

Wednesday, June 17, 2020

The second regular meeting of June 2020 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, Schmalzle and Guccini; Chief Clerk Orben; and Solicitor Farley.

Public Comments/Questions concerning today’s agenda.

PRESENTATION OF \$75,000 TO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Commissioner Osterberg said every year the County donates to Habitat for Humanity for the great work they do for the residents of Pike County in giving people homes. Mr. Mike Donlon of Habitat for Humanity is here today to accept the check for \$75K. This money comes from the Act 137 Funds, which are recording fees. This is not money taken out of the General Fund. Mike and his many volunteers do a fabulous job in Pike County. Commissioners Osterberg introduced Mr. Donlon and asked him to talk about the work he is doing now and the lots that were in the County’s Repository that were very beneficial to Habitat’s future in Sunrise so they are able to build 2 more homes. Mr. Donlon said they are working on House #30. We should have been working on House #31, we were never better prepared than we were this year. We had 2 lots cleared, 2 septic, 2 wells and we were scheduled to start the last weekend in March and then, of course, we couldn’t start. House #31 is very unusual in that it’s in Sunrise on Sunrise Drive and behind it were 2 lots that were landlocked. By us getting this lot and putting a driveway in, we unlocked these 2 lots. It turns out they were owned by the County through Tax Repository. Yesterday I got the deed for 2 lots that are attached to the lot we’re building. Next year we will be working on 3 houses in the same spot without having to move equipment and everything else. I believe there was a Quitclaim Deed done so we don’t owe anything on it. We were very much delayed with working on House #30. We are only using 5 volunteers a day instead of the normal 10 or 15 and sometimes even 20 because of the situation (COVID-19). We will get there. We will get this house finished and then try to start on House #31 in Sunrise. The lot is cleared and ready for us to move in if we can split our crew. We probably won’t get the house finished like we planned this year on account of the Coronavirus. One other thing – our biggest fundraiser of the year has been cancelled. We had made \$21K on our garage sale last year and we have stuff in storage all over the place. We may be able to do it Labor Day. Thank you all very much.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to recess the Commissioners’ Meeting to hold a Retirement Board Meeting.

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

A RETIREMENT 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.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the June 17, 2020 Agenda.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the June 3, 2020 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 June 3 and 11, 2020 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 **\$473,556.69**, 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 **AFFORDABLE FUND**, in the amount of **\$75,000.00**.

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

PERSONNEL:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the lateral transfer of **LISA MCDONOUGH** from the Public Defender’s Office to a Clerk position in the Prothonotary’s Office effective June 22, 2020, at her current rate of pay and continued benefits. This is a replacement position.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to award the bids for the purchase of groceries and frozen foods for the Correctional Facility as follows: Mivila - \$65,786.36; Driscoll - \$47,969.06; Sysco - \$19,570.00; Keyco - \$31,622.48; and Bernard - \$12,485.32.

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. 20-17, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, June 15, 2020.

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

Commissioner Steve Guccini said, on this issue (elder abuse), because we are trying to limit the people here, Area Agency on Aging Director Robin Skibber couldn't be here, but this is an increasing problem Nationwide and in the County. A lot of the cases we've seen deal with financial exploitation, people being convinced to turn over bank accounts and so forth and not really having the faculties to make those decisions. We have an Elder Justice Task Force meeting every year, we weren't able to do that here this year. They are hoping to do something smaller later in the year, but this is a real problem and we really commend Robbin Skibber and her staff for the work they do.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Commissioner Ron Schmalzle announced that on June 19, 2020, Pike County is moving to the Green Phase of the Governor's reopening plan and we want to thank all of the residents, businesses and visitors of the County for diligently following the guidelines to get us there. I urge you to work to continue to make sure that we have as few new cases as we possibly can and follow whatever guidance is out there and please be obedient with the businesses as they begin to open in a safe way. Secondly, there are a lot of resources that we are looking at and working on to help people - both residents and businesses, and also non-profit organizations, to recover. To that end, we have launched a website called: www.pikeforward.com. On that website will be all of the applications for any funding and all of the updated information going forward. I think it is a very appropriate name because we are all ready to move forward. Visit www.pikeforward.com for a wealth of information and applications to get the final guidance on how the money that is coming into Pike County is distributed. Thank you again for your diligence.

PRESS & PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/ADJOURNMENT

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2020, AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.