

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

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

Public Comments/Questions concerning today's agenda.

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

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

A RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING WAS HELD.

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

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the June 20, 2018 Agenda.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the June 6, 2018 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the June 14, 2018 Commissioners' Conference Minutes.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve payment from **GENERAL FUND (County Bills)**, in the amount of **\$158,878.08** subject to further review.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve payment from **LIQUID FUELS (Reimb. 2018 winter road maintenance)**, in the amount of **\$16,757.00**.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve payment from **ACT 8 (MHE – Mott St./Mink Pond Bridge)**, in the amount of **\$3,145.00**.

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

PERSONNEL:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to acknowledge a letter from Sheriff Kerry Welsh advising that he has hired **ALEXANDER KARASIK** as a Deputy Sheriff for the Sheriff's Office, for a 40 hour work week, effective June 18, 2018, with benefits after 90 days. This is a replacement position.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to hire **MICHAEL UPTON** as a Caseworker 1 for Children & Youth Services, for a 40 hour work week, effective June 18, 2018, with benefits after 90 days. This is a replacement position.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to hire **WILLIAM GAA** as a temporary full time Supervisor for the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program of Workforce Development Agency, for a 37.5 hour work week, effective June 18, 2018 through September 1, 2018, with no benefits. This is a temporary position paid through Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act funds.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to hire **SHANNON POORE** as a temporary full time Legal Secretary in the Public Defender's Office, for a 37 ½ hour work week, effective July 2, 2018, with no benefits. This is a temporary fill-in position for an individual on maternity leave.

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

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

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

A SALARY BOARD MEETING WAS HELD.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to award the bids received for the purchase of groceries and frozen foods for the Correctional Facility as follows: Benjamin Foods - \$75,957.87; Mivila Foods - \$52,374.75; Keyco Distributors - \$19,440.96; Sysco Central - \$11,143.45 and Bernard Foods - \$12,072.20.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to open the 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 and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

Robin LoDolce explained that the bids are for all the options programs and different personal care providers, personal emergency response, ombudsman and nutrition services. Bid statements should be included. Solicitor Farley opened bids from the following vendors: Guardian Home Care Specialist Personal Care per item \$20.25, unit cost, homemaker \$20.25 per hour; Pike County Correctional Facility Nutrition for meals at \$4.85 for a total of \$160,050; Caregivers of America Personal Care at \$20.25, proposal units budget item 7000 total \$141,750 and Delivery of Personal Emergency Response Systems regular pursers \$25 per month for \$15,000, pursers cellular \$35 per month for \$1,400, installation no cost; Allied Services Personal Care \$20.65 per hour from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, July 2019 through 2020 \$21.07, and \$21.50 which is an increase per year for three years of service; Serving Seniors Inc. Ombudsman Services \$28,709; Above the Rest Home Care for one person \$23.00 per hour weekdays, \$25 weekend – 2 people \$25 for weekday and \$27 for weekend, light housekeeping, meal preparation, medication reminders, laundry, animal care, errands, transportation at .56 a mile, 24 hour live in \$240 a day for weekday, \$245 a day for weekend, 2 people - \$300 per day for weekday, \$310 per day for weekend, initial RN assessment \$125, cognitive assessment \$160, hourly rate will be time and a ½ with the following holidays – New Years, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to award the bids 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, until July 3, 2018.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to authorize the Chairman to execute Change Order #GC32 between Mar-Paul and the County of Pike, for an additional \$9,029.12 to laminate and finish walls in rooms and hallways that previously had partial walls, relating to the Courthouse Addition Project.

Commissioner Osterberg explained that this has to do with the hallways that were constructed in the existing Courthouse as passageways in the basement. It was not known until construction was underway as to how these were going to be finished. It was a large construction job to dig out 18" to 20" deeper so that they could get the ceiling height.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to execute the 3rd Quarter FY 17-18 Act 48 Certification Statement, on behalf of Children & Youth Services.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to authorize the Chairman to execute the CDBG Flagged Activities Reporting Schedule Reasons for Delay and Remediation Plan for the 2014 CDBG program, on behalf of the Human Development Office.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Agreement for Professional Services between MidAtlantic Solid Waste Consultants and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Human Development Office.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Senior Rental Assistance voucher for Delaware Run for \$1,261 for July 2018, on behalf of the Human Development Office.

