

Wednesday, November 21, 2018

The second regular meeting of November 2018 of the Pike County Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Osterberg at 9:00 a.m. at the Pike County Administration Building, followed by the “Pledge of Allegiance” to the flag.

PRESENT: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini; Chief Clerk Orben; Solicitor Farley.

Public Comments/Questions concerning today’s agenda.

Motion: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to recess the Commissioners’ Meeting to hold a Retirement Board Meeting.

Vote: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

A RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING WAS HELD.

Motion: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to reconvene the Commissioners’ Meeting.

Vote: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the November 21, 2018 Agenda.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the November 7, 2018 Commissioners’ Meeting Minutes.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the November 8, 13 and 15, 2018 Commissioners’ Conference Minutes.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve payment from **GENERAL FUND (County Bills)**, in the amount of **\$267,322.43**, subject to further review.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve payment from **LIQUID FUELS (MHE-Bridge Inspections)**, in the amount of **\$85,866.38**.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve payment from **PIKE COUNTY EMPLOYEES HEALTH INSURANCE FUND**, in the amount of **\$495,181.18**, subject to further review.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to acknowledge receipt of a letter from the Courts advising that they have hired **JILL BONAGURA** as a full time Legal Secretary for Magisterial District Judge Cooper’s Office, for a 40 hour work week effective December 3, 2018, with benefits after 90 days. This is a replacement position.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to hire **KAREN DEVILLIERS** as a full time Fiscal Technician for Children & Youth Services, for a 37 ½ hour work week effective December 3, 2018, with benefits after 90 days. This is a replacement position.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to change the title of **KRISTA GROMALSKI** from Education and Outreach Coordinator to Education/Outreach/County Communications Coordinator for the Conservation District Office effective November 11, 2018.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

Commissioner Schmalzle welcomed Krista and explained that communication is something that we can always improve upon. Living in a world where there are all different types of ways to communicate, the Commissioners decided to use Krista’s talents to her fullest to expand the communications within the entire County, both in electronic and print and all the traditional ways to communicate.

Motion: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to recess the Commissioners’ Meeting to hold a Salary Board Meeting.

Vote: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

A SALARY BOARD MEETING WAS HELD.

Motion: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to reconvene the Commissioners’ Meeting.

Vote: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to reject the bid received from Pioneer Construction for \$88,822 for the Pike County Correctional Facility Wastewater Treatment Plant Influent Structure Bypass Project.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to present the 2019 Pike County Budget for public inspection.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

