

12/12/2024 Minutes

Chairman Scott Metzger called the meeting of the Lycoming County Salary Board to order at 10:28 am, Thursday, December 12, 2024 in the Commissioners' Board Room, third floor, Third Street Plaza. Other board members present included: Commissioner Marc Sortman, Commissioner Mark Mussina, and Deputy Controller Nicki Gottschall.

Deputy Controller Gottschall made a motion to add the following to the Salary Board Agenda:

- Reverse the November 21st Salary Board action to transition Prison Bail Release Program employees to Lycoming County Courts.

Commissioner Mussina made a motion to add the item. Commissioner Sortman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Deputy Controller Gottschall made the motion to reverse the November 21st Salary Board action to transition Prison Bail Release Program employees to Lycoming County Courts. No one seconded the motion and it failed.

Commissioner Mussina made a motion to approve the December 5, 2024 minutes as submitted. Commissioner Sortman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The following actions were presented for salary board action:

Public Defender:

- Delete Clerk III (PG4) from TDA. Commissioner Mussina made a motion to approve. Commissioner Sortman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- Add Administrative Assistant/Paralegal Trainee (PG6) to TDA. Commissioner Mussina made a motion to approve. Commissioner Sortman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

RMS:

- Delete Administrative Specialist/Training Coordinator (PG6) from the TDA. Commissioner Mussina made a motion to approve. Commissioner Sortman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Deputy Controller Gottschall made the following statement:

“I need to stress how concerned I am with this action. Going back to the November 21st vote and the way it was presented to the salary board and in the courts public comments at that meeting the delineation between probation and bail is being removed by these titles.

Salary board had been told one structure would be in place prior to the first vote, however it has been made clear that is not the structure that will be in place come January.

Many discussions have been had that bail is a pretrial situation and having court, and probation, supervise these employees and clients is counterintuitive. Rushing to put county dollars and employees under the courts in a structure that is not following the basis presented is not good for our employees, budget, the bail clientele or our county citizens and neighborhoods.

Why are we choosing a path of least resistance that will give up revenue, expense control and autonomy of employees when all of the promises made are already being broken or changed before the date of the change from the November 21st vote salary board made?"

Courts:

- Retitle Bail Release Officer to Pretrial Probation Officer (5), PG9/Union. Discussion was had by Adam Welteroth (Bail Release Officer), Adrienne Stahl and the Salary Board. Commissioner Mussina made the motion to have an Executive Session. Commissioner Sortman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Salary Board then went into Executive Session. Commissioner Metzger reconvened the Salary Board meeting. Commissioner Mussina made the motion to retitle the Bail Release Officers to Pretrial Probation Officers (5), PG9/Union with an effective date of 01/01/2025. Commissioner Sortman seconded the motion and Commissioner Metzger voted in favor. Deputy Controller Gottschall opposed the motion.
- Retitle Bail Release Program Manager to Pretrial Probation Officer Supervisor (1), PG10. Commissioner Mussina made a motion to approve. Commissioner Sortman seconded the motion and Commissioner Metzger voted in favor. Deputy Controller Gottschall opposed the motion.

The meeting was adjourned 10:51 am.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "KBloofers". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.