

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

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

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 May 16, 2018 Agenda.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the May 2, 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 May 2, 10 and 14, 2018 Commissioners' Conference Minutes.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Caridi and Guccini voted 'aye' except for Commissioner Caridi who abstained from the May 14, 2018 minutes 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 **\$168,380.58** subject to further review.

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

PERSONNEL:

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to hire **DAVID ZLASNEY** as a part-time Site Manager I for the Eastern Pike Center of the Area Agency on Aging, for less than 1000 hours per week, effective May 14, 2018, with no benefits. 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 hire **JEREMY OETTINGER** as a full-time Resource Conservationist I for the Conservation District Office, for a 40 hour work week, effective June 11, 2018, 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 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 open bids received for the Pike County Correctional Facility Cooler and Generator Enclosure Electrical Systems Project.

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

Solicitor Farley opened the following bids: Ray S. Pantel, Inc. - \$235,000; and Highpoint Electrical - \$199,610.

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to table bids received for the Pike County Correctional Facility Cooler and Generator Enclosure Electrical Systems Project until June 6, 2018 for review.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to open bids received for the purchase of groceries and frozen foods for the Correctional Facility.

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

Solicitor Farley opened the following bids: Mivila- \$145,989.57; Sisco - \$112,411.89; Benjamin Foods - \$164,570.08; Bernard Foods - \$12,072.20; Keyco - \$176,287.90.

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to table bids received for the purchase of groceries and frozen foods for the Correctional Facility until June 20, 2018.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to advertise for Requests for Proposals to coordinate and provide effective service delivery to eligible older adults and disabled persons in Pike County, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to appoint the following individuals to the Northeastern Pennsylvania Metropolitan Planning Organization (NEPA MPO) Technical Planning Committee for a term commencing July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2020: Commissioner Matthew M. Osterberg as County Representative; Brian Snyder, Planner, as County Representative Alternate; Michael Mrozinski, Planning Director, as At-Large Representative; and Commissioner Steven R. Guccini as At-Large Representative Alternate.

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 #GC30 between Mar-Paul and the County of Pike, for an additional \$9,385.07 for the installation of light-weight concrete and ramps and removal and replacement of walls and subflooring at secured toilet area, relating to the Courthouse Addition 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 Change Order #GC31 between Mar-Paul and the County of Pike, for an additional \$4,435.92 for the addition of laminated beam flooring support and columns, relating to the Courthouse Addition Project.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to execute the Contract for FY 2017-18 Professional Services between Judith Munoz and the County of Pike, on behalf of Children & Youth Services.

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 a letter to DCED requesting an Activity Completion Extension for CDBG Program activities for FFY 2013, Housing Rehabilitation.

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

MISCELLANEOUS:

Cindy DeFebo, Director of the Workforce Development Agency, announced a new 8-week internship program for youth ages 16 to 24. There are no qualifications. An effort will be made to line them up with an occupation that aligns with their career goals. It pays \$10.15 per hour through federal funds. There are 15 slots available which are dependent upon the career of the applicant. Commissioner Osterberg stated that the County is hiring a young girl who is attending Penn State, as an intern in the Mapping Office. She is minoring in GIS/Mapping. It is available to anyone between the ages of 16 to 24 who have graduated high school. Another program offered by WDA is for those between 14 and 24 meeting certain qualifications, generally a minimum wage paid first time employment career exploration. This is also an 8 week program during the summer based on income and/or development. Information for both programs has been sent to the three school districts. There are also adult training programs. Enrollments are down. There is funding available for adults for short term training for long term career goals.

Jill Gamboni reminded everyone that the Reality Tour Program at the Milford Bible Church will be held on May 31st. This is a licensed program for children 10 and above.

Penn State Extension – May-16-June 7, 2018 Events was distributed. Commissioner Osterberg congratulated Commissioner Guccini since he was honored by the Penn State Alumni Association.

