

**Wednesday, November 6, 2019**

The first regular meeting of November 2019 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. Pastor Leonard Gilpin of Hope Evangelical Free Church, Matamoros offered the opening prayer.

**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 approve the November 6, 2019 Agenda.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the October 16, 2019 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 October 16, 24 and 31, 2019 Commissioners' Conference Minutes.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from **GENERAL FUND (County Bills)**, in the amount of **\$133,160.03**, 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 **ACT 89 FUND (MHE-Kimbles Bridge)**, in the amount of \$2,396.50.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve payment from **HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RESPONSE FUND (Printer & tires)**, in the amount of \$733.34.

**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 Warden Craig Lowe advising that he has hired, with Prison Board approval, the following individuals as full time Correctional Officers for the Correctional Facility, for a 40 hour work week, effective November 4, 2019 with benefits after 90 days: **RAYMOND PRAINO, JOSHUA ELSTON, THOMAS SMALL, LEO KERYLOVICZ, ALYSSA WETKLOW AND JAIME MANZO.**

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to acknowledge receipt of a letter from Warden Craig Lowe advising that he has hired, with Prison Board approval, **BRITTANY VIOLA** as a full time Administrative Clerk for the Correctional Facility, for a 40 hour work week, effective November 4, 2019, with benefits after 90 days.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to promote **KYLE VERRILL** from Caseworker 2 to Caseworker Supervisor for Children & Youth Services, effective November 4, 2019. 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 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 open bids received for the Pike County Courthouse Sally Port Project.

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

Solicitor Farley opened the following bids:

Mar-Paul \$516,000; Troy \$62,500 (mechanical); Grimm Construction \$434,088; and L.H. Reed \$65,100 (mechanical).

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to table the bids received for the Pike County Courthouse Sally Port Project until November 20, 2019.

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to adopt Resolution No. 19-24, Notice of Intent to Participate in the PA Small Water and Sewer Grant Program.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to adopt Resolution No, 19-25, Notice of Intent to Participate in the H2O PA Grant Program.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to advertise the Pike County Commissioners' intent to adopt Ordinance No. 29, Designating Processing and Disposal Facilities and Providing Waste Flow Control Requirements to Direct Municipal Waste to Designated Disposal Facilities.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to appoint Arnold Anderson, as the Lake Wallenpaupack Watershed Association representative to the Lake Wallenpaupack Watershed Management District to fill an unexpired term ending December 31, 2020.

**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 No. GC-01 between Grimm Construction and the County of Pike for the installation of existing equipment for an additional \$1,106.87, relating to the Interior Renovations for I.C.E. Weapons/Ammo Storage Project.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute SRCP Grant Agreement Amendment #2 with Delaware Highlands Conservancy for an extension of time to December 31, 2019 for each of the following projects: Northeast Extension – Lehman Lake Donated Easement, Northeast Extension – Maskenozha Donated Easement, and Northeast Extension – Minks Pond Donated Easement, as recommended by the Scenic Rural Character Preservation Board.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the following Deeds of Conservation Easements for the Northeast Connection, as recommended by the Scenic Rural Character Preservation Board: Lehman Lake, Maskenozha and Mink Pond properties.

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

Commissioner Guccini explained that Items #6 and #7 are easements of \$25,000 to each of those 3 clubs to defer costs of the easements themselves. The reason for the extension is that the closing was pushed back until December 2, 2019, the closing for the actual easements themselves for the 3 clubs.

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Chairman to execute the GeoComm Maintainer Project and GeoLynx Server Project Agreement between Geo-Comm and the County of Pike, 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 authorize the Chairman to execute the Intergovernmental Agreement between the PA State Police and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Communications Center, for the use of the PA Statewide Radio Network.

**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 Memorandum of Understanding between Victims' Intervention Program and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Correctional Facility as recommended by the Prison Board.

**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 Amendment #7 to the Contract between Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Correctional Facility as recommended by the Prison Board.

**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 Non-Binding Letter of Intent for emergency evacuation of inmates between the Waymart State Correctional Institution and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Correctional Facility as recommended by the Prison Board.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the 2019 November Senior Rental Assistance Voucher for Delaware Run in the amount of \$2,501.

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

#### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

- Jill Gamboni – Reality Tour – The next Reality Tour will be next Thursday, November 14, 2019 at the Milford Bible Church. It is for kids 10 and older to attend with their parents. It has dramatic scenes and we talk to you about drugs. This will be the first time we now have a vaping module in the Reality Tour. That's what is really nice about this license, it evolves with the new drug trends and keeps it updated. I want to invite everyone out to the Milford Bible Church next Thursday, November 14th from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Commissioner Osterberg added that it is very important that they added a whole discussion of the vaping issue that is going on. At the last meeting we had here there was a gentleman from the community who is concerned about his children's exposure to the vaping going on in schools. This is a big topic – vaping, whether they're

legal products or illegal, manipulated products that are being put out there in children's hands. I hope that the media will do a little something about this because it is important to get people to come to this event. Also, while we are on the topic of this, the contract with the County and Catholic Social Services is coming to an end. Catholic Social Services was the provider for our DUI evaluations and for people who are attending drug and alcohol treatment. We are working to replace them with the Carbon-Monroe-Pike Drug and Alcohol. It is a functional unit out of Carbon County, PA. Pike County is working closely with them and this should be a transition here by the end of the year because Catholic Social Services will stop all involvement in the County on December 31, 2019. This pretty much came out of the blue. They stated it is a financial issue.

