

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' WORK SESSION MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 10, 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**

**Matthew Acker**  
**DEPUTY TREASURER & DIRECTOR OF TAX CLAIM BUREAU**

**Heather Adams**  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

**Heather Chalfant, Senior Buyer**  
**PURCHASING**

**Carolyn Gabriel, Senior Buyer**  
**PURCHASING**

**Dunkin Hopkins**  
**LANCASTER CITY RESIDENT**

**Tom Lisi**  
**LNP COUNTY REPORTER**

**Dan Nephin**  
**LNP REPORTER**

**Brian Pasquale, Director**  
**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

**Chris Riggs, Chief Deputy**  
**SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Linda Schreiner, Director**  
**PURCHASING**

**Nathan Strubel, Senior Buyer**  
**PURCHASING**

**Lon Wible, Director**  
**OFFICE OF AGING**

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

Commissioner D'Agostino announced the approval of the May 3, 2022, Work Session Minutes.

Commissioner D'Agostino announced that there is no Work Session scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2022, and no Commissioners' meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 18, 2022.

Commissioner Parsons announced that today Lancaster County's birthday today in the year 1729.

1. Ms. Chalfant, Senior Buyer, and Chris Riggs, Chief Deputy, presented an Agreement with Schaad Detective Agency for guard services. Chief Riggs reported that all the available sheriffs are being utilized for court security on a daily basis. Deputies have been reassigned from the security post unit and warrant unit to cover court security shortages. They have also had to utilize supervisor administrators to occasionally assist with court security duties. These reassignments have markedly affected their ability in how they perform their other required responsibilities.

Ms. Pfursich said the modified 90-day contract allows for temporary workers to be utilized and was ratified by the union.

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Commissioner Parsons said the sheriffs are serving MDJ warrants, something no other county in the Commonwealth is doing, and that is taking deputies away from their mission, which is court security. He said that is because the President Judge has an order requiring that and it does not seem like that order is going to change. He said if all the deputies are going to be used for court security, then he will go along with it because he realizes they need the help.

Mr. Nephin asked what the vacancy rate of sheriff deputies is. Chief Riggs responded by saying that is a security issue and he does not want that publicized but did say they are more than 25 percent short.

Commissioner Trescot said he is supportive of the agreement with Schaad Detective Agency.

Commissioner D'Agostino said he has heard from the Sheriff that there are applicants who are being interviewed and is hoping in the next few months there will be an increase in staff in the sheriff's department. Commissioner Parsons said part of the problem is it can take up to a year to train the sheriffs because they can start working.

2. Ms. Gabriel, Senior Buyer, and Mr. Riggs, Chief Deputy, presented an Agreement with Rapiscan for x-ray scanners.
3. Ms. Adams, District Attorney, presented an Agreement with NICE Systems, Inc. for Digital Evidence Transformation.
4. Mr. Pasquale, Director, presented a Grant Agreement with Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) for the Radiation Emergency Response fund.
5. Ms. Schreiner, Director, Presented an Agreement with IB Abel, Inc. for security system and equipment.
6. Mr. Acker, Deputy Treasurer & Director of Tax Claim Bureau, presented an Amended Agreement with Palmetto Posting for rate increase.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the three percent fuel surcharge that will be added to the invoice from Palmetto Posting. Commissioner Parsons said he does not know why the contract would be changed now if it is already in place.

Ms. Pfursich explained that there are not a lot of companies that provide this service and their hands were tied.

Mr. Acker said the County has an 11-year history with the vendor and they are the only known vendor who provides these types of services legally required to sell a property.

Commissioner Trescot said he thinks the amount of the increase is relatively small in relation to the fuel costs in the last six months.

Mr. Acker said what he hopes will only be \$1500 and should be absorbed by the delinquent taxpayers.

Mr. Lisi asked about where Palmetto Posting is based.

7. Mr. Strubel, Senior Buyer, and Mr. Wible, Director, presented an Amended Agreement with the Spanish American Civic Association for Equality, Inc. (SACA) for consumer meals.
8. The May 12, 2022, Commissioners' Meeting Agenda was presented.

Mr. Lisi inquired about the ACLU complaint that was filed regarding the administrative decision to remove the drop box stating the Commissioners' violated the Sunshine Act. Ms. Pfursich said the County does not comment on open litigation.

Commissioner Parsons said they were just served with the complaint this morning and it is clear that this is an administrative matter – drop boxes are not mentioned in the election code. He said this is not about actual facts and he would argue that there is no law that supports their position. He said it is improper to file a motion that virtually has no law supporting it. He said administrative actions do not even have to be discussed at public meetings, but the Commissioners did so because it is a matter of public interest.

Commissioner Trescot, who was opposed to having the drop box removed, wished the ACLU good luck.

9. On motion of Commissioner D'Agostino, seconded by Commissioner Parsons, the meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynn Commero, Administrative Secretary  
Commissioners' Office