



DAUPHIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WORKSHOP MEETING

OCTOBER 29, 2025

10:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Justin Douglas, Chairman
Mike Pries, Vice Chairman
George P. Hartwick, III, Secretary

STAFF PRESENT

Eric Hagarty, Chief Clerk; Vince Paese, Deputy Chief Clerk; Matthew Owens, Solicitor; Mary Bateman, Controller; Christopher Davis, Director of Budget and Finance; Nicolas Barrelet, Human Resources; Robert Morgan, Human Resources; Cassie Rushinski, Human Resources; Edgar Cohen, Director of Facility Maintenance; Doug Marsico, Solicitor; Sharon Jungfer, Risk Manager; Jeff Enders, Director of Public Safety; Chris Corrado, Commissioners' Office; Natalie Burstn, Solicitor; Randie Yeager, Director of Human Services; Anthea Stebbins, Director of Parks & Recreation; Kelly Megonnel, Director of Solid Waste; Judge Royce Morris; Kim Deibler, Children & Youth; Stacie Gillespie, Children & Youth; Fran Chardo, District Attorney; Jennifer Smallwood, Commissioners' Office; Alyson Wert, Commissioners' Office; Jessica Spandler, Commissioners' Office

GUESTS PRESENT

Pamela Parson, Tom Connolly, Tanessa Moten, Pastor Earl Harris

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Douglas, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Everyone observed a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There are three sets of Meeting Minutes that will be considered at next week's Legislative Meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS HELD BETWEEN MEETINGS

Mr. Hagarty reported on Friday, October 24, 2025, an Executive Session was held to obtain the advice of legal counsel regarding the purchase or lease of real property.

On Tuesday, October 28, 2025, an Executive Session was held to obtain the advice of legal counsel regarding personnel matters, economic development grants, bond financing, and the purchase or lease of real property.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were none.

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS/GUESTS

1. Judge Royce Morris and Tanessa Moten - Reach In to Reach Out initiative.

HUMAN RESOURCES – CASSIE RUSHINSKI

Ms. Rushinski asked if the board had any questions about the personnel packet. No questions were asked.

BUDGET & FINANCE – CHRISTOPHER DAVIS, BUDGET DIRECTOR

Mr. Davis reported the Purchase Order Packet will be considered at next week's Legislative Meeting. All items are within their department budget. No questions were asked.

CHIEF CLERK/CHIEF OF STAFF – ERIC HAGARTY

Mr. Hagarty reported there are several items on the agenda today for your consideration. The Great American Outdoor Show item and Solid Waste agreement

with MXI Environmental Services both remain in former business after being tabled last week.

Mr. Hagarty updated the public.

I do want to provide an update for the public, the Board, and our employees about the ongoing impacts of the state budget impasse and federal government shutdown.

County governments across Pennsylvania are experiencing unprecedented impacts due to the simultaneous State budget impasse and Federal government shutdown. These impacts, combined with additional budgetary challenges looming on the horizon for next year, have left Dauphin County with no choice but to take the difficult but necessary step of implementing a hiring freeze for certain departments that do not relate to public safety, prisoner safety, or the administration of free and fair elections.

Additionally, as many folks know, the human services-related programs we provide in Dauphin County are almost entirely paid for with state and federal funds. These are the programs offered by our Area Agency on Aging, our Department of Children & Youth Services, our Department of Drug & Alcohol Programs, and our Department of Mental Health, Autism, and Developmental Programs. These services are absolutely essential and thousands of Dauphin County residents rely on them every day.

Unfortunately, because both the state and federal governments have failed to pass budgets, our reserves of funding for these programs are projected to run out towards the end of November. Unless both the state and federal government resolve their budget impasses very soon, we will have no choice but cease all payments to service providers.

We will also have to take out loans of roughly \$1.5 million per month to avoid having to furlough the over 250 dedicated public servants who work in these departments. These loans will likely cost County taxpayers over \$60,000 per month in interest payments depending on what interest rate we are ultimately able to secure. We have begun initial discussions in order to secure these loans and I expect to have something more formal to propose for your consideration in the next couple of weeks that will preserve these jobs.

We have been able to weather the storm for several months now, but our ability to continue to do so will soon come to an end, and I wanted to be transparent and raise the alarm over this given that we are just weeks away from having to take these drastic steps.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – MATTHEW L. OWENS, ESQ

Mr. Owens stated that all items have been reviewed and approved for your vote today. Mr. Owens asked the board to Table item #3 on the agenda for more review.

TRAINING PACKET

There were none.

MATTERS REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

1. Agreement between Dauphin County (Parks & Recreation) and Alpha Consulting Engineers, Inc., for partial boundary survey services - \$6,250.00.
2. Ordinance #3-2025 – Dauphin County agrees to be the Guarantor for the Dauphin County Economic Development Corporation for various projects not exceeding in the amount of \$1,550,000.
3. Agreement between Dauphin County (District Attorney) and NICE Systems, Inc., for software services – 2-year term - \$258,021.00.
4. Agreement between Dauphin County and BCL Partners, LLC d/b/a Leading Youth for Excellence (LYFE) for LYFE to hold a license to occupy and use the main floor the building used as a residential shelter for dependent and delinquent youth, known as the Herbert Schaffner Youth Center - license fee (to be paid to Dauphin County) of \$309,261.29.