Commissioner Guccini added it is not just Pike, it is other Counties.

Commissioner Osterberg continued that the Commissioners are working to replace them because we know it is important – there will be more to come in future. They will probably be moving into the same facilities that Catholic Social Services has now which is up on Buist Road. It is not an easy process, they need to go through all State licensing. Even though they are State licensed, they are opening up a new facility in another County and there are some hurdles they need to jump through. The Director of Carbon-Monroe-Pike Drug and Alcohol, Jamie Drake, knows how to do this and she's on top of it-I spoke to her yesterday.

Reporter Chris Jones asked what the contract was for, was it between the County and that provider?

Commissioner Guccini answered yes, but it's the provider that is pulling out for financial reasons by the end of the year. Reporter Chris Jones asked who pays? Commissioner Osterberg said the funding for them comes through Carbon-Monroe-Pike Drug and Alcohol. Catholic Social Services provide the services. They have 3 counselors in the Pike County Correctional Facility. They pay for 2 and a half of them, the County pays for another person's half-salary out of our DUI Funds. The impact of them leaving also has an impact on the Correctional Facility. These counselors do really great work up there. These counselors are very integral to what goes on with Re-Entry Program that Commissioner Guccini has been working on at the Correctional Facility. It is important that we have somewhat of a seamless transition here. Jamie Drake is working on bringing staff on. The announcement was made last week and December 31<sup>st</sup> will be here pretty quick. There is also all of the steps that they need to take through the State's Drug and Alcohol Commission in order for them to get the license in Pike County and function. Reporter Chris Jones asked where does the money come from for all of this? Does Carbon-Monroe-Pike Drug and Alcohol have it's own budget? Commissioner Guccini answered there are 3 pools of money for people who be treatment: self pay or self-insurance; Medicaid (for those people eligible); and a fund of State money (for those who do not have anything). It is funded primarily through those 3 sources that comes into Carbon-Monroe-Pike Drug and Alcohol for the State money or from other sources from Medicaid. Reporter Chris Jones asked what about getting the new counselors, where does that money come from (the counselors you said you were losing at the Jail)? Commissioner Osterberg said we COULD-those people are employed by Catholic Social Services – they are not going to be employed by them anymore. Jamie Drake from CMP Drug and Alcohol is going to work to hire them and then she will pay them. Some of the funding going to Catholic Social Services was coming through CMP Drug and Alcohol. Instead of diverting the funds to Catholic Social Services, they will use them. It's a transition to see who wants to come over and start working for that organization as opposed to Catholic Social Services. Reporter Chris Jones asked when did Catholic Social Services let the Commissioners know this? Commissioner Guccini said last week, at the most 10 days ago. We did not get much notice. Reporter Chris Jones asked if the County is going to speak to what they've done for the County over the years? Commissioner Guccini said they have a contract with us, but with other Counties. They are a private provider like any other private provider. It provides all of the out-patient services/DUI services. It needs to be replaced. My personal opinion is that, in the long run, I think it will work out well. I think we are better off having an "in-house" service. It's been shown that in certain smaller Counties they (the providers) can't make money, then we're going to have to pick it up and do it "in-house" through CMP Drug and Alcohol. That is what Carbon has always done. That is what Pike used to do. There's not a lot of time. The larger lift is getting something they call a "promised number" to get people eligible to get Medicaid which I think is more problematic in terms of timing because of the circumstances.

- Penn State Extension Calendar of Events – November 15-30, 2019.

#### **PRESS/PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Reporter Chris Jones asked what is the Amendment to the ICE Contract (#11)? Commissioner Osterberg said there was some construction work that was done in the ICE Facility, which is up at the Correctional Facility. There is a separate building that they rent for office spaces. They rent it from the County and we did some renovations at their recommendation. There were some changes to the contract. That all gets filtered into their rent anyway-it's not really an expense to the County, but we have to provide the work because we own the building.

Reporter Chris Jones asked about the emergency evacuation of inmates (#12)? Commissioner Osterberg answered that is a procedural agreement that the Warden needs to have in case something were to happen at the Correctional Facility. If we have to move the inmates, the Warden has to have an agreement with somebody to move them if there was some catastrophic reason to move 300 inmates. You have to have a plan to go someplace.

Reporter Chris Jones asked about the easements with the 3 clubs-what are they? The club is granting an easement? Commissioner Guccini explained that this is through the regular Scenic Rural Character Preservation Board where they will be dedicating their lands that it will always remain undeveloped. They are getting money. Most of the money that the club is getting is not coming from the SRCP, it's coming from Forest Legacy Fund for something else. There conservation easements set up under the original one that can only be up to \$25,000 and was meant to help defray costs like legal fees and survey costs, etc.

**ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2019, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.**