

**Wednesday, November 7, 2018**

The first 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. An opening prayer was offered by Pastor Shirley Geffrand, Faith Tabernacle Ministries, Dingmans Ferry.

**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 7, 2018 Agenda.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the October 17, 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 October 23, 25, 29 and 31 and November 1, 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 **\$985,899.72**, 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 **OPERATING RESERVE FUND (Courthouse Sept/Oct)** in the amount of **\$142,511.34**.

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

**PERSONNEL:**

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to acknowledge receipt of letter from Warden Craig Lowe advising that he has hired, with Prison Board approval, **SHANNEN BORRIS** as a full time Administrative Clerk for the Correctional Facility, for a 40 hour work week effective November 5, 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 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 October 29, 2018, with benefits after 90 days: **JESSICA GORDON, JORDONNA LUTON, KRISTIN SMITH and SETH DEVITA**.

**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 award the bid for the Pike County Courthouse Generator Enclosure Project to Charles Grimm Construction for the amount of \$59,962.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to open bids received for the Pike County Correctional Facility Wastewater Treatment Plant Influent Structure Bypass Project.

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

Solicitor Farley opened the only bid received which was from Pioneer in the amount of \$88,822.

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to table bids received for the Pike County Correctional Facility Wastewater Treatment Plant Influent Structure Bypass Project until November 21, 2018 for review.

**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. 18-25, NET Cancer Awareness Day, November 10, 2018, which was read by Commissioner Schmalzle.

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

Commissioner Osterberg commented that it is important to support the organizations that are fighting for many of these life threatening diseases that affect many families in our County.

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Provider Agreement between Justice Works Youthcare 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 Addendum to the Statement of Work/Agreement between CDI/BTM and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Probation Office for drug test notification and randomization/reporting services.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Interagency Cooperative Agreement between Carbon-Monroe-Pike MH/DS Program and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging.

**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 Pike County Rental Assistance Contracts #34 and #37, on behalf of the Human Development Office.

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

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

- Commissioner Osterberg gave an overview of Election Day in Pike County stating that there was nearly a 50% voter turnout with 19,000 + out of 42,000 voters. There were not many issues, but there was one that the Commissioners felt they should report because it is being investigated. Solicitor Farley explained that as Solicitor for the County he is also Solicitor for the Election Board. A situation was brought to his attention by individuals working in Dingman #1. A person came in and indicated that he was (generic name) Mr. Smith and was here to vote. He went through the line, signed his name appropriately and voted. An hour later the real Mr. Smith came to the same precinct and indicated that he was there to vote. The poll worker realized then that something was not right. Compared the first signature and recognized that it was not the same as the one placed in the book. They obtained the second individual's photo ID which he gladly provided and allowed him to vote. Under the rules at that point, Solicitor Farley immediately contact the District Attorney because that is voter fraud. No question it is a felony three minimum. District Attorney Tonkin immediately contacted his detectives who went to Dingman #1 and interviewed the individuals. It also appears that there may be some outside and/or inside cameras that may have video of the initial individual. The detectives spoke to some of the individuals who were somewhat close in line or proximity to the first individual who voted illegally. The District Attorney's Office is pursuing this vigorously. At the same time, once it was realized and assuming that there were other voters either playing a game or trying to manipulate the system, all the other polling places were contacted and informed them of the situation. They were asked to be meticulous when comparing signatures. If there were any questions, ask for identification. There has to be a reason to ask for identification. There was no other incident other than this one. If the individual is found, Solicitor Farley will ask on behalf of the Election Board, that they prosecute that person to the full extent of the law. People have worked very hard to keep this system proper. In his humble opinion, you vote for the right of freedom, people died for this and he is not going to encourage anyone who did this to ski with an ARD or slap on the wrist, he is going to ask that a felony be entered against this individual and prosecuted. He applauded the efforts of the District Attorney in bringing this person to justice. Solicitor Farley just wants everyone to be aware that someone tried that, it was immediately responded to and to their knowledge it was not done again. In fairness to the poll worker, they were very busy at that time and who would think someone would actually try to do that. How do you know that that person didn't already vote. How did you know that particular name to use? How do you know that that person votes in that district. It is vigorously investigating and hopefully prosecuting.

Chris Jones of the Dispatch asked if a person has to sign in, and isn't there the book that you signed previously signed to compare signatures. In her defense, Solicitor Farley, stated that it was busy, was very swamped and she didn't catch it. It was brought to her attention when the second person came. Are we perfect? No. Remember they are all volunteers for very little pay, doing this for civic duty, who would think someone would actually have the gall to do that. Commissioner Osterberg stated that they have individuals that work with the Elections Office that come from the company that supply the voting machines, Dominion. The gentleman has been doing Elections for 24 years and it's the first time that he ever heard of this occurring. In defense of the woman, it is not like this is a common occurrence. This is a serious matter.

- Cindy DeFebo announced that Workforce Development is holding a mini job fair the second Wednesday of every month. Last month there were 5 employers and 20 job seekers come in. There are already 5 employers signed up for next Wednesday's event. They have the Pike County Correctional Facility, Human Resource Center, Twin Cedars Senior Living, C&S Wholesale Grocers and the Summit Restaurant.
- Penn State Extension Schedule of Events November 15-30, 2018.

### **PRESS/PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chris Jones of the Dispatch asked if the entrance to the main Courthouse has hit a snag. Commissioner Osterberg said that it is actually on schedule. They are waiting for the railings to come in. The masons are just finishing up and Mr. Grimm will be here shortly to grade off the dirt and plant some grass. Besides the railing and the other set of front doors coming, it moved along on schedule. It was open last Friday which was needed for jury selection. They kept their word and kept it on schedule. It is a construction site, with Pioneer doing all the paving so of course there is a lot of activity, mud and dirt, etc. Mr. Jones asked why the lawn was all torn up. Commissioner Osterberg explained that they had the machine on it and they had to lift it. They took all the original sidewalk out of place and they had to start it on a monsoon day like it normally is around here and they sunk the machine in the mud. They did not want to do that, but they will grate it all off and by next year this time, we will be mowing the lawn. The front door is open. You just have to go up the ramp, and maybe by the next couple of days the sidewalk will be open. They won't open the sidewalk until the railings are delivered and installed. They reset the original bluestone in a very nice way, and it looks beautiful. Probation, Sheriff, and the Courts have been moved in and are operational. The paving is the only thing that needs to be done.

Chris Jones asked about the sally port. Commissioner Osterberg replied that it still has to go out for bid and they need a variance from the Borough for set back issues and then have to go through the process. The Zoning Hearing Board meeting is scheduled for November 15.

**ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2018, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.**