



Local Elected Official (LEO) Board Meeting

December 17, 2025

Union County Government Center
Lewisburg, Pennsylvania

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Local Elected Official (LEO) Board Meeting Agenda

Union County Government Center, Lewisburg
Wednesday, December 17, 2025
9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

9:00 – 9:05	Call to Order and Approval of Minutes	Rob Postal
9:05 – 9:10	Public Comment	
9:10 – 9:15	2026 Workforce Development Board Schedule – Action Needed: Approval of 2026 Schedule	Rob Postal
9:15 – 9:25	Executive Director's Update	Erica Mulberger
9:25 – 9:30	Open Discussion	
9:30	Adjournment/Date of Next Meeting	Rob Postal

- Executive Committee – February 13, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.
- LEO Board Meeting – March 18, 2026 – 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
- WDB/LEO Board Joint Meeting – March 18, 2026 – 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Local Elected Official Board Action Items December 17, 2025

1. Motion to approve the minutes from the September 17, 2025 LEO Board meeting.

Motion:

Second:

2. Motion to approve the Workforce Development Board Schedule for 2026.

Motion:

Second:

Local Elected Officials (LEO Board)

Meeting Minutes September 17, 2025

The Local Elected Official (LEO) Board of Advance Central PA held a meeting Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at the Union County Government Center in Lewisburg, PA.

LEO Board Members Attending

Commissioner Rebecca Dressler, Montour County
Commissioner Angela Harding, Clinton County
Commissioner David Kovach, Columbia County
Commissioner Mark Mussina, Lycoming County
Commissioner Robert Postal, Mifflin County
Commissioner Chuck Steininger, Snyder County
Commissioner Stacy Richards, Union County

LEO Board Members Excused

Commissioner Steven Dershem, Centre County
Commissioner Joe Klebon, Northumberland County

Guests Attending

Jon Dewald
Michele Foust
Dave Zartman

WDB Staff Attending

Allison Grose
Korrie Lucas
Erica Mulberger
Gabi Randall
Kelly Walter
Morgan Whitteker

Call to Order and Welcome

Commissioner Robert Postal opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. and confirmed a quorum was met.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Postal called for a motion to approve the June 18, 2025 meeting minutes previously sent to all LEO Board members.



Commissioner Angela Harding made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 18, 2025 LEO Board meeting. Commissioner Rebecca Dressler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.

Invitation for Public Comments

Commissioner Postal opened the floor for public comments. There were none.

Local Elected Officials Agreement Update

Erica Mulberger, Executive Director of Advance Central PA, provided an overview of the LEO Agreement and an in-depth review of proposed changes to align existing content and terminology with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and the organizational Bylaws, based on direction from the PA Dept. of Labor & Industry Bureau of Workforce Development Administration (BWDA) monitor.

A significant content change proposed for the LEO Agreement that has already been updated in the Bylaws, reduces the required members from each county to help maintain membership ratios.

Other notable changes are the clarification that the term "Chief Elected Official (CEO)" as it is used in WIOA, which is equivalent to the term "Local Elected Official" used locally. Additionally, language referring to the Youth Council as a subgroup of the WDB was removed since it is not required in WIOA.

The proposed language in the LEO Agreement states the LEO Board will collaborate with the WDB to appoint a Youth Committee responsible for making recommendations on youth programming.

Commissioner Postal inquired whether a new LEO Agreement requires signatures from all 27 County Commissioners across the region. Erica explained that in this instance, signatures from the 9 LEO Board members meet the requirements.

Commissioner Richards further inquired about which matters do require all 27 Commissioners. Erica responded that the following require votes from all 27: Bylaw changes, WDB reappointments, and ratification of the auditor.

Commissioner Richards raised a question about the signatures needed when LEO members change. Erica explained that in such cases, the state requires a new signature page within 100 days.

Commissioner Postal suggested changing the title "Chairman" to "Chair", but after discussion, it was decided to retain the current terminology for consistency with the Bylaws, with plans to reflect the change in future updates.



Commissioner Angela Harding made a motion to approve the updated LEO Board Agreement. Commissioner David Kovach seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions.

Executive Director's Update

Erica Mulberger, Advance Central PA Executive Director, provided updates.

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Re-Authorization

There has been no formal movement on the WIOA reauthorization, but ongoing discussions suggest a shift toward a Make America Skilled Again (MASA) block-style funding model. This proposed change could reduce local control and funding, leaving more resources in Harrisburg.

Concerns were raised during a recent House Appropriations meeting, where a proposal was made to eliminate \$1.6 million in Youth funding. While the Senate supports maintaining current funding levels, the House is pushing for cuts to both youth and adult programs, though a vote has not taken place. Advocacy efforts are ongoing to protect these critical funds.

Commissioner Angela Harding shared her positive experience working with youth interns over the summer, noting that when given opportunities, students are actively contributing and making progress. She emphasized the importance of serving youth within local communities and schools, instead of other programs that take students outside of their schools and communities.

Commissioner Postal commented that block grants can sometimes be beneficial because they allow for local discretion in funding allocation. Erica agreed, but cautioned that block grant parameters could result in funds being directed to larger cities such as Philadelphia, potentially never trickling down to rural Pennsylvania.

Multiple LEO members voiced that they will assist with advocacy with direction and information from Erica.

PA CareerLink® locations/State and other partner funding

During PA CareerLink® Awareness Day, Secretary Walker visited The Link and praised its mobile format and the flexibility it offers. Erica noted that while there is no current direction from the state, she anticipates future challenges due to limited funding for all PA CareerLink® locations. As cost-cutting discussions continued, she mentioned some sites may be able to operate effectively in a smaller space.

Commissioner Angela Harding voiced frustration over the loss of rural resources and advocated against the shift of funding toward urban areas. She reminded Erica and the LEO Board to think about county space and partnership as needed.

Commissioner Rob Postal emphasized the necessity of programs and services; it must not be assumed that by closing satellites, individuals can go to a larger site for services so it is critical to have plans that will be both effective and efficient. He further reiterated the importance of staff vetting any major decisions through the commissioners and stressed the need to have multiple contingency plans in place.

Open Discussion

Commissioner Kovach raised concerns about the impact of the state budget not being passed. Erica responded that WIOA funds are currently stable due to carryover but EARN and TANF Youth Development funds are tied directly to the state budget. Staff are closely monitoring expenditures in these funding streams.

Commissioner Kovach also asked whether tariffs are affecting the workforce, and Commissioner Postal noted that the noticeable impact on home builders and others facing uncertainty around material costs.

Date of Next Meetings

Commissioner Postal announced the following upcoming meetings:

- Executive Committee Meeting – October 10, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.
- LEO Prep Meeting – December 17, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.
- WDB/LEO Joint Meeting – December 17, 2025 Meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

With no further business to attend to, Commissioner Postal adjourned the LEO Board at 9:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Walter



Office/Board Coordinator