

**Wednesday, July 5, 2017**

The first regular meeting of July 2017 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. An opening prayer was offered by Deacon John Babbitts of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Shohola.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Osterberg, Caridi and Guccini; Chief Clerk Orben; Assistant Solicitor Beecher.

**Public Comments/Questions concerning today's agenda.**

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the July 5, 2017 Agenda removing #5 under new business for review by the Courts and Solicitor. (Agreement for Guardianship Services between The Advocacy Alliance, the County of Pike on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging, and the Pike County Court of Common Pleas).

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the June 21, 2017 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to approve the June 21 and 28, 2017 Commissioners' Conference Minutes.

**VOTE:** Commissioners Osterberg, Caridi and Guccini voted 'aye' on the June 28<sup>th</sup> minutes. Commissioner Caridi abstained from the June 21<sup>st</sup> minutes. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from **GENERAL FUND (County Bills)**, in the amount of \$179,019.69, 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 acknowledge receipt of a letter from Warden Craig Lowe advising that he has promoted, with Prison Board approval, **JAMES D'UVA** from Maintenance to Acting Director of Building Services at the Correctional Facility, for a 40 hour work week, effective May 22, 2017 with continued benefits. This is a temporary position until August 23, 2017 when a final decision will be made regarding the position of Director of Building Services.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to acknowledge receipt of a letter from Warden Craig Lowe advising that he has promoted, with Prison Board approval, **THOMAS SCHWARTZ**, from Correctional Officer to Sergeant at the Correctional Facility, for a 40 hour work week, effective July 10, 2017, with continued benefits. This is a replacement position.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Caridi, to acknowledge receipt of a letter from Sharon Schroeder, Recorder of Deeds, advising that she has approved the transfer of Children & Youth Caseworker **AMY ROSELLE** to a Clerk in the Recorder of Deeds Office, for a 37 ½ hour work week, effective July 10, 2017, with continued 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 the following individuals as Children & Youth Caseworkers, for a 40 hour work week, effective July 5, 2017, with benefits after 90 days: **CARLTON BAKER, YESENIA CORNEJO, BRIANA MESHKO and BENJAMIN MITCHELL**. These are replacement positions.

**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 table bids received for the CDBG Matamoras Borough Firehouse Re-siding Project until July 19, 2017.

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Chairman to execute the following change orders between Mar-Paul Co. and the County of Pike relating to the Courthouse addition: GC-10 for an additional \$4,300 for additional remobilization to compete slab pours; GC-11 for a credit of \$10,034.26 for doors, frames and hardware credits; and GC-14 for an additional \$6,267.49 for B1 footer over excavation (used 34 yards of C-3).

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to advertise the Notice of Proposal to Install Emergency Communications Tower.

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

The advertisement is a notice required by the FCC for the construction of an emergency communications tower in Tanglwood North. The tower is for the improvement of communications throughout the County.

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Letter of Understanding and Engagement between Maher Duessel, CPA and the County of Pike, for the audit of financial statements of the 9-1-1 Program for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, on behalf of the Communication Center.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to execute the Shared Housing Counselors Agreement between Diana T. Myers and Associates, Inc. and the County of Pike, 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 authorize the Chairman to execute the Letter of Understanding to Lease Parking Lot Space for a Medical Trailer between Positive Recovery Solutions and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Correctional Facility as recommended by the Prison Board.  
**VOTE:** Commissioners Osterberg, Caridi and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

Commissioner Osterberg explained that the medical trailer is for the Vivitrol Program orchestrated through the Correctional Facility for a location in the County for individuals who are treated with Vivitrol to report back for follow up treatment and medication. A few individuals at the Correctional Facility are being treated with Vivitrol and upon their release they would receive their initial treatment and then the follow up will occur at the Correctional Facility at this mobile lab. Besides the treatment, they will also receive counseling. This is an effort to curtail the opiate addiction. This is not just for incarcerated individuals, but also for anyone in the County who needs this service.

