

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' WORK SESSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

The Board of County Commissioners met today in their weekly Work Session.

Present at today's meeting were:

Ray D'Agostino, Chairman
Joshua G. Parsons, Vice-Chairman
John B. Trescot
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Lawrence M. George
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR/CHIEF CLERK

Tammy Moyer
DEPUTY CHIEF CLERK

Jacquelyn Pfursich, Esquire
COUNTY SOLICITOR

Also present were:

William Aberts, Deputy Warden
PRISON

Arla Brown, Director of Administration
PRISON

George Custer, Director of Administration
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Carolyn Gabriel, Senior Buyer
PURCHASING

Michelle Gallo, Director
HUMAN RESOURCES

Mark Lauriello, CEO
RETTEW ASSOCIATES

Tom Lisi, Reporter
LNP

John McGrann
LANCASTER CITY RESIDENT

Anna Ramos, Executive Director
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Claudia Shank, Attorney
MCNEES WALLACE & NURICK, LLC

Tim Stuhldreher, Writer
ONE UNITED LANCASTER

Commissioner D'Agostino called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner D'Agostino announced an executive session was held Monday, September 26, 2022 at 10:12 a.m. to discuss a personnel matter.

Commissioner D'Agostino announced approval of the September 29, 2022, Work Session Minutes.

1. Ms. Pfursich, Solicitor, Ms. Shank, Attorney, McNeese Wallace & Nurick, LLC, and Mr. Lauriello, CEO RETTEW, presented Resolution No. 90 of 2022: Authorizing Condemnation Action.

Ms. Shank explained the lawsuit and recommended that the condemnation action would be for the County to take the future Fraternal Order of Police property where the new prison is to be built by eminent domain.

Mr. Lauriello said to build this prison on the Kreider tract requires three properties and the FOP property is critical to the project from an access perspective.

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Commissioner D'Agostino said the necessity for this action seems appropriate.

Commissioner Trescot said taking a property by eminent domain is something he would normally be reluctant to do, however, in this case, the property is needed for the project and it is for the public good. He said he is supportive of this action under this circumstance.

Mr. Stuhldreher had questions about the legal process.

2. Ms. Pfursich, Solicitor, Ms. Shank, Attorney, McNees Wallace & Nurick, LLC, and Mr. Lauriello, CEO RETTEW, presented Resolution No. 91 of 2022: Termination of Agreement of Sale.

Ms. Shank explained that the sale of the property is no longer necessary if it is going to be taken by eminent domain.

3. Ms. Gallo, Director, and William Aberts, Deputy Warden, presented approval of Memorandum of Understanding with the County, Michael Withka and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME).

Mr. Aberts explained that in the past, K9 handlers would be trained at the prison and it would take five to six months. The new process would be that when a new canine is needed, the handler will go to the place where the canine is being purchased and they will receive the training there. It will only take five to six weeks for training and then the handler can come back to the prison and work as a solo duty canine officer. Since this is a rather large cost to the County, Mr. Aberts said he wanted to mirror it like the current bonuses they offer new hires – that if a new hire leaves the county, that money is owed back.

4. Ms. Gabriel, Senior Buyer, and Ms. Brown, presented a Contract Award for Collection Services.
5. Mr. Custer, Director of Administration, presented a Renewal Agreement.
6. Board appointments – Workforce Development Board.

There are 10 nominations for six vacancies with five being for full three-year terms and one vacancy to fill an unexpired term.

Commissioner Parsons said it was good to see so many people apply for positions on the board, which is one of the larger boards and an important one. He said the Commissioners have no control over the board other than to appoint board members and review and approve their budget. He is looking for people who can provide a new direction on the board and is supportive of the new people who stepped forward.

Commissioner Trescot said workforce is important and the board has some interesting requirements of how many people need to be from different parts of the business community.

Commissioner D'Agostino said people are needed to serve who understand what it means to be a board member. He is looking for people who can add to the notion that there is leadership and management over the organization through a board and that is a different experience than a professional career of someone. It is ultimately the board's responsibility that the organization is on the correct path. He said he met with the members who are seeking reappointment and got the sense that there is a little bit of a lack of understanding of what the board members should be doing and their responsibilities. He feels there should be some new people on the board who can work with the staff and chart a course that is beneficial to the taxpayers and citizens of the County.

Commissioner Trescot said he would like to renominate John McGrann above someone like Mike Burke because while a real estate agent may be involved in doing transactions, the real estate industry in terms of construction and manufacturing like what Mr. McGrann is involved in is much more tied into workforce development. He said he would like to have people on the board who do hiring and therefore need to have development.

Mr. McGrann spoke in favor of retaining some of the current experience on the board. He said he found the Workforce Development Board to be a very complicated organization to learn and challenging to become familiar with, especially during the pandemic when there was minimal in-person action and in transition. He said it is only now he feels he has a solid grasp as to the function of the board and thinks retaining some experience is valuable. He also advocated on behalf of Jodi Pace and said she should not be seen as a liability to continue serving on the board because she served during the recently challenging time of transition. He agreed that the way future board members are nominated needs to be improved and focus on sectors that have not been well represented.

7. On motion of Commissioner Parsons, seconded by Commission Trescot, the following appointment was made to the Lancaster County Workforce Development Board for a three-year term.

Rhonda Kurtz.

Motion passed unanimously.

On motion of Commissioner Trescot, seconded by Commission Parsons, the following appointment was made to the Lancaster County Workforce Development Board to a three-year term.

Tom Neely.

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Motion passed unanimously.

On motion of Commissioner Parsons, seconded by Commissioner Trescot, the following appointment was made to the Lancaster County Workforce Development Board to a one-year term to fill the vacancy of an unexpired term of Peter Caddick.

Jodi Pace.

Motion passed unanimously.

On motion of Commissioner Parsons, seconded by Commissioner Trescot, the following appointment was made to the Lancaster County Workforce Development Board to a three-year term.

Kurt Stillwagon.

Motion passed unanimously.

On motion of Commissioner Parsons, seconded by Commissioner D'Agostino, the following appointment was made to the Lancaster County Workforce Development Board to a three-year term.

Mike Burke.

Motion passed.

Commissioner D'Agostino – Yes
Commissioner Parsons – Yes
Commissioner Trescot – No

On motion of Commissioner Parsons, seconded by Commissioner D'Agostino, the following appointment was made to the Lancaster County Workforce Development Board to a three-year term.

Erin Treese

Motion passed.

Commissioner D'Agostino – Yes
Commissioner Parsons – Yes
Commissioner Trescot – No

8. The September 28, 2022, Commissioners' Meeting Agenda was presented with no changes.
9. On motion of Commissioner Parsons, seconded by Commissioner Trescot, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynn Commero, Administrative Secretary
Commissioners' Office