

Wednesday, June 6, 2018

The first 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 (via telephone); Chief Clerk Orben; Solicitor Farley.

Commissioner Osterberg read a letter from Commissioner Caridi announcing his retirement effective May 31, 2018. Commissioner Caridi asked that his letter not be read until this June 6th meeting. The Commissioners thanked him for his service and guidance.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to accept the retirement letter of Richard A. Caridi as Pike County Commissioner effective May 31, 2018.

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

Public Comments/Questions concerning today's agenda.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the June 6, 2018 Agenda.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the May 16, 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 May 16, 24, 31 and June 4, 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 **\$222,677.43** 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 **PC EMPLOYEES HEALTH INSURANCE FUND**, in the amount of **\$38,376.90**.

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

PERSONNEL:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to hire **ANNETTE OCASIO**, to fill the newly created position of Lead Housekeeper for the Maintenance Department, for a 40 hour work week, effective May 29, 2018, with benefits after 90 days. This is a newly created position.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to acknowledge receipt of a letter from Warden Craig Lowe advising that he has hired, with Prison Board approval, the following individuals as full time Correctional Officers for the Correctional Facility, for a 40 hour work week, effective May 29, 2018, with benefits after 90 days: **CHRISTOPHER CAMA, VERONICA FOWLER, EDWARD GEISLER AND DOUGLAS SCHAUB.**

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to hire **BETH PFUHLER BAYLISS** as a Caseworker 1 for Children & Youth Services, for a 40 hour work week, effective May 29, 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 **CHRISTINA IRWIN** as a Caseworker 1 for Children & Youth Services, for a 40 hour work week, effective June 4, 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 **MARGARET CROWLEY** as a Caseworker 1 for Children & Youth Services, for a 40 hour work week, effective June 4, 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 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 bid for the Pike County Corrections Facility Cooler and Generator Enclosure Electrical Systems Project to High Point Electric, Inc. for the amount of \$199,610.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to adopt Resolution No. 18-12, Recognizing the Staff of Pike County Children & Youth Services, which was read by Commissioner Osterberg.

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

Commissioner Osterberg commended the staff of Children & Youth for their service. Ginger Refice, Children & Youth Director, recognized Caseworkers in attendance – Penny Seltzer, Ben Mitchell and Michelle Hitchman-Burrell. Commissioner Guccini thanked Ginger and all the Caseworkers. As Children & Youth Solicitor for four years, also guardian for over 12 years, he is familiar with the work that is done, which is incredibly difficult and mostly goes unnoticed. The Auditor General's Report on the state of the Child Welfare System in Pennsylvania is not based upon what Caseworkers do. It is based upon an incredibly

overworked overtaxed system which has become more overworked because of changes because of the recent Jerry Sandusky scandal. These changes were required by law which dramatically increased the work they have to do but didn't give any funding to pay for it. He really does appreciate everything they do.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to adopt Resolution No. 18-13, Pike County Parkinson's Awareness Month – June 2018.

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

Irwin Guberman, accepted the resolution on behalf of the Committee for Pocono Fox Trot, and thanked the community and Commissioners for their support. This is the 4th year of the Fox Trot. They have raised over \$92,000 in the first three years. All proceeds go to the Michael J. Fox Foundation.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to reappoint Gary Williams as representative of Milford Township to the Road Task Force for a three year term ending December 31, 2020.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to appoint Kenneth Coutts as Farmer Director on the Pike County Conservation District Board to fill an unexpired term ending December 31, 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 Orders #2 and #3 between Latona Trucking & Excavating and the County of Pike, for an additional \$6,048 and \$1,400 for material and labor to improve Raspberry Run Road relating to the Mink Pond Road Bridge Replacement.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to accept the proposal from Prosser Laboratories for the Pike County Corrections Facility Corrosion Control Project for the amount of \$10,933, per approval by the Prison Board.

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 Proposal from L.J. Bogumil for the roof top air handler units at the Correctional Facility for the amount of \$359,240, per approval by the Prison Board.

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 Renewal of the Prison Solution Agreement between Lexis Nexis and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Correctional Facility for legal research materials, per approval by the Prison Board.

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 Quotation from Beach Lake Sprinkler for a 5 year internal service on the fire sprinkler system at the Correctional Facility for the amount of \$2,325, per approval by the Prison Board.

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 Application and Bid Statement for Nutrition Services for the Area Agency on Aging, on behalf of the Correctional Facility.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to execute the Scenic Rural Character Preservation Program Grant Agreement between Delaware Highlands Conservancy and the County of Pike, for the amount of \$25,000 for a 708 acre Conservation Easement on Lehman Lake Property, as recommended by the SRCP Board.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to execute the Scenic Rural Character Preservation Program Grant Agreement between Delaware Highlands Conservancy and the County of Pike, for the amount of \$400,000 for a 638.8 acre Conservation Easement on Saw Creek Hunting & Fishing Club Property, as recommended by the SRCP Board.

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

Jessica Yoder, Planning Assistant, introduced SRCP Board Member Alan Dolge, and Club Member of Saw Creek Hunting & Fishing Association Fred Ross. Saw Creek Hunting & Fishing Association is the property that was just granted funding of \$400,000 to protect that with a conservation easement. This property is completely surrounded by state lands on Route 402 in Porter and Lehman Townships and will ensure water falling protection in that area which will serve Saw Creek Estates and those downstream. There will also be a public trail.

Jessica stated that the new app "Pike Outdoors" will soon be available and will have all public lands including federal, state, game lands, County parks, local municipal parks and every recreational opportunity for the public that is free. There will be trails shown with mileage, terrain, difficulty, base material, etc. Waterfalls and camps will also be included.

