

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' WORK SESSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026

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
Alice Yoder
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Amy M. Campbell
DEPUTY CHIEF CLERK

Jacquelyn Pfursich, Esquire
COUNTY SOLICITOR

Also, present were:

Heather Adams, District Attorney
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Kevin Eswards, Director
PROPERTY ASSESSMENT

Gail Groves Scott
HEALTH POLICY NETWORK

Tom Lisi, Reporter
LNP

Dan Makowski, Prevention Supervisor
DRUG AND ALCOHOL COMMISSION

Ben McCoy, President and CFO
BLUEPRINTS FOR ADDICTION RECOVERY

Becca Moyer, Program Director
BLUEPRINTS FOR ADDICTION RECOVERY

Linda Schreiner, Director
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

Nicole Snyder, Acting Director
DRUG AND ALCOHOL COMMISSION

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

Commissioner D'Agostino announced that the Board of Commissioners met in Executive Session on Monday, April 20, 2026, at 10:43 a.m. to discuss potential Litigation and Personnel matters.

Commissioner D'Agostino announced approval of the April 14, 2026, Work Session Minutes.

1. Heather Adams, District Attorney, presented a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Lancaster.
2. Nicole Snyder, Interim Director, presented Renewal Agreements with Blueprints for Addiction Recovery; Resolution No. 22 of 2026: Allocation of Opioid Settlement Funds, and Resolution No. 23 of 2026: Approval of Opioid Litigation Settlement Funds.

Ben McCoy, President and CFO, and Becca Moyer, Program Director, were present at the Commissioners' request to speak about how they are addressing community concerns at the Blueprints Recovery Center. Mr. McCoy reported on the work completed over the last nine months and outlined several of the major steps they have taken during that time.

**Lancaster County Commissioners' Work Session
Tuesday, April 21, 2026**

Mr. McCoy stated that they began to encounter issues they had not fully foreseen, particularly underestimating the sheer volume of individual encounters the center would host almost immediately after opening, averaging around 1,000 per month. Early on, they recognized a need for more direct communication and collaboration with their neighbors than originally anticipated, as well as the need for a more robust staffing plan and a stronger security plan than what was outlined in their original service description in 2024 when they applied for the grant opportunity through the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs.

They have responded to these impacts with reasonable and consistent effort over the last nine months to validate the concerns of their neighbors and mitigate issues related to the center. They provided direct contact information to neighbors and encouraged them to reach out 24/7; completed a series of revisions to their security policies; installed additional audio and video surveillance equipment outside the building; implemented protocols to restrict access for individuals whose behavior may not be compatible with maintaining broader psychological safety in the neighborhood; incrementally increased staffing levels; recently hired a dedicated security professional, and continued to coordinate extensively with local law enforcement and community partners.

Mr. McCoy noted that some of these steps had to be implemented more incrementally than they would have preferred, as budget impasse issues last year affected their ability to work closely with the state in securing funding to expand project security. As a result, they voluntarily self-funded these efforts over the last nine months.

Commissioner Parsons appreciated both the letter and the comments articulating the steps being taken. He said that even though the County is not funding that particular center, the expectation is that any vendors they contract with take appropriate safety precautions, and that this is not a secondary step, but a primary one.

Commissioner Parsons stated that, from what he has heard regarding neighbors' requests to the city, as well as through direct communication, there are real safety concerns, such as individuals camping out, loitering, and engaging in intimidating behavior toward tenants. Tenants have voiced concerns regarding safety, including instances of threatening behavior; therefore, this is not acceptable for any County vendor.

He added that he appreciates that they have contracted with someone for security and will be watching to see where it goes, and what neighbors continue to report as to whether these measures have been helpful in mitigating their concerns. He noted that the funding impasse has been a challenge for everyone, but if the center is to remain operational, safety and security must be a primary concern.

