

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

The second regular meeting of November of the Pike County Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Caridi at 9:00 a.m. at the Pike County Administration Building, followed by the "Pledge of Allegiance" to the flag. A Thanksgiving Prayer was offered by Pastor Ben Willis of First Presbyterian Church of Milford.

PRESENT: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner; Chief Clerk Orben; Solicitor Farley.

Commissioner Caridi interrupted the agenda by introducing Thomas Ryan, who presented each of the Commissioners with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of Vetstock. Mr. Ryan also announced that Vetstock, in partnership with the Commissioners, are continuing with a Veteran's Memorial Monument at Lake Wallenpaupack. Coulby Dunn began the project 10 years ago, fell ill to the effects of agent orange and passed away a few months ago. Vetstock will need to raise \$100,000 for the completion of this project. On June 20, 2015 there will be an event at Malibu Dude Ranch. They are now in the process of selling raffles and are working on fundraising events for January/February. They just received a check from Ehrhardts in the amount of \$500; Palmyra Township has agreed to maintain the site once it is completed. Wayne County has also offered assistance.

Motion: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to recess the Commissioners' Meeting to hold a Public Hearing regarding the 2014 CDBG Application.

Vote: Commissioners Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

A PUBLIC HEARING WAS HELD.

Motion: by Commissioner Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to reconvene the Commissioners' Meeting.

Vote: Commissioners Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

Public Comments/Questions concerning today's agenda.

Motion: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to recess the Commissioners' Meeting to hold a Retirement Board Meeting.

Vote: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

A RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING WAS HELD.

Motion: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to reconvene the Commissioners' Meeting.

Vote: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to approve the November 19, 2014 Agenda.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the November 5, 2014 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to approve the November 5, 6 and 12, 2014 Conference Minutes.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye', except for the November 6th conference for which Commissioner Caridi abstained due to his absence. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to approve payment from **GENERAL FUND (County Bills)**, in the amount of \$264,408.01, subject to further review.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to approve payment from **LIQUID FUELS FUND (sanding/pothole patching)**, in the amount of \$549.54, subject to further review.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve payment from **PC EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INS. FUND**, in the amount of \$38,289.43.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL:

MOTION: by Commissioner Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to change the status of **JEAN IMPERIALE** from a temporary Site Manager to a permanent part time Site Manager for the Area Agency on Aging, for less than 1000 hours per year, effective November 13, 2014, with no benefits. This is a replacement position.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

Motion: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to recess the Commissioners' Meeting to hold a Salary Board Meeting.

Vote: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

A SALARY BOARD MEETING WAS HELD.

Motion: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to reconvene the Commissioners' Meeting.

Vote: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to reappoint Peter Helms as Public Director and Michael Mancino as Farmer Director on the Pike County Conservation Board for a four-year term ending December 31, 2018.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to reappoint Commissioner Richard A. Caridi as Commissioner Director on the Pike County Conservation Board for a one-year term ending December 31, 2015.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to appoint Lori Phillips to the Pocono Counties Workforce Investment Board to fill the unexpired term of Ric Pollard ending June 30, 2015.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to authorize the Chairman to execute the 2014/15 Agreement between the Devereux Foundation and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to execute the Agreement between Woodland Workshop Carpentry and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging Options/Home Modification Program.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to authorize the Chairman to execute the 2012-2013 CDBG Request for Release of Funds.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Housing Rehabilitation Assistance Lien, on behalf of the Human Development Office.

VOTE: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Sally Corrigan, Conservation District Director, announced that the Conservation District was awarded a Ground Water Assessment Grant by the PA Department of Community & Economic Development through the Commonwealth Financing Authority under the Marcellus Legacy Fund. These funds are from the gas drilling companies working in Pennsylvania through Act 13 impact fees. A portion of these funds come through the State Conservation Commission to the Conservation Districts across the state and are used to reimburse salaries/administrative costs. Another portion of these funds come through the PA Utility Commission and the Conservation Districts across the state can get grants through that entity as well. The Marcellus Legacy Funds are competitive funds by submitting an application and justify the application. The Pike Conservation District submitted an application in 2013 but was not awarded the grant. This year the application was resubmitted and the Conservation District did receive \$188,000 of the \$250,000 that they requested. Through their partnership with US Geological Survey, they were able to make up the difference and because some of the other entities who had applied for similar funds did not get their grants, USGS was able to kick in even more funds. The total project was originally \$295,000, and now up to \$325,000 to complete the ground water study in Pike County. Pike County was the only base line water quality grant funded in the state. Vincent Cordova wrote most of this grant, which was his first grant as a Pike County Conservation District Watershed Specialist. Mr. Cordova stated that the plans for these funds are to expand the 20 wells used in the 2013 study to an additional 60 wells, plus some quality control wells. DEP recommended gas drilling, water quality and health standards of the water. All the data will be used to have a baseline for continuing into the future, so if gas drilling ever comes to Pike County any changes to the water quality will be evident. The Conservation District will be looking for 60 additional private wells throughout the County in different geological formations and accessibility to the wells. Further discussion on the topic took place.

Commissioner Osterberg announced that the County received a Transportation Grant for the Mott Street Bridge, which has been a Pike County bridge since 1912. The Mott Street Bridge, in the Borough of Milford, has needed to be repaired for many years. It closed in 1987 to vehicles and to pedestrians in 1992. There was always a push to turn it into a pedestrian bridge. The amount of money to refurbish the bridge back to vehicular traffic is exorbitant, approximately \$1.3 to \$1.4 million. Recently, through a transportation grant, the County has received \$461,725 to refurbish the bridge to a pedestrian walk way, so that people can walk to the other side of the Sawkill Creek. At this time, the bridge is in the design stage. This project will be done in partnership with the National Park Service because they own the property on the other side of the brook along with a small section of Dingman Township. The National Park is trying to acquire the land on the other side of the brook which is known as the Glen, which leads up to the Knob, so the bridge will be a good connection between the McDate Trail and back into the Borough of Milford.

ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2014, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.