Commissioner Osterberg announced that there is no increase in millage with the presentation of the 2019 Pike County Budget. Millage is 219.74. There is switching in millage rates as far as debt service because that is the way the payment schedule has been developed over the years. The SRCP debt will be retired in approximately 2 years. There are increases in receipts and some increases and decreases in expenditures. Some of the increases are due to taking on a little more debt but it will not change payments. There are other projects in the County that still need to be completed with an additional \$4.2 million debt, but it will not change the amount for the debt service. The debt was extended for another 2 years. Some of the projects include the second floor of the Administration Building and installing a new roof. The existing Courthouse also needs a roof replacement along with some work on the inside. Minimal work needs to be done at John Street. In about another year or two when PennDot is completed in Blooming Grove, the County will take possession of the property on Bennett Avenue. Transportation will move over there and then there is the opportunity to renovate the basement. There is also unused space down there to be expanded for other offices. Other projects include the wastewater project in Blooming Grove to expand on economic development. Commissioner Schmalzle stated that some of the challenges within the County as with other businesses is dealing with making sure that salaries are competitive. The Commissioners have taken on a multi-year plan to bring salaries in line with competing businesses and governmental jobs which has resulted in increases, but they have also found revenue to support that as well. Commissioner Guccini added as a follow up that this has been a heavy lift this year in trying to revamp the salary structure through the help of each department head. They are online to be where they should be in terms of paying people that they should be paid in comparison to the private section. He thanked his colleagues, as this has been a non-stop work effort with the help of department heads and the Finance Office. Commissioner Osterberg thanked Sharon Bartsch in Finance for her assistance. While the Commissioners determine how the funding is allocated and spent, it is her duty to take those numbers and make them work in the budget. Commissioner Osterberg said that she knows her job extremely well, very professional and understands what needs to be done. She has been here a very long time and teaches the Commissioners as they move through. Every year the budget is a lot of work with \$43 million that belongs to the taxpayers, but it could not be done without Sharon and the entire office. The Commissioners and Row Officers' salaries will be set at a special meeting on November 27th as per statute. The Judge's salary is set by the State as well as the District Attorney. Commissioner Guccini also explained that the Commissioners' salaries are no different than the rest of the Row Officers. By statute, they have to be the same.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to adopt Resolution No. 18-26, Accepting the Multi-Municipal Groundwater Level Monitoring Project under the Scenic Rural Character Preservation Program.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to re-appoint the following individuals to the Pike County Planning Commission for a 4 year term ending 12/31/22: Dennis Brink, Thomas Greiner and Charles Burnett.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to re-appoint the following individuals to the Carbon-Monroe-Pike Mental Health and Developmental Services Advisory Board for a 3 year term ending 12/31/21: Elizabeth Torkildsen and Steven R. Guccini.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to appoint Kenneth Coutts as Farmer Director and Michael Spencer as Public Director on the Pike County Conservation District Board for a 4 year term ending 12/31/22.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to appoint Commissioner Ronald R. Schmalzle to the Pike County Conservation District Board for a 1 year term ending 12/31/19.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Chairman to execute Change Order #1 between High Point Electric and the County of Pike for an additional \$5,475 to remove existing and install new LED fixtures, install 20 amp 120 volt GFI equipment protection circuit, hook up door heating unit, 60 day time extension and overtime for kitchen area work, relating to the Correctional Facility Cooler & Generator Enclosure Electrical System.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Chapter 105 Electronic Filing Administrator Registration and Security Agreement for e-Permitting, on behalf of the Conservation District.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Provider Agreement between Pennsylvania Forensic Associates and the County of Pike, on behalf of Children & Youth Services.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the PEMA 9-1-1 Fund Statewide Interconnectivity Funding Grant Agreement, on behalf of the Communications Center.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Agreement between Scott Eyler and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging for Accessible Adaptations at a property located in Lackawaxen Township.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Chairman to execute Senior Rental Assistance Contract #35, on behalf of the Human Development Office.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Senior Housing Rental Assistance Voucher for Delaware Run in the amount of \$2,106 for December 2018.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- Commissioner Osterberg was honored to be the Recipient of the Friend of Penn State Extension Award by the Alpha Omicron Chapter of the Epsilon Sigma Phi Association. Peter Wulfhorst announced that at the Joint Council Extension Professionals' Banquet, Commissioner Osterberg was honored with the Friend of Penn State Extension Award by the Alpha Omicron Chapter of the Epsilon Sigma Phi Association. Every year a non-Extension individual who supports Extension and advocates for Extension. Commissioner Osterberg was a key initiator of the Prosper Program into the school districts. Commissioner Osterberg also helps support the Pike County 4H Educational Program. He is now eligible for the National Award. Commissioner Schmalzle added that Commissioner Osterberg's leadership and compassionate for these programs and the impact that they have on Pike County is tremendous. Neither Commissioner Schmalzle nor Commissioner Guccini realized how big and important award this was until everyone in the room stood up and gave him a standing ovation. Commissioner Osterberg said that when he came to this office he heard about Penn State Extension and is obviously a Penn State graduate, it came to him that Penn State Extension is the best kept secret in Pike County and that is why they are on the agenda every month. It is important that the community knows what they do. His only previous dealings with the Penn State Extension was to identify bugs. There is so much more to it. In regard to the Prosper Program he asked why aren't we doing this and so he called in the superintendents of the schools and they agreed that it should be implemented in the schools. Extension is the County's arm of education for the community and it is the County's role to use it for as much as we can and share it with the school districts. The school districts are thriving with the Prosper Program. All County Commissioners should be bringing this into a private meeting with the superintendents to get it implemented. This is an evidenced based successful program. Commissioner Guccini also added that during the CCAP Conference that the Commissioners attended, the final presentation included data from the Regional Director of Health and Human Services at the Federal level stating that there were 72,000 deaths last year from drug overdoses, not all opioid but mostly. He also presented statistics that was more deaths than World War I, World War II, Korean and Vietnam Wars combined going back many years. If this was a mass shooting everyday where people would be getting killed, everyone would be up in arms. People are grasping it, but not enough. The numbers are staggering.
- Penn State Extension – December 1-15, 2018 Events. Angela Smith stated that October 15th the new 4H year began with 6 clubs currently operating and 70 youths being served. More leaders are needed. October 25th was the National After School Alliance Lights On After School which highlights the importance of quality after school programs. There are 4H early learning afterschool programs now being offered in Green Trees Early Learning Center, Mountain View School in Matamoras, Kids Play Today in Shohola and Little Wonders in Dingmans Ferry. They also offer the Prosper Program. Ms. Smith was in the school districts giving a School Enrichment Program about the Spotted Lanternfly. This program is mostly for 4th, 5th and 6th graders but also for scout programs, library or communities that have access to youth and a place to be able to present the program.

PRESS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Jones asked about Krista Gromalski's role. Commissioner Schmalzle stated that this is an expansion of her role outside of the Conservation District. She will be doing County-wide communication.

Pastor Leonard Gilpin stated that his daughter is a 4th grader in Delaware Valley and she met Angela and she knows all about the spotted lanternflies. It speaks of the success of going into the schools with these types of information packets, whether it be about lantern flies or the danger of drugs. He said that he believes that this is a very good step that Penn State is taking and wanted to provide some good feedback.

ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2018, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.