

**Wednesday, February 7, 2018**

Commissioner Osterberg called the first regular meeting of February 2018 of the Pike County Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Pike County Administration Building, followed by the "Pledge of Allegiance" to the flag.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Osterberg, Caridi (via telephone) and Guccini; Chief Clerk Orben; Solicitor Farley.

***Public Comments/Questions concerning today's agenda.***

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the February 7, 2018 Agenda.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the January 17, 2018 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the January 17, 23, 25, 29, February 1 and 5, 2018 Commissioners' Conference Minutes.

**VOTE:** Commissioners Osterberg and Guccini voted 'aye' on all minutes. Commissioner Caridi voted 'aye' on the January 25 and 29 minutes and abstained from the January 17, 23, February 1 and 5 due to his absence. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from **GENERAL FUND (County Bills)**, in the amount of **\$297,228.17**, subject to further review.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from **LIQUID FUELS FUND (Lattimore-sand/plow)**, in the amount of **\$1,197.00**.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from **ACT 44 (MHE-Mink Pond)**, in the amount of **\$1,350.01**, subject to further review.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from **ACT 8 (ESRI-18/19)**, in the amount of **\$13,800.00**.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from **PC EMPLOYEES HEALTH INS. FUND** in the amount of **\$104,440.00**.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve exonerations as presented by Cynthia Gehris, Tax Claim Bureau Director, for 36 properties which have been sold out of the County Repository.

**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 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 February 12, 2018, with benefits after 90 days: **ASHLEY BROWN, EZEKIEL HIGGINS, ALICIA KINGSTON AND BRANDON SCHWARTZ**.

**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 Judge Gregory Chelak advising that he has hired **JENNIFER JANOVSKY**, to fill the newly created position of temporary Probation Officer Aide in the Adult Probation Office, for a 37 ½ hour work week, effective February 12, 2018, with benefits after 90 days. This is a temporary 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 frozen foods and groceries for the Correctional Facility as follows: Benjamin Foods-\$82,638.25; Mivila Foods - \$42,156.40; Keyco Distributors - \$24,164.93; Sysco Central - \$13,763.22 and Bernard Foods - \$13,303.16.

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to appoint the following as members of the Pike County Road Task Force, for a three year term effective January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2020: Charles Rosemergy – Blooming Grove Township; Ken Koler –Porter Township; Timothy Rohner – Lehman Township; Thomas A. Simons and Brian Matthew, as alternate – Palmyra Township.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to reappoint Luke Barbalich to the Carbon-Monroe-Pike Drug & Alcohol Commission Board of Directors for a three year term effective January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2020.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to appoint Michael Spencer to the Economic Development Authority Board of Directors to fill an unexpired term ending December 31, 2019.

**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 Change Order #TM02 between Troy Mechanical and the County of Pike, for a new ductless system for the first floor mediation rooms, for an additional \$12,895.58, regarding the Courthouse Expansion.

**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 Lease Amendment No. 1 between PennDot and the County of Pike, for a one year extension to the leaseback from Pike County of the existing PennDot Maintenance Facility in Milford.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to execute the Certification of County Maintenance of Effort for HAVA Title II Financial Assistance for 2017, on behalf of the Election Office.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to execute the Savin Maintenance and Service Agreement between the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute and the County of Pike, on behalf of the District Attorney and Correctional Facility.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to execute the PA Emergency Management Agency State Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Hazardous Material Response Fund Grant Agreement between PEMA and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Emergency Management Agency.

**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 Proposal for Professional Consulting Services between MCM Consulting Group and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Communications Center for Regional NG911 System Projects.

**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 Proposal from Infocon for the On-line Marriage Application Sub-System to the current Marriage License System, on behalf of the Prothonotary’s Office.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to execute the DCED Local Share Account Commitment Letter and Contract in the amount of \$425,000 for the Pike County Complex Sewage Expansion Project.

**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 Generator Maintenance Agreement between Cummins and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Correctional Facility as recommended by the Prison Board.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the Person 2 Person Communications Agreement Letter of Intent for the TeleProtect 900 System Quote for the Correctional Facility, as recommended by the Prison Board.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to execute Amendment #1 to the Marcellus Mini-Grant Agreement for the Bushkill Village Train Station Platform Rehabilitation between the County of Pike and Lehman Township, for an extension through May 31, 2019, as recommended by the SRCP Board. Lehman is waiting for further agreements from the Park Service before they can go ahead with their application.

**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 Pike County Rental Assistance Contract #35, 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 Senior Rental Assistance Voucher for February 2018 to Delaware Run in the amount of \$1,405, 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 postpone the February 21, 2018 Commissioners' Meeting to February 28, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. and to advertise same.