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Caridi and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Project Activity Completion Extension Request to DCED for the CDBG FFY 2012 HOME Project, on behalf of the Human Development Office.  
**VOTE:** Commissioners Osterberg, Caridi and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

Michele Long, Conservation District and Peter Wulfhorst, Penn State Extension discussed drinking water protection. Ms. Long stated that each year the Conservation District puts together an education and outreach program to touch on items of concern, one of which is drinking water. The District received a mini grant through the PA Association of Conservation Districts for \$3,000 to host three separate workshops to be held throughout Pike County beginning in August to discuss drinking water, helpful tips on how to find out what is in your drinking water, and how to keep pollutants out of your drinking water. The Conservation District is working with Penn State Extension and the Pocono Source Water Protection Collaborative to get the word out and host the program. At each of the workshops, one on August 23 at the Lackawaxen Township Building and the other on October 18 at the Dingman Township Building and a third one in March at the Conservation Office, the first 10 registered participants will be provided with a free water test kit (which will be paid from the grant money). Commissioner Caridi mentioned that 100% of the drinking water in Pike County comes from well water. Peter Wulfhorst explained that he will be doing the educating and presenting at the workshops, and as previously stated, the first 10 registered participants will receive a test kit of 4 different parameters through Prosser Labs which is picked up every Wednesday from the Extension Office. People who are not participating in the workshops can also get their water tested through the Extension Office by picking up bottles prior to Wednesday and dropping them off and having them sampled. The funding is for the first 10 registered for coliform bacteria, nitrates, PH and solids. He will also discuss how to address the issues and how to protect the water from getting contaminated from different types of activities, and also the condition of wells. Additional text kits will also be available for purchase. It is recommended to get water tested every year for bacteria by an independent contractor. Kevin Holian said that he was asked by members of his social media group if MS (Multiple Sclerosis) is on the rise in Pike County. Peter Wulfhorst responded that he was not aware of anything regarding MS. Commissioner Osterberg said that question should be directed to Karen Hatch, local Department of Health on Buist Road. Michael Lamoreaux asked what the range of cost for subsequent testing? Mr. Wulfhorst said the range was from \$30 to \$55, or if someone was not a lucky recipient of the free testing, the bacteria testing would be \$30. The Conservation District workshop will be held on March 26, 2018. There have been workshops held in the past. Commissioner Caridi also reminded everyone that this is for homeowners or private citizens, but at the same time the Conservation District has had 4 grants from USGS over the last 10 years where 69 wells were tested on a regular basis geographically disbursed throughout the County. There is an ongoing monitoring system in place, but this is an educational format for individual homeowners. Ms. Long stated that they have just completed the 10 year study of water quality within these different wells throughout the County, and regular reports have been given to the participants on what is their water, different ways to remedy some of the situations. The final draft is out now, with the actual final report being completed within the next two weeks and which will be posted on the District website. This is just another opportunity for participants to test their own water. Some of the data will be used to see if there are any real issues and if there are, maybe do some additional education to focus on any problem areas. Commissioner Caridi explained that well monitoring through USGS is far more extensive and detailed in chemical analysis, etc.

Peter Wulfhorst spoke on the Penn State Extension July 6-21, 2017 Events. He highlighted some of the new camps that the new 4H educator, Angela Smith, is trying to put together for the summer as well as trying to establish some new 4H clubs. He will also be conducting a home water septic workshop this Saturday for a community to educate people on waste water.

#### **PRESS & PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS**

Kevin Holian shared an observation he had regarding the security of the Administration Building and Courthouse that many visitors get scanned post going through the megatometer. In his old profession he put a mirror on the opposite wall so that law enforcement officer could always keep an eye on the eyes of the visitor. In two incidents during his later career he had officers overtaken by visitors because when the visitor turned around you can't always see the eyes of the visitor and if the officer is not overly paying attention he could be easily overtaken. It's just a personal concern. The mirror would allow the law enforcement officer when the visitor turns around can keep an eye on his/her eyes. They do it in prisons too. Commissioner Caridi said that the eyes give away the intention sometimes absolutely and said that the Sheriff was present and he was sure he would take it under advisement. Commissioner Osterberg also responded that security in the County is the Sheriff's domain. Sheriff Bueki answered that he appreciates any information to better secure the buildings. There is only so much we can share with the public, security wise, because of the security dangers, but he welcomes any suggestions.

**ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 2017, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.**