block Grant Applications

A motion was made by Commissioner Michael J. Washo, seconded by Commissioner Bruce A. Smallacombe, that this Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Michael J. Washo, Corey D. O'Brien and Bruce A. Smallacombe

[11-0220](#)

Authorizing the Submission of Community Development Block Grant Modifications

A motion was made by Commissioner Michael J. Washo, seconded by Commissioner Bruce A. Smallacombe, that this Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Michael J. Washo, Corey D. O'Brien and Bruce A. Smallacombe

[11-0224](#)

Ratifying a Local Share Assessment Grant Application

Attachments: [Local Share Assessment](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Michael J. Washo, seconded by Commissioner Corey D. O'Brien, that this Resolution be Adopted. The motion carried by the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Michael J. Washo, Corey D. O'Brien and Bruce A. Smallacombe

[11-0226](#)

Appointments to the Lackawanna-Susquehanna Behavioral Health/Intellectual Disabilities/Early Intervention Board

A motion was made by Commissioner Michael J. Washo, seconded by Commissioner Bruce A. Smallacombe, that this Appointment be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Michael J. Washo, Corey D. O'Brien and Bruce A. Smallacombe

Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board

Bill Jones, South Abington TWP- 324 Locust St. Scranton property-what was the fair market value of that property sale?

Ray Nearhood, Scranton-regarding the WiFi, why borrow more money?

Commissioners' Other Business

Solicitor John R. O'Brien- The sale of 324 Locust St was a litigation matter.

Commissioner Bruce Smallacombe-traveling Vietnam Wall at Nay Aug; German and Polish flag raising; Kids Ride for Relief and Family Fun Day at McDade Park. The WiFi will be a good tool for the police departments.

Commissioner Michael Washo-The WiFi is about making the county safer-sending information in "real time" to someone else can be significant in averting a tragedy. We have to do some measured things along the way, in order to move our county forward, so we are able to do things to pull us up other than revenue enhancements which affect the taxpayer; if there is some way to expand business through the system, and then it will diminish the burden for the taxpayer.

In 2003 there was a structural deficit-with a 48% tax increase, which was then accompanied by two tax decreases which cost the county 5 million. The county then went on a spending spree, borrowed 110 million-so any benefit was lost, so any money from the tax increase had to go to fund the debt-the debt was then 19 million. We are attempting to live within our means.

Commissioner Corey O'Brien-This will protect our emergency responders, and gives them the opportunity to see what they are facing. It is an encrypted county-wide wireless network for emergency responders, government, and potentially businesses. It is important. As Commissioner Smallacombe said, there are areas in this county where emergency responders can't listen to the radio on one end, and a mile away can't get the message. Not line of sight technology but fills in the areas of the community where it is difficult to communicate. Will not cost the county any money-being built off county savings in government. Government provides the necessary infrastructure to help provide for jobs. In other areas throughout this country have built out technology infrastructure, we have not, and that puts us at a significant disadvantage. We are not creating the jobs; we are providing the infrastructure to assist. This county should be known as business and environmentally friendly, safe, and a good education system.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Michael J. Washo, seconded by Commissioner Bruce A. Smallacombe, that this meeting be Adjourned at 11:05am. The motion carried by the following vote.

Aye: 3 - Michael J. Washo, Corey D. O'Brien and Bruce A. Smallacombe