

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' WORK SESSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 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

Lawrence M. George
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR/CHIEF CLERK

Jacquelyn Pfursich, Esquire
COUNTY SOLICITOR

Also, present were:

Benjamin Arnold, Chief Park Ranger
PARKS DEPARTMENT

Vincent Cash, Buyer II
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

Robert Devonshire, Director
GENERAL SERVICES

Darrell Fisher, EMS Chief
EMS COUNCIL – NEW HOLLAND

Michael Fitzpatrick, Communications Director
COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE

Erin Kauffman, 9-1-1 Quality Assurance Specialist
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Todd Kirkpatrick, Director
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING DIVISION

Christopher Leppler, Sheriff
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Tania Maser, Executive Director
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Christopher McKim, Chief of Police and President
EPHRATA PD/LANCASTER COUNTY CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION

Marc Shaffer, Chief Deputy Sheriff
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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, March 2, 2026, at 10:24 a.m. to discuss a Labor matter and a matter of Potential Litigation.

Commissioner D'Agostino announced approval of the February 24, 2026, Work Session Minutes.

Commissioner D'Agostino announced that there is no Work Session scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, 2026, and no Commissioners' Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, 2026.

1. Vincent Cash, Buyer II, presented a Change Order with Conference Technologies.

**Lancaster County Commissioners' Work Session
Tuesday, March 3, 2026**

2. Christopher Leppler, Sheriff, and Michael Fitzpatrick, Communications Director, presented a Renewal Agreement with Cross & Crown.
3. Tania Maser, Executive Director, presented a Memorandum of Understanding with Ware Institute of Civic Engagement.
4. Robert Devonshire, Director, presented Resolution No. 14 of 2026: Budget Adjustment for Mosquito Funds.
5. Jacquelyn Pfursich, County Solicitor, presented an Agreement with PayGOV.US, LLC.
6. Todd Kirkpatrick, Director, and Erin Kauffman, 9-1-1 Quality Assurance Specialist, presented the what3words system, a free and simple global addressing platform. It divides the world into 10-foot-by-10-foot squares and assigns each square a unique combination of three words that never changes. Rather than trying to verbally describe a location, a caller can simply provide three words that enable dispatch to pinpoint their exact location.

Users can download the free app to their mobile device, tap the Locate icon, and share the three-word address displayed on the screen with an Emergency Dispatcher. The dispatcher then enters those three words into the system to identify the precise location and direct Emergency Responders accordingly.

In addition to supporting Emergency Services, what3words can be used to:

- Set a meeting point for family and friends in the event of an emergency
- Share your location at large venues or events
- Mark where your vehicle is parked
- Identify hiking, trail, or camping locations
- Navigate directly to a specific what3words address

The system is designed with safety in mind. Similar-sounding word combinations are intentionally placed far apart geographically to reduce confusion. The app also flags likely errors, such as incorrect word order or language mismatches. What3words does not collect personal data, it identifies geographic squares only. It functions in areas with low signal and can be used with offline maps. The platform supports more than 50 languages and is free to use without purchasing a Pro version.

Darrell Fisher, EMS Chief; Benjamin Arnold, Chief Park Ranger, and Christopher McKim, Chief of Police and President, spoke in support of implementing what3words.

7. March 4, 2026, Commissioners' Meeting Agenda – no changes or corrections.

Commissioner Yoder made the following statement:

“Avian flu is impacting poultry farms here in Lancaster County. According to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, this is a highly contagious disease among birds, often spread by wild birds, and strong biosecurity is the best defense.

As a county commissioner, I want to assure residents that while the risk to the public is low, the PA dept of Ag is working closely with local farmers to monitor the situation and support our agricultural community.

Residents can help by avoiding contact with sick or dead birds, reporting concerns, and practicing good hygiene. Backyard flock owners should take extra precautions to protect their birds.

This is not a direct health threat for most people—but it is a community issue, and everyone has a role in preventing its spread. For more information go to the Pa Dept of Ag website.

Lancaster is proud of being first in a lot of areas. There are two areas we are we do not want to be #1.

Avian flu-highest concentration of bird losses. This will impact food supply and costs.

Measles – Lancaster County has majority of measles cases in the state. Measles is highly contagious and a serious disease. Can lead to hospitalization, long term complication and even death. Make sure your family is vaccinated. Check the PA DOH website for locations in Lancaster County to get free or low-cost vaccines. Call your healthcare provider if you have any questions.”

**Lancaster County Commissioners' Work Session
Tuesday, March 3, 2026**

Commissioner D'Agostino stated that the information Commissioner Yoder mentioned regarding HPAI was provided publicly about a year ago and can still be found on the County's website. Specific information on bird flu and a link to many resources at the Lancaster County Penn State Ag Extension, which has national, and internationally recognized leaders in the industry, including on HPAI.

8. On motion of Commissioner Parsons, seconded by Commissioner Yoder, the meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Lydia Kovalchuk, Executive Assistant
Commissioners' Office