It was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. Pries that the Board approve items #1, #2 and #4, minus #3 listed under Matters Requiring Board Action with the \$9,000.00 adjustment to #1.

Question: Mr. Douglas – Aye; Mr. Pries– Aye; and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. Douglas that the Board table item #3 listed under Matters Requiring Board Action.

Question: Mr. Douglas – Aye; Mr. Pries– No; and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

FORMER BUSINESS

1. Agreement between Dauphin County and National Rifle Association of America to provide security services at the 2026 Great American Outdoor Show from February 1st to February 9th – hourly rates vary from \$30.00 to \$50.00.

It was moved by Mr. Pries and seconded by Mr. Hartwick that the Board move item #1 to vote listed under Former Business.

Question: Mr. Douglas – Aye; Mr. Pries– Aye; and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. Pries that the Board approve item #1 to vote listed under Former Business.

Question: Mr. Douglas – No; Mr. Pries– Aye; and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

2. Agreement between Dauphin County (Solid Waste) and MXI Environmental Services, LLC for purpose of collecting and disposing of household hazardous waste for residents in Dauphin County - \$16,000.00.

It was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. Douglas that the Board remove item #2 from Former Business.

Question: Mr. Douglas – Aye; Mr. Pries– Aye; and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. Douglas that the Board does not support item #2 listed under Former Business.

Question: Mr. Douglas – Aye; Mr. Pries– No; and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

There were none.

COMMISSIONERS' DISCUSSION & ACTIONS

Mr. Hartwick spoke about the SNAP Benefit situation. We need to coordinate with local areas to help the people in the community. There are many county resources that can help you.

Mr. Pries attended the Salvation Army 140th Anniversary and what remarkable job they do for the community. He thanked his oversights for coming with ways to cut money from their budget due to the County deficit. Good luck to everyone running in next week's election and thank you to Chris Spackman and his staff for their work on the

election so far. It couldn't be done without the 1,200 plus volunteers who help out on election day.

Mr. Douglas attended and spoke at the YWCA First Responders breakfast with the focus on domestic violence. He also attended the Salvation Army Anniversary, which was a great event, and he was excited to support them. He attended the Hummelstown Parade, which was a great parade and for those who put it together, great job. He wished everyone a happy and safe Halloween. Get out and vote on November 4th.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Chief Clerk's Office will take care of the Correspondence listed below.

1. Notification from AECOM advising that Mid-Atlantic Interstate Transmission is applying to DEP for General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for stormwater discharges in Londonderry Township.
2. Notification from HRG advising of Act 14 – Municipal Authority of the Township of Lower Swatara Middle School pump station improvements.
3. Notification from Rettew advising DEP Chapter 105 General Permit No. 4 – Outfall; and No. 11- Replacement of Water obstruction in Highspire Borough.
4. Notification from AECOM advising that Mid-Atlantic Interstate Transmission is applying to DEP for General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for stormwater discharges in Londonderry Township – Three Mile Island 500 kV substation expansion project.
5. Notification from BL Companies advising of Acts 14, 67, 68 and 127 for Eden Village of Harrisburg for comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances in the City of Harrisburg.
6. Notification from LIVIC Civil advising of Acts 14, 67, 68 and 127 for 289 Hershey Road for comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances in South Hanover Township.
7. Notification from Transystems advising of Act 14 application to DEP for bridge replacement in Jackson Township.
8. Notification from Verdantas advising of Acts 14, 67, 68 and 127 for application to DEP on behalf of DA-Matamoras LLC for the construction of a solar array in Halifax Township.
9. Notification from Trinity Consultants advising of State Only Operating Permit renewal to DEP for their Crane Clean Energy Center in Londonderry Township.
10. Notification from Rettew advising of DEP of Chapter 105 General Permit No. 5 – Utility Line Stream Crossings in Londonderry Township.
11. Notification from Commonwealth of PA advising of Chapter 102 Permits for Surface Waters Receiving Stormwater Discharge in Derry Township.
12. Notification from Melham Associates, PC advising for Chapter 105 Joint Permit application for water obstruction in Middle Paxton Township.

13. Notification from Pennoni advising of Act 14 to submit National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit application to DEP for Major Amendment in Derry Township.
14. Notification from OES, LLC advising of Air Quality Operating Permit renewal application to DEP for the existing Consolidated Scrap Recycling Inc., facility in the City of Harrisburg.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Dr. Charles Stuart – CEO of PAL Athletic Leadege. They help youth in the community and organize sport teams. They are a staff of 3 and put everything into the kids and community. Spoke about the gaming grants and the issue they are once again dealing with. Last year, they didn't receive grant money. Their application was dropped off on time but at the wrong address. They followed the rules and would like the commissioners to review their application.

JaTanna Parrish – Came to speak about PAL and this great support for her family and the community.

Ann Stuart – PAL support. The Senators will choose their baseball field to receive a makeover. It's sad to see the lack of support from the county.

Edith Cook – PAL support. There is a lot of change in kids that attend this great community organization.

James Jones – He has worked with the youth for years and with PAL for 12 years. We need your support, and we are trying to do the right thing for the community.

Pamela Parson – the budget statement was chilling to hear. We can't use the prison budget as a deficit. We didn't get here because of the prison.

Tom Connolly – PAL support. He would like to have an Election Board meeting next week to discuss the county website and how candidates didn't file on time. He would like this to be investigated.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Pries and seconded by Mr. Hartwick that the Board adjourn; motion carried.