

Wednesday, February 17, 2016

The second regular meeting of February 2016 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, Caridi and Guccini; Chief Clerk Orben; Solicitor Farley.

A Moment of Silence was held for former Commissioner Donald Brink.

Public Comments/Questions concerning today's agenda.

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

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

A RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING WAS HELD.

Motion: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to reconvene the Commissioners' Meeting.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the February 17, 2016 Agenda.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the February 3, 2016 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the February 9, 10 and 11, 2016 Commissioners' Conference Minutes.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from **GENERAL FUND (County Bills)**, in the amount of \$214,868.46, subject to further review.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to approve payment from **AG LAND PRESERVATION RESTRICTED ACCOUNT**, in the amount of \$7,218.25.

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

PERSONNEL:

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to acknowledge receipt of a letter from Judge Joseph Kameen advising that he has hired **REBECCA DAWSON**, as a Caseworker for Domestic Relations, for a 37 ½ hour work week, effective February 29, 2016, with benefits after 90 days. This is a replacement position.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to acknowledge receipt of a letter from Sheriff Phil Bueki advising that he has hired **RYAN VELILLA**, as a Deputy Sheriff, for a 40 hour work week, effective February 22, 2016, with continued benefits, as this is a lateral transfer from the Correctional Facility. This is a replacement position.

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

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

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

A SALARY BOARD MEETING WAS HELD.

Motion: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to reconvene the Commissioners' Meeting.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to award the bids for the purchase of groceries and frozen foods for the Correctional Facility as follows: Benjamin Foods - \$57,145.28; Karetas Foods - \$38,244.20; Mivila Foods - \$28,096.14; Keyco Distributors - \$12,579.50; Sysco Central - \$6,641.42; and Bernard Foods - \$10,071.68.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to adopt Resolution No. 16-05, Approving the Proposed Budget Modification for CDBG Program FFY 2014. Marvin Brotter, CDBG Consultant, explained that this is part of the process for the budget modification to move \$26,250 from housing rehabilitation to drug and alcohol to hire a counselor for inmates with drug/alcohol abuse issues. Commissioner Caridi added that half a counselor will be funded with this money and Catholic Social Services will be funding the other half. Further discussion was held.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Housing Rehabilitation Assistance Lien Mortgage Satisfaction, on behalf of the Human Development Office.

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

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

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to execute the Provider Agreement between Children's Advocacy Center of Northeast Pennsylvania, on behalf of Children & Youth Services.

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

MISCELLANEOUS:

Tim Knapp, EMA Coordinator, gave an update on some of the programs at the Training Center. The Essentials Program, which is the recruitment program, is set to kick off on April 5th. Last year 18 individuals went through that class through National Firefighter 1 Certification. One of the biggest events of the year to be held April 30th and May 1st will be the Junior Firefighter Weekend. Currently there are 36 students signed up from all three school districts. Next week they will be at Wallenpaupack School District speaking to the 8th graders about recruitment and retention. Mr. Knapp announced that Pike County is now a Storm Ready County, which means that there is enough redundancy in the Communications Center, Emergency Operations Center and 9-1-1 Center to give forewarning and preparations for storms. The County received a letter certifying the County as Storm Ready which also stated that the County exceeded the needs that were required. The County is also looking to raise the National Flood Insurance Program Insurance Services Organization (ISO) rating points which depicts the costs of insurance. The County currently is eligible for 25 points. There is a new Communication Center, 42 people obtained National Certification, the equipment and technology has been improved, etc. Solicitor Farley explained that ratings are confirmed by individual insurance companies and the state, and depending on the ratings, it reduces the rate for insurance. It is definitely a benefit to the residents. There are three ways of determination: communication (9-1-1 Center), availability of water (resources), and the actual emergency departments, which is based on equipment and training standards. Mr. Knapp also announced that the County is now a PEMA Compliant Emergency Operations Center. Mr. Knapp explained the process in detail that had to be fulfilled in order for this to happen. PEMA gives a set of standards that the County must meet, whether it be his training, and the EOC training. There is a staff of 26 people in the EOC which are made up of County employees and volunteers who meet at least 4 times per year. The next meeting is March 15th, at which time the public is also welcome to tour the EOC. The process involves a lot of training. The County's system is driven by technology. PEMA came out to the Training Center and tested the EOC. The test results are then sent to Harrisburg and reviewed by the Governor's Office. The Eastern Area of PEMA is not used to the technology that Pike County showed them. They are used to a paper system, so this was actually a learning curve for them. PEMA was so impressed that Pike County has been asked to help with training to get other EOCs up to speed with technology. Other Counties also asked for assistance. Mr. Knapp also had a take and pass a test, which he did, so now Pike County is a PEMA Compliant EOC. If anyone is interested in a tour of the Training Center, please contact Mr. Knapp.

Commissioner Osterberg announced that the Middletown Community Health Center Dental Mobile Unit is parked outside of the Administration Building. It was brought to demonstrate what type of services will be offered to citizens of Pike County. Middletown Health Center has been part of the County for approximately three years and they have expanded their services in the Borough and all of Pike County residents. He introduced Jack Boyle of Middletown Health Center, who thanked the Commissioners for allowing them to debut its new dental care van. Mr. Boyle introduced members of the Middletown Community Health Center, along with Chief Executive Officer Theresa Butler. Ms. Butler stated that the dental van is not only available for all residents, but for the veteran population as well. A grant was received from the federal government to build the van which is very much needed in the community. Oral health is a major issue in the health care system, and it is not really paid a lot of attention to. Ms. Butler encouraged everyone to go out and tour the Dental Mobile Unit. Two subcontractors of the VA system are contracted by MCHC so that the veteran does not have to go to the VA. It is their goal to make sure that care is given and not focus on how payment will be made. Children should also be encouraged to tour the van and get comfortable with its surroundings. Medicaid is taken and also offered is a sliding fee based on income. All insurance is also taken. They also look to grants to offset costs. They are a non-profit independent community health center and fall under the federally qualified health center status. That means they get federal funding to support the higher salaries such as the doctors and dentists which allows them to bring on more programs and services to the community. They have been in business for 40 years and have approximately 200 staff for a \$16 million organization. They receive \$2 million from the federal government. They also receive malpractice (federal tort claim act) to cover all providers. The Broad Street facility is also thriving. Any group that has a need, please contact them and they will bring the van. They also offer a \$250 scholarship to any student that will be trying to get into healthcare.

PRESS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2016, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.