

Wednesday, July 15, 2015

The second regular meeting of July 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 July 15, 2015 Agenda.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to approve the July 1, 2015 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to approve the July 2, 6, 7 and 9, 2015 Conference Minutes.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to approve payment from **GENERAL FUND (County Bills)**, in the amount of \$55,488.70, 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** (Billboard/advertising) in the amount of \$20,060.93.

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 \$34,542.40.

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 Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, 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 open bids received for fleet leasing services for use by various County departments.

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

Solicitor Farley opened the only bid received which was from Enterprise in the amount of \$254,340 with an interest rate of three year T bill and base point of only .225 over the prime, effective rate 15 included the base point 3.62 total interest and for the 5 years that was requested. Solicitor Farley added below that there is also a maintenance cost of \$21,683.16 per year.

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to table the bid received for fleet leasing services for use by various County departments until July 29 for review by the Solicitor.

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

Commissioner Caridi announced that the August 3 Commissioners' Meeting has been rescheduled to July 29th so that is why the bid is tabled to the 29th and not August 3. He also stated that the intent of the fleet leasing service is to have newer cars for the County as some of the vehicles are 10 years and older with 200,000 miles. The average cost of maintenance, gas, etc. for these old vehicles costs approximately \$310,000 a year. The lease program would save approximately \$50,000 a year. Solicitor Farley added that the total bid is \$276,023.16. The reason for this increase that Solicitor Farley did not see is that there is a maintenance cost for these vehicles per year of \$21,683.16.

Commissioner Caridi reiterated that the cost savings to the County would be half a million dollars over 10 years, plus providing employees new, safer, fuel efficient cars with a turnover of 5 years.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to accept the resignation of Steve Guccini as Assistant Public Defender and to advertise for a replacement.

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 Amendment to the 2015 Legal Services Contract Renewal between North Penn Legal Services, Inc. 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 Wagner and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to execute the Cooperative Agreement FY 2014-15 between Catholic Social Services 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 DCED Community Development Block Grant Contract in the amount of \$253,313, on behalf of the Human Development Office.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Wagner, to authorize the Vice Chairman to execute the Senior Rental Assistance subsidy voucher from Delaware Run for July 2015 in the amount of \$1,787, on behalf of the Human Development Office.

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

MISCELLANEOUS:

Tim Knapp, EMA Director and part of the Pike County Department of Public Safety, announced that the ReadyNotifyPike system is available through a web site address available to citizens of Pike County or those traveling through the County to sign up for weather, road closure, or emergency notifications. This is of no cost to the County, and is currently being used by County Officials, employees, fire departments, etc. To sign up, please visit <https://pike.alertpa.org>.

Bernie Swartwood, Communications Center Director and Director of Public Safety, explained that the Pike County 911 Center can now receive text messages from people who need emergency assistance but cannot make a voice call. The request to all wireless carriers that service Pike County was made last year to provide texting as the next level of contacting 911. Mr. Swartwood stressed that this is not to take the place of a voice call. A voice call is always going to be the most efficient and fastest service. Texting to 911 will be advantageous to an individual who is speech or hearing impaired, or during a home invasion if the individual locks themselves in a closet and cannot speak for fear of giving away their location, domestic violence, abduction. This is not a 100% full proof system. It does not have the same reliability and fail safes that voice calls have. Sometimes texts will go through quicker than at other times. Being on the border of other states and other counties is a hindrance also because not all of them are using Text to 911 so if you are outside of Pike County, you will get a bounce back message which will tell you that texting is not available and to place a voice call. It is very important to send plain language text messages and not slang. You need to be clear and concise.

Tim Knapp gave an update on the Recruitment and Retention Program which was begun last year for volunteer emergency services. The program is about a month away from a kickoff. He also brought some flyers and posters. Sixteen of eighteen fire companies were present for the filming process. The web site, when it is up and running will be www.pikesbravest.org.

Commissioner Caridi introduced the "We Are The Ones Recognition Program" which is a duplication of the Veterans' Recognition Program, that gives businesses the opportunity to thank emergency responders through discounted products or services.

Jordan Wisniewski, Operations and Training Officer for the Training Center, gave an overview on the programs that have been held recently at the Training Center. A vehicle rescue class (operations portion) was just held and there were so many participants that they had to run two classes. The participants will be tested on the technician portion of the class in August. They are constantly doubling and tripling the state average for classes at the Training Center. The EMT class is a little over half way completed. There were 26 people in that class, who, in September will do their national certification testing. Mr. Wisniewski went on to give details on other programs/classes that are being held and the number of individuals involved in each class. Many different organizations use the Training Center and its equipment, not only emergency responders.

In the continuing effort to combat the opiate addiction and addictions in general, Commissioner Osterberg said that a group of citizens came forward and asked that "An American Epidemic" be promoted. This documentary will be aired on August 8th at 10:30 a.m. at the Milford Theater. This is free of charge. Commissioner Osterberg said that he thinks this is an extremely powerful film after watching a clip on utube. This is a crisis and we as a County have got to come together to curtail this addiction. A press release and flyers were distributed. The movie theater holds 230 people. There will be a question and answer period after the film by the director Michael DeLeon who is a recovering addict which is what drove him to make the film. Tickets will be issued at 9:30 a.m. If children come it is advised that they come with parents and should be treated as a family event.

On July 31st Wayne Hospital is holding "Project Lazarus-Dealing with Opiate Addiction at Ehrhardt's. Contact Wayne Hospital for information.

Commissioner Caridi, on behalf of the Conservation District, asked for well testing participants along the 209 corridor in Bushkill and the northern part of Lackawaxen Township. The Conservation District is trying to get a distribution of participants throughout the entire County. There have been 35 wells tested by USGS and 80 are needed.

ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WHICH WAS TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 5TH HAS BEEN CANCELLED AND RESCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2015, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.