Fred Ross expressed his appreciation on behalf of the Saw Creek Hunting & Fishing Association for preserving this land for perpetuity and save it from development, which is always a threat. The historical value alone is very important.

Jessica also mentioned that the SRCP Geocaching Series has a cache on every property that they have helped to acquire or protect with a conservation easement.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the Delaware Township Supervisors to proceed with removal/demolition of at least six cabins, due to safety concerns, at Akenac Park, as recommended by the SRCP Board.

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 Provision of Medical Assistance Transportation Services between Pocono Cab and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Transportation 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 Voucher for Delaware Run for \$1,261 for June 2018 on behalf of the Human Development Office.

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

MISCELLANEOUS:

Pike County Elder Justice Day, June 13, 2018 from 9 am to 2 pm at St. Patrick's Church, Milford. Tracy Simon of the Area Agency on Aging announced that this is the 5th Annual Elder Justice Day and they are still accepting registrations and are promoting the event especially since the numbers of elder abuse investigations has increased significantly over the past few years. Free transportation, free breakfast, free lunch, door prizes are offered. There will be many speakers on different ways to identify abuse, stop abuse and help those who are being abused. Elder Abuse Awareness Day is on June 15th, with an invitation to attend at the Capitol Building and a meet and greet with Theresa Osbourne as well.

Penn State Extension – June 1-16, 2018 Events. Angela Smith, 4H Coordinator, said that all summer programs should be up and running by the end of this week. There will be mini camps for two days on cooking, geology, nature crafting, EMS services, two babysitter training certifications, intro to adulating for teenagers to learn how to fill out a job application, dress for an interview, learn about money management, change a tire, sew a button, etc. That calendar will be made public by the end of this week. This year the 4H will be held on June 24 from 11 to 2 during the Milford Music Festival where the 4H club will be meeting outside the 4H office and will have some materials on display, some community activities and the cooking club will be having a chocolate chip cooking judging contest. She invited the Commissioners to be a Judge at the contest. They are also looking forward to some of the 4H members perform on some of their instruments or singing. Activities will be offered to the public if they are not filled by 4H members.

PRESS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Guccini addressed Rich Caridi's retirement. There seems to be this notion, in the national and state political atmosphere, that if people are not fighting with each other they are not doing their job. If the Commissioners have that philosophy then they are doing a disservice to their constituents. Commissioner Guccini stated that if they disagreed about things, they dealt with them as adults and would try to come to a reasonable conclusion and attempted to keep out of the national and state craze unless there are things at those levels that directly affect what they are doing and directly affect the residents of the County. The idea is to try to work together when they can and to reasonably disagree and try to figure out some kind of solution. He feels that the Commissioners have tried to do that and he appreciates his two colleagues working together on those things and hopefully people up at the higher levels would try to do the same. Commissioner Osterberg agreed and he said that was the case prior to Commissioner Guccini with Karl Wagner. They always came to adult conclusions on the best outlook for all the residents of the County forgetting all about party politics.

Commissioner Osterberg responded to a question about the procedure for the replacement of a Commissioner. The responsibility for replacement goes to the Judge. Judge Chelak has 30 days to replace Commissioner Caridi for the remainder of his term which ends December 31, 2020. He would be required to appoint someone of the same party.

Commissioner Osterberg explained that Commissioner Caridi was a Commissioner representative on the Planning Board, Conservation Board, the Lake Wallenpaupack Watershed District, Veterans Affairs and Prison Board. All three Commissioners serve on different Boards. Commissioners Osterberg and Guccini will handle those duties until Commissioner Caridi is replaced. The replacement could take on the same Boards as Commissioner Caridi or different ones could be shared.

Someone asked what is the Judge's pool of people to pick from. Commissioner Osterberg replied that questions should be directed to the Judge, but last time this happened letters were sent in by interested individuals. This is out of the Commissioners' hands, it will be up to the Judge to make that decision.

Wayne Witkowski asked about item #1 and what the Lead Housekeeper position involves. Commissioner Osterberg explained that because of the new courthouse, the housekeeping staff needed to be expanded. As previously mentioned, the County has entered into an agreement with Office of Vocational Rehabilitation where the County is hiring three people with disabilities who will become part time County employees. They will come with a job coach that is provided to them by OVR. There was the need then to hire someone to work as a supervisor. The lead housekeeper term came from the Maintenance Supervisor and his previous experience at Belle Reve. This is a working supervisor who will lead the crew through their chores/tasks at the new courthouse and this building also. The County has staff that cleans the offices from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m., but now there is another 30,000 square foot of building that needs to be added, so three more individuals will be hired and this Lead Housekeeper will be supervising all of them.

Jill Gamboni thanked Sheiff Kerry Welsh for his support and having the Sheriff's Office on board for the Reality Tour which was just held and also future tours.

Sheriff Kerry Welsh added that Drug Take Back Events will take place on Elder Justice Day and National Night Out at Hemlock Farms. Tracy Simon of Area Agency on Aging also reminded everyone that if you call the Aging Office and have medications, the AAA can arrange for it to be picked up or dropped off at the Senior Centers.

Courthouse Addition is on pace and they are waiting for Cos. The first office to be moved in will be the Sheriff's Office to get full understanding of the security of the building. The next offices would be Probation and the final move would be the Courts. Courts are now functioning at John Street and the current Courthouse. There needs to be a lot of things in place and ready for Certificates of Occupancy.

ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2018, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.