

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

The second regular meeting of June of the Pike County Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Caridi at 9:00 a.m. at the Pike County Administration Building, followed by the "Pledge of Allegiance" to the flag.

PRESENT: Commissioners Caridi, Osterberg and Wagner; Chief Clerk Orben; Solicitor Farley.

Public Comments/Questions concerning today's agenda.

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

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

A RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING WAS HELD.

Motion: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to reconvene the Commissioners' Meeting.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the June 17, 2015 Agenda.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the June 3, 2015 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg and Wagner voted 'aye'. Commissioner Caridi abstained due to his absence. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the June 4, 8, 9, 11 and 16, 2015 Conference Minutes.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to approve payment from **GENERAL FUND (County Bills)**, in the amount of \$220,417.82, subject to further review.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to approve payment from **HOTEL TAX FUND (Court filing fee-Mount Haven)** in the amount of \$117.50.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to approve payment from **PC EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INS. FUND**, in the amount of \$65,522.94.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve exonerations as presented by Cynthia Gehris, Tax Claim Bureau Director, for a property in Palmyra Township.

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

PERSONNEL:

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to hire **WILLIAM GAA** as a temporary full time Supervisor for the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program for Workforce Development Agency, for a 37 ½ hour work week, effective June 18 through August 31, 2015, with no benefits.

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

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

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

A SALARY BOARD MEETING WAS HELD.

Motion: by Commissioner Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to reconvene the Commissioners' Meeting.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to award bids received for the purchase of groceries and frozen foods for the Correctional Facility as follows: Benjamin Foods - \$51,736.94; Karetas Foods - \$58,195.20; Mivila Foods - \$48,268.17; Keyco Distributors - \$10,489.38; Sysco Central, PA - \$10,292.00; and Bernard Foods - \$13,582.56.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to open bids received for the sale of the following vehicles: 2006 Ford Crusader Bus, wheel chair accessible, 9 passenger, VIN #1FDWE35S56DA88492, with 207,341 miles, AS IS, for a minimum bid of \$2,500; and a 2006 Ford Crusader Bus, wheel chair accessible, 9 passenger, VIN #1FDWE35S26DA47163, with 189,667 miles, AS IS, for a minimum bid of \$2,500.

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

No bids were received, therefore, the following motion was made.

MOTION: by Commissioner Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to readvertise for bids for the sale of the following vehicles: 2006 Ford Crusader Bus, wheel chair accessible, 9 passenger, VIN #1FDWE35S56DA88492, with 207,341 miles, AS IS, for a minimum bid of \$2,500; and a 2006 Ford Crusader Bus, wheel chair accessible, 9 passenger, VIN #1FDWE35S26DA47163, with 189,667 miles, AS IS, for a minimum bid of \$2,500.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to adopt Resolution No. 15-16, Stepping Up Initiative to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illnesses in Jails, which was read by Commissioner Osterberg.

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

Warden Craig Lowe explained that Resolution No. 15-16 is a national initiative for the collaboration of ideas and goals for the treatment of mental health affected inmates. Jennifer Williams of the Carbon/Monroe/Pike Mental Health/Developmental Services stated that they are currently partnered with the Correctional Facility for several therapy groups, case management and to make sure that the inmates needs are met. The Correctional Facility has about 30 to 40 % of the population is receiving some type of medication. There is an increase in the mental health population in the Correctional Facility. Commissioner Osterberg said that this is another tool to use in the County to address mental health illness, almost three quarters of whom also have a substance abuse problem. Warden Lowe stated that the staff itself is getting more detailed training to identify people that have mental health issues. MH/DS offers mental health first aid which is an 8 hour training for free through some grants to train Correctional Facility staff and anyone in the community who would like to be trained. Crisis Intervention Training for law enforcement is also being offered which includes a 6 hour training and then a 40 hour training.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to adopt Resolution No. 15-17, Pike County Parkinson's Awareness Month – June 2015, which was read by Commissioner Wagner.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to appoint the following individuals as representatives on the Pocono Counties Workforce Development Board beginning July 1, 2015: Michael McGowan-Labor-4 year term; Paul Casparro-Apprenticeship Programs-4 year term; Fred Mutzek-Private Sector-4 year term; Lori Phillips, Barbara Eisenberg and Howard Shankler – Private Sector – 2 year terms.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to appoint Adriane Wendell to the Hotel Tax Board to fill the unexpired term of Christopher Calo ending December 31, 2015, as recommended by the Hotel Tax Board.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to execute the Agreement for the Sale/Exchange of Real Property and Other Property Interests between the Borough of Milford and the County of Pike.

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

The above referenced agreement, explained Commissioner Osterberg, was signed last week at the Borough Council meeting to transfer the property in front of the existing Courthouse to the County. In exchange the County will be transferring the 1814 Jail to Milford Borough. Also included were some easements vacating a section of Peach Alley from Broad Street to Gooseberry Alley. The new expansion of the Courthouse will cross over the top of the alley, so part of that alley will be used as a driveway to service the Kenworthy Building, the Lutfy Building and/or the Courthouse. The next step is to go for variances in July to correct the lot lines.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to execute the Purchase of Service Agreements FY 2014-15 between the attached list of Providers and the County of Pike, on behalf of Children & Youth Services.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to execute the 2015 Renewal Agreements for Subcontracted Services between the attached list of Providers and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to execute the Lease Agreement between the Pike County Library and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging for a nutrition project site and senior center.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Banfield Charitable Trust Pet Assistance Grant Acknowledgement of funding in the amount of \$2,475 on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Agreement for Information Technology Products and Services between ACS Enterprise Solutions and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Recorder of Deeds.

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

MISCELLANEOUS:

Commissioner Caridi introduced Mike Sullivan, Economic Development Authority Director, and MaryAnn Hubbard, Greene Township Supervisor. Mike Sullivan introduced the following Investor Owners of All Fresh Farms Garry Merrit, Garry Merrit Jr., Ernest DeMarco, CPA and Steve Nelson. Steve Nelson spoke about All Fresh Farms who grow lettuce, kale and spinach hydroponically (without any soil). They create large 10' x 10' panels, and every three inches there is a lettuce head. Water flows with nutrients in it through the panel of lettuce head, comes back out the bottom, goes back and gets recycled through a filter and back into the supply tank. The PH is checked, the water is cleaned and runs through the process again, therefore, there is no waste by-product. Employees wear white lab coats, hair nets and gloves when they are dealing with the lettuce. They have a good agricultural practices certification from the USDA which allows them to sell the lettuce commercially. All Fresh Farms wants to sell their products commercially to large scale distributors like Sysco, US Foods, etc. They are looking to initially hire approximately 200 individuals in the plant. The plan is to hire about 15 people to hire first, take them to South Carolina where there is another All Fresh Farms plant, for a few weeks of training and then building up with additional groups of people. They will be looking for people with electrical, plumbing, construction, plant growth backgrounds. An entry level job pays \$12.00 per hour. Plant manager, Garry Merrit Jr., will be working in the Greentown plant. They still have some more things in South Carolina to do such as buying new equipment, etc. They did purchase a building on Mozette Road and are in the process of cleaning/refurbishing it. It will be approximately 2 months before anyone will be hired. Mr. Nelson answered questions from the press and public.

ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2015, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.