Commissioner Yoder thanked Ben McCoy for the work he has done over many years and acknowledged that it is difficult work. She emphasized the importance of listening to neighbors and understanding their safety concerns, which she noted he has been doing. Commissioner Yoder also expressed appreciation for his humility in reflecting on what he could have done differently. She added that the shelters this winter increased awareness and understanding that more individuals are experiencing substance use disorder. She said this has helped the community better recognize the issue and consider next steps.

Commissioner D'Agostino appreciated the discussions that have taken place over the past several weeks. He also noted Ben McCoy's candidness, his commitment to moving forward, and his responsiveness to the community.

Gail Groves Scott expressed appreciation for the work Blueprints has been doing. She also acknowledged their apology and their commitment to improving security at the location. She added that she looks forward to receiving more data related to the Opioid Settlement Funds.

3. Linda Schreiner, Director, and Kevin Edwards, Director, presented a Lease Agreement with the Lancaster County Firemen's Association.

Kevin Edwards, Director, addressed Tom Lisi's question about the reassessment notices, stating that notices will be going out in June. Property owners will have a 40-day right to appeal if they disagree with the assessment value.

4. Dan Makowski, Prevention Supervisor, provided an update on the Opioid Settlement Project. He also highlighted data on overdose death rates in Lancaster County.

Mr. Makowski presented the following settlement summary:

- The first nationwide settlements were reached in 2021 with several distributors and manufacturers.
- In 2022, additional nationwide agreements were finalized with pharmacy chains and manufacturers.
- Exhibit E was developed to provide states with a framework of priorities and approved abatement strategies.
- Pennsylvania established the Pennsylvania Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust (the Trust) to

**Lancaster County Commissioners' Work Session
Tuesday, April 21, 2026**

manage and distribute settlement funds across the Commonwealth.

- The Trust also provides oversight and technical assistance to participating counties and subdivisions.

He also outlined programs currently funded through the settlement:

- Prevention Specialists
- Student Assistance Program (SAP) Liaisons
- Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program
- Neonatal Abstinence Coordinator
- Recovery House Scholarship Program
- Pathways to Recovery
- Recovery Capital Program
- Opioid Settlement Project Manager

In conclusion, Mr. Makowski presented the allocation of settlement funds, along with a breakdown of the remaining balance.

Commissioner Parsons appreciated the update. He stated that for years they have talked about identifying the right metrics, and that the most important metric is the number of lives saved. He noted that going from where Joining Forces started in 2017 to the number of deaths in 2025 is remarkable. Commissioner Parsons added that it is a tribute to the work of the Drug and Alcohol Office and all of its partners.

Commissioner Yoder made the following statement:

"I suggest creating an Opioid Advisory Steering Committee that would review OS applications for adherence to the PA Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust – Exhibit E. Once the committee agrees on selected programs, they will be presented to the Board of Commissioners (BOC) for approval.

I suggest that the committee be made up of individuals from several sectors, such as county human services representatives, a Single County Authority representative, medical and legal professionals (including a judge from Veterans, Mental Health, or Drug Court), the District Attorney's Office, prevention providers, treatment providers, recovery support, and community social service agencies.

I suggest having an application process in which interested providers complete an application along with a budget and budget narrative.

The applications will include a section describing how the proposed program ties into Exhibit E and how outcome measures will be collected."

Commissioner D'Agostino expressed his appreciation to Dan Makowski, his team, and all the providers working in the community, noting that their efforts are making a significant difference in people's lives. He stated that he looks forward to having the Advisory Committee, as part of the Drug and Alcohol Commission, bring stakeholders together to discuss future efforts and then bring those discussions back to the Board of Commissioners.

Gail Groves Scott made comments about the presentation.

Dan Makowski addressed questions from reporter Tom Lisi regarding the presentation.

5. April 22, 2026, Commissioners' Meeting Agenda – no changes or corrections.

April 22, 2026, Election Board Meeting Agenda – no changes or corrections.

6. On motion of Commissioner Parsons, seconded by Commissioner Yoder, the meeting was adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Lydia Kovalchuk, Executive Assistant
Commissioners' Office