Commissioner Osterberg reported that last week the County filed a suit against the pharmaceuticals in Pike County Court. The suit named a number of manufacturers and distributors. Attorney Greg Heller filed the suit in Pike County Court. Pike County has taken a step towards the direction of making and holding these people responsible for what they have done. Last year there was a doctor in Lycoming County who prescribed 2.7 million prescriptions in 19 months for opioids. Obviously Washington's regulations on distribution is not working. Commissioner Guccini explained that there are cases that are filed in the State Court which have been consolidated in Delaware County for pre-trial proceedings. There will be many pre-trial motions, settlement discussions, etc. If the cases are to be tried, then they will be sent back to their respective Counties for an actual trial. There is a separate track of cases filed in Federal Court which have been consolidated in the

Northern District of Ohio. All of the cases in the Country have been sent there for pre-trial proceedings and settlement discussions, etc. In that case, the various State Attorneys General can voluntarily participate if they want, and it is our understanding that Pennsylvania has voluntarily agreed to participate in that Federal proceeding. No one knows exactly where this is going, but because there are so many cases, they are consolidating to one location for one judge to deal with. Typically in terms of pre-trial procedure, the judge will set timelines and parameters. The important thing is that we are sending the signal to pharmaceuticals and distributors that enough is enough. If you put a dollar to each pill, think about the profit. It is all about the money.

The Commissioners had a meeting with Milford Borough on Monday on the redesign of the sally port on the Courthouse. The Commissioners appreciate the efforts of the Borough Council to review and approve the sally port. The reason for this redesign was because of the need for better security. The Sheriff was concerned with the original design. He became the Sheriff in January and realized that there were inefficiencies and asked the Commissioners to review it, which they did, and addressed his concerns. The Borough Council patiently listened and gave permission to move ahead with the changes made to the back corner by Gooseberry and High Street with a more secure facility. A variance will still be issued, but the first step was acquiring the use of the property by moving into the right of way by 6 x 42 feet. It does not impact the sidewalk. There will still be a 20 foot wide path where the sidewalk is. There will be sidewalks on both sides of West High Street. The elevators have passed inspection. The Courts will most likely not be in the new Courthouse until August. The Courts want the Sheriff and Probation to be relocated first. The most difficult part is getting everyone to move because these offices still need to function. The Sheriff's Office will probably be the first to move so that they can get a feel for the security of the building. The front porch of the Courthouse still needs to be worked on. There are some components on the outside of the building that still need to be done along with the sally port. The inside is almost complete except for a few items.

PRESS & PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

Someone asked if the storm had any impact on the Elections. Commissioner Osterberg responded that there was a glitch about 3 or 4 pm when the storm hit areas of Lackawaxen. They had to use the Central Fire Department polling place as an emergency center because some of the school buses could not get down the road and they put the children there. It did not limit anyone's voting ability. The power did go out in a few polling places, but all polling places have generators. All of the Judges of Elections were able to get the results to the County in a timely fashion. Considering the weather, it all went smoothly.

Wayne Witkowski of the Dispatch stated that the southern part of Pike County was a disaster area after the storm. He could not vote because the roads were closed. He named many of the roads that were closed due to downed trees and wires. There were no advisories issued on any of the closed roads. He did not hear from Code Red and people are disgusted with the infrastructure in the area. Is this going to happen any time they have a storm; that people get locked in and can't get around? Commissioner Osterberg said that if the EMA is not notified by local fire companies they don't know whether to send out a Code Red. He is concerned about the Code Red because he received two within a half hour of each other changing the times. Mr. Witkowski said that Code Red has been very helpful and he speaks in support of it, however, there was no communication regarding the southern part of the County. Many wires were down and stretched across Milford Road. There was also no phone service. Commissioner Caridi stated that he could not address the infrastructure as this is up to the electric power companies. They need to do more tree clearing. As far as Code Red, both his and his wife's phones received notification. But he did not receive anything from the Southern end of the County, which leads him to share the concern he has and the Commissioners need to investigate that. Commissioner Osterberg said the question again is to Verizon, because we lost Verizon cell phone service. He believed that they had generators and/or battery back up on their towers, but maybe a tree fell on the tower. But they will ask the EMA what the issue was, and if there needs to be better communication between the services in Lehman, or all Townships and the EMA Office, so that notifications do go out. The road closure notifications should be sent to everyone in the county. Commissioner Caridi commented that at the time he was at the doctor's office and he was sharing the Code Red app, which is a free app paid for by the Northeast Counter Terrorism Task Force as some people did not have a clue about it. They have been promoting this for the past two years in every way possible. He thanked the press for their help in promoting it.

ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2018, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.