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

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

Angela Smith of Penn State Extension gave an overview of the February 10-24, 2018 calendar of events. The Prosper Strengthening Families Program will be starting at Wallenpaupack South next week and Wallenpaupack Middle School on March 12 and Delaware Valley in the Dingman School on March 6. Peter Wulforth will be conducting a Grant Planning Workshop which is full. PennState has transitioned to a new program called Sales Force, which is a new marketing campaign that has received a lot of positive feedback. The Winter is for the Birds event was postponed from January 13 to February 17 at Tractor Supply from 2-4 p.m. She thanked the Veterans that have been in the office making donations and buying bird houses to support and fund the live bird presentation. There has been a lot of interest in beginning a Fishing Club this spring. There will be an organizational meeting next week which would ideally offer two times a month at different locations throughout the County. There is some equipment and funding available to be able to provide equipment for the children who don't have their own but want to participate. There was an area 4-H meeting where the alignment of the Counties was reorganized into areas. They will be attempting to mimic some of the state level events at a more regional level to make it more accessible for families to participate. March will be a busy month for 4-H so she will have a lot to report next month. Commissioner Osterberg asked if she might tie in the Fishing Club with the Fishing Derby on April 28<sup>th</sup> at Lily Pond. The pond, as in years past, will be stocked with trout from the Blooming Grove Rod & Gun Club and the state also stocks it. Commissioner Osterberg also commended Penn State for expanding on the Strengthening Families Program. A large amount of children and families from Pike County attend the Fishing Derby so this would be a great opportunity to promote the Strengthening Families Program. Commissioner Osterberg commented that when state officials hear that the initial programs have 7 to 9 families in it, they are floored because many times when schools initially start this program, they are lucky if they get 2 or 3. When they start to see 7 to 9 families actively participating and not missing a week, and they are looking forward to participating in the program, that goes on behalf of Ms. Smith and everyone in the office and school districts that are promoting this program.

Commissioner Osterberg attended the Opioid Task Force meeting which broke into 4 different groups that will work on different goals. The goal that he sat on was for education and spreading the word to the community on where the resources are. They will be reaching out to other partners to spread the word. It was very well attended with approximately 40 to 50 people every meeting showing that the community wants to actively participate in fixing this opioid epidemic. This is a great opportunity for everyone to work together. The Warden and Assistant Warden attended and they spoke on the steps to help the individuals that are incarcerated and have an addiction issue. They work diligently to educate the inmates on what they can do to help themselves. They will be bringing the packet that they distribute to the inmates.

Commissioner Guccini discussed the CJAB (Criminal Justice Advisory Board) meeting and one of the things brought up was the rise in the use of cocaine and amphetamines and one of the explanations for this is that people who are addicted to opioids find that as a counter balance because of the upper effect. This is a snowball effect from the use of opioids. Commissioner Osterberg said that although it is called the Opioid Task Force, it deals with all addictions because a lot is a result of codependency, including alcohol. There are representatives from the Correctional Facility, the Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's Office, the Courts, local residents and different organizations. It is a comprehensive task force covering the entire specter from prevention, education, resources, after care, etc.

Commissioner Osterberg offered an explanation of the motion to execute the DCED Local Share Account Commitment Letter and Contract in the amount of \$425,000 for the Pike County Complex Sewage Expansion Project. The County is investigating developing property on Pike County Boulevard at the location of the Correctional Facility. The County owns 368 acres there and the Commissioners see an opportunity to be able to bring economic development to that region. Part of this was driven by Mike Kelly looking to open up a nursing home in the County three years ago. The problem was that there was no suitable sewage facility, so the Commissioners have been pursuing studies to expand the facility. They applied for an LSA grant, and this is the first part of the grant to be able to build that infrastructure and expand it, so that the next time a Mike Kelly comes along the County is prepared to have an appropriate place to locate them in the county. The biggest hurdle, according to Mike Sullivan of the Economic Development Authority, is finding suitable property for these types of businesses and many others that wish to locate in Pike County. Mr. Kelly is still pursuing property in the County, namely Westfall Township. It is very difficult when you don't have water, sewer and gas. The County is also looking to construct a central sewage location in Milford Borough. This might help driving more real estate taxes because the assessed valuation would be expanded. These projects take a long time because of all the rules and regulations.

Wayne Witkowski asked about a proposed mini cell tower for the Courthouse area. Commissioner Osterberg stated that it was never a County project. It was someone that came to the borough that wanted to put a monotower on the corner of Gooseberry Alley and West High Street, but had nothing to do with the County. It was just a utility looking to expand their services.

Mr. Witkowski asked for an explanation of item #14 regarding the Marcellus Mini Grant. Commissioner Osterberg stated that Lehmann Township had applied for that grant last year; and in fact, the program is open again for the money the County receives through Act 13. This is a grant program offered to all the municipalities for planning and expansion projects, like parks and recreations in their townships. Lehman had applied for, and was awarded a grant for the Bushkill Village Train Station Platform Rehabilitation. As stated by Commissioner Guccini, an extension was needed because they have some more hurdles to go through with the National Park Service and more permitting processes. This is just for an extension of time.

Mr. Witkowski asked about the Delaware River Basin Commission Application Statement and Application for the Discharge of Pollutants into Surface Waters or Groundwaters of the Delaware River Basin, for the Pike County Correctional Facility Complex Wastewater Treatment Plant. Commissioner Osterberg said this was a permit renewal for the discharge from the Wastewater Treatment Plant into Billings Creek, which runs into the Lackawaxen, which runs into the Delaware River, which runs into the Atlantic Ocean. Once the water has been treated by the sewage treatment plant it no longer has pollutants. The word pollutants is just in the title of the form.

Mr. Witkowski asked for clarification of the PA Department of Agriculture Certification of County Funds for the 2018 Program Year for the total collected from the 2017 Clean and Green Rollback Tax Interest in the amount of \$7,574. Chief Clerk Orben explained that this was from the roll back of Act 319 properties, which goes into this account for use of open space. Act 319 offers property owners by removal of all or a portion of the property to get the benefit of a tax reduction, so it is a roll back tax that goes back 7 years.

#### **PRESS AND PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS**

**ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2018, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.**