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

MISCELLANEOUS:

Commissioner Osterberg proudly announced that the Area Agency on Aging received the 2018 Department of Aging's Secretary's Award for Excellence for the APPRISE Program. It is under the leadership of Robin LoDolce as the Director of the Area Agency on Aging that they are so successful in what they do in the community, along with the Coordinator of the APPRISE Program Alicia Bonnadonna. Commissioner Osterberg said that Pike County is lucky to have people that help seniors. This community has a large population of senior citizens who need professionals that do this. This is quite an honor to be recognized out of 67 counties for doing an exceptional job. Andrew Seder of Senator Lisa Baker's office presented a Congratulations Certificate to Alicia Bonnadonna who accepted on behalf of her team of volunteers. Mr. Seder stated, on behalf of Senator Baker who is in Harrisburg today, that they appreciate everything the team does. Senator Baker allows her office to be used the third Monday of every month as a convenience for Pike County citizens closer to the Lake side of the County. They are always full and booked all the time with appointments coming in and out every hour. The Senator's Office appreciates the services that they offer, including in 2017 with Geisinger pulling out and balancing time to help hundreds of Medicare recipients and beneficiaries. Mr. Seder read a portion of the Certificate and stated that out of 67 counties Pike County beat out much larger counties and that is a testament and feather in the cap of the staff and volunteers. Ms. Bonnadonna introduced and thanked her team of volunteers Denise Astorino, Paula Vennie, Fred Seiler and Larry Alamo. Commissioner Guccini added that in the past few months he has had a trying personal situation with a family member, although not directly related to the APPRISE

program. Dealing with an independent contractor hired by the state, Maximus was dreadful. Dealing with the Area Agency on Aging Office was the only thing that kept his sanity and he thanked them for their service.

Penn State Extension June 16-30, 2018 list of events was included in the packet for everyone to review.

PRESS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Wayne Witkowski of the Dispatch asked for an update on the Mott Street Bridge. Commissioner Osterberg provided him with a schedule of work detail that spells out the project. They are preparing to begin in August to bring in equipment. Someone mentioned that the bridge at the end of town will be under construction in 2020 and goes into 2021 which will be such a mess.

Someone asked about the paving of Route 6 between 739 and Lake Wallenpaupack area. Andrew Seder responded that there will be paving from the county line bridge on Route 6 out towards 739 and another stretch out by Twin Lakes Road in Shohola.

Wayne Witkowski asked if there was any feedback about the opioid law suit. Commissioner Osterberg said that he spoke to Greg Heller, the attorney representing the County, who said that it has been brought to Delaware County and is being co-joined, but some counties are looking to pull out and go out on their own. Commissioner Guccini understood that all of the state cases have been consolidated for pre-trial purposes in Delaware County and the federal cases have been consolidated in Ohio. Apparently there has been some push back of some counties about the consolidation process. He does not know all of the details but he did say that even from the beginning the plan was the consolidation process is only for pre-trial and possible settlement, but if there is going to be a trial it will go back to the individual counties. Commissioner Osterberg shared with Attorney Heller what is going on in Pike County, including the prosecution of the physician in Milford, as it is important for him to be aware of continuing occurrences. The State of Kentucky has just filed suit against Walgreens for their role in the opioid addiction issue with over prescription. The pharmacies claim that they didn't know about this, but when there are millions of prescriptions going across your counter someone should be paying attention. The doctor in Milford has caused grave harm to many residents and thankfully he is paying for it.

Wayne Witkowski asked for updates on the central sewerage. Commissioner Osterberg said they are working with the necessary agencies for this area. Blooming Grove is in the hands of the engineers and the experts doing the studies on that property.

Commissioner Osterberg added that a meeting will be held on July 10 at 7:00 p.m. on the ALS and BLS report which has been completed and shared with the Townships. The report entails many different alternative solutions, some quick fixes, some long term solutions that would have to take initiative by Harrisburg to change some of the pending laws. The County plans on sharing the report with CCAP and also with legislators. This continues to be an issue with the lack of volunteers.

A meeting will be held on July 13 at 10:00 a.m. on the after actions from the winter storms. An initial meeting was held with the townships and utilities to find out why they didn't react the way they maybe should have reacted.

Alicia Bonnadonna said that there are so many issues with failure to pay for ambulance services and reimbursement for people that are getting those services charged through Medicare and are having to pay an unbelievable amount for ambulance services. That's one of the biggest Medicare issues right now. Medicare does not pay for ambulance services. There was a previous contract with Medicare which has ended, and if ambulance services are not absolutely necessary and they are deemed non-life threatening they are not covered. Further discussion was held and the Commissioners asked for a report outlining the issues so that it can be presented to local representatives. If an ambulance gets dispatched to your home and you are not transported to the hospital, insurance companies and Medicaid do not have to reimburse the ambulance company, and Andrew Seder mentioned that the Senate did just approve a bill that was sent to the House that mandates payment even if you do not get transported to the hospital.

ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 3, 2018, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.