

Wednesday, April 15, 2020

The second regular meeting of April 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; Chief Clerk Orben; Solicitor Farley; Commissioners Schmalzle and Guccini via Zoom.

Public Comments/Questions concerning today’s agenda.

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 April 15, 2020 Agenda.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the March 18, 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 March 24, 26, April 1 and 7, 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 **\$2,145,380.95**, 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 **ACT 89 FUND (MHE-Kimbles Bridge)**, in the amount of **\$13,450.00**.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve payment from **ACT 44 FUND (MHE-Mott St. Bridge)**, in the amount of **\$220.00**.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve payment from **PC EMPLOYEES HEALTH INS. FUND** in the amount of **\$1,838,744.85**.

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

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to adopt Resolution No. 20-10, Parkinson’s Awareness Month – April 2020, which was read by Commissioner Osterberg.

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

Commissioner Osterberg announced that this month Parkinson’s Disease normally has a 5K race where they do an incredible job of raising funds for awareness and research for Parkinson’s Disease. Unfortunately, during this crisis, they cancelled. Over the years they have raised thousands of dollars and I have spoken to Jay Tucker, the Chairman of the Local Chapter, and they plan on having that race in the future. They will soon be putting out press releases asking people to donate. While we are going through this crisis, there are many of other crises that still continue in our community and this is one of them. We are asking everyone in the community to please look out and look for those press releases and, if you can and are able to, they will truly appreciate that. This year will be a little bit more of a struggle for them to raise the monies that they have in other years. The Pike County Commissioners are urging people to remember them during this time and those that are suffering from Parkinson’s Disease.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to ratify the acceptance of the PA Department of Education Letter of Agreement supporting the Wayne Pike Workforce Alliance and SHINE.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Purchase of Service Agreements between the following providers and the County of Pike, on behalf of Children & Youth Services: Avanco International, Inc. and Perseus House, Inc.

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

MISCELLANEOUS:

Pike County Resolution 20-09, Declaration of Pike County Employees being Furloughed or Partially Furloughed During the COVID-19 Emergency.

Commissioner Schmalzle announced that this Resolution was done for the safety and health of our employees and the safety and health of the general public and, to do our part in fighting this virus on a county-wide basis and also, number three, to be financially responsible to the residents of Pike County. As we are still offering many services, the level of customers and residents coming into our building has diminished and we are trying to keep the staffing load in concert with the level of work load. Commissioner Osterberg added hours of operation for the county offices are from 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM at this point – by appointment only.

Press Release – Masks Added to COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols for Staff and Public within Pike County Government Facilities. Commissioner Osterberg announced that we have put out a press release about masks in the county offices. Commissioner Guccini said going back several weeks, the Commissioners had asked each department head in the county to come up with a plan to have as many employees possible work from home so that we can limit the people in the Administration Building and other facilities. We have decreased staff over time and, most recently, beginning this past Monday, we limited the hours of the offices. Based upon new guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control, anybody visiting our building to conduct business must wear masks and to encourage our employees to do so when they are interacting with the public. We are trying to keep up with whatever the recommendations have been from the State and the Federal Government to make sure that our employees and people who transact business within the county are safe.

Message from the Commissioners – Please stay safe and follow the guidelines of the CDC. We all need to stay at home during this time and do the best we can with social distancing. We hope everybody stays healthy and hopefully, soon, we will be through all this and get on with our lives as they were before this crisis developed here in the County and in the Nation.

PRESS & PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/ADJOURNMENT

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2020, AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.