

Wednesday, August 21, 2019

The second regular meeting of August 2019 of the Pike County Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Schmalzle at 9:00 a.m. at the Pike County Administration Building, followed by the “Pledge of Allegiance” to the flag.

PRESENT: Commissioners Schmalzle and Guccini; Chief Clerk Orben; Solicitor Farley.

NOT PRESENT: Commissioner Osterberg.

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 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 Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the August 21, 2019 Agenda.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the August 7, 2019 Commissioners’ Meeting Minutes.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the August 7, 8 and 15, 2019 Commissioners’ Conference Minutes.

VOTE: Commissioners Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’ on the August 7 and 8 Conference Minutes. The August 15 Conference Minutes were tabled until September 4, 2019 due to lack of quorum (Commissioner Guccini was not in attendance). Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve payment from **GENERAL FUND (County Bills)**, in the amount of \$404,757.00, subject to further review.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve payment from **ACT 89 FUND (Sparron Wetland Services – Kimbles Road)**, in the amount of \$404,757.00, subject to further review.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve exonerations as presented by Cynthia Gehris, Tax Claim Bureau Director, for 16 properties sold at the 2019 Judicial Sale in the amount of \$14,087.31.

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

PERSONNEL:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to change the following positions in the Probation/Domestic Relations Office, effective August 19, 2019 as per the Court’s request: Supervisor to Deputy Chief Juvenile Probation Officer; Supervisor to Deputy Chief Adult Probation Officer; and Assistant Director to Deputy Director of Domestic Relations Section.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to acknowledge receipt of a letter from Judge Gregory Chelak advising that he has promoted **DANIEL WILSON** from Supervisor to Deputy Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in the Probation Office, effective August 19, 2019.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to acknowledge receipt of a letter from Judge Gregory Chelak advising that he has promoted **ROBERT WOLFF** from Supervisor to Deputy Chief Adult Probation Officer in the Probation Office, effective August 19, 2019.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle to acknowledge receipt of a letter from Judge Gregory Chelak advising that he has promoted **JANINE ACOVENO** from Assistant Director to Deputy Director of the Domestic Relations Section of the Probation Office effective August 19, 2019.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to change the Clerk Typist III position to an Aging Case Aide II position for the Area Agency on Aging, and to hire **MICHELLE ZBINDEN** to fill this position for a 35 hour work week effective September 3, 2019, with benefits after 90 days.

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

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

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

A SALARY BOARD MEETING WAS HELD.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to award the bid for the purchase of fortified flavored beverages bases for the Correctional Facility to Bernard Food Industries in the amount of \$8,176.32.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to open the proposals received from municipal waste processing/disposal facilities for municipal solid waste and/or residual waste disposal services for County-generated waste.

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

Community Planning Director, Mike Mrozinski – Every ten (10) years the County is responsible to update a Solid Waste Plan for the County. We are underway with that Project right now. Part of that is to secure Solid Waste capacity at regional landfills. We have an RFP that was sent out to the all the regional landfills seeking their response so we're opening now what they have sent us. It is information on their facility, the capacity they would be providing to us for local haulers to take that waste and the dollar figure for that. There is a lot of information that has to be reviewed here and by our consultants. Although we may have a wide range of dollar figures for these, this is giving options to local haulers where they take the waste. They will surely take the lower cost and lesser distance. Another option is to seek free capacity for Municipalities if there is illegal dumping on the side of the road, Municipalities have been picking up that and absorbing the costs. We are asking these landfills to provide a certain capacity free to Municipalities.

The following bids were opened:

Waste Management – Per ton rate is \$116.00 per ton for a year with an increase each year.

Lehigh Valley Recycling - For municipal solid waste, including construction and demolition, the rates range from \$111.25 per ton in 2021 up to \$159.65 per ton in 2029 with a sliding scale in between. The disposal of construction and demolition waste is the same scale, \$111.25 per ton in 2021 and \$159.65 per ton in 2029 and there is no bid for disposal of sludge.

Pioneer Crossing Landfill - Per ton rate of \$80 per ton with an increase to \$85 per ton and then \$88 per ton, with an increase each year.

Commonwealth Environmental Systems - \$90.00 per ton for 2021, \$95.00 per ton in 2022, and \$100.00 per ton in 2023, with the highest in 2029 of \$130.00 per ton. They have disposal costs at the same rates.

Keystone - \$90.00 per ton in 2021, \$95.00 per ton for 2021, the highest is \$130.00 per ton for 2029. The construction waste is the same exact rates.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to table bids received for the municipal solid waste and/or residual waste disposal services for County-generated waste until October 2, 2019.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Vice Chairman to execute the Cooperative Site Use Agreement between the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Communications Office for the High Knob Tower Site.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Vice Chairman to execute the Agreement between McGoey, Hauser & Edsall Consulting Engineers and the County of Pike, for the Pike County Wastewater Treatment Expansion Project at the Blooming Grove Complex.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the PCCD Grant Application for the 2020 Pike Child Advocacy Center Forensic Interviewer/MDIT Coordinator position salary and benefits in the amount of \$47,000, on behalf of the District Attorney's Office.

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

MISCELLANEOUS:

- Tammy Savarese, Economic Development Authority – Military Hometown Heroes Banner Program – Mayor Clark from Matamoras, PA was introduced. Mayor Clark has been working very closely with Tammy on this, as she is doing the program in Matamoras. Tammy is doing the program in Milford and Westfall.

Mayor Janet Clark – About 2 or 3 months ago, we started to talk about the Hometown Heroes Program. I had seen this on the internet and I had seen towns where they put these banners up. This Program is well received in little towns and, one night at a Council meeting, I decided Matamoras was going to do this. As they got up to speak during the Public Comments, they said “we’re here from the Hometown Heroes Program”. When it came time for me to give my report, I talked about the Hometown Heroes Program and we have gone from there to where we are now. I myself was a Navy Mom to two boys. Mayor Janet Clark referred to the 6 Navy Moms and said they will be covering a vast area with banners to honor our veterans, our boys in service right now in Matamoras, Westfall and into Milford. We have the applications and are going to meet with the printer this morning and would like to get our banners up as soon as possible. This program is so thought provoking and I cried at first when I saw them in another town. I saw World War II Veterans and it really got to me because one of them was a man from my family. This is a great program and this is our “kick-off” and we are just asking for your blessing. Commissioner Schmalzle said yes, of course, and thank you.

Gerri McKinney – On behalf of the 6 Navy Moms, we are mothers who want to pay tribute and to honor our local men and women who are currently serving, have served, or given their life for our country in the United States Military. We are here to introduce our Hometown Heroes Program which is a living tribute to the servicemen and servicewomen who are from the Delaware Valley School District Area. We are covering the whole Delaware Valley School District Area-anyone from Shohola, Dingman's Ferry and Westfall. We want to include everybody. The flag consists of the person's picture, their name and the branch of service and will be displayed down the three-lane from Broad Street through Milford Township, Westfall and Matamoras will pick up where we left off and bring it down to the bridge. That is our vision – to see them go straight down the three-lane. The flags from our program are \$100.00 each. We have been fundraising to keep the cost down for the families so we paid for the brackets ourselves through fundraising. We are going to have an in-person registration on September 7, 2019 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Pike County Chamber of Commerce. Applications can be picked up at the Pike County Chamber of Commerce or they can be printed off of our Facebook page – DVSD Area Hometown Heroes Banner Program. It will be on a first come, first serve basis. This has been a long road for us moms. We started in March of 2019 and have been working up until this day and time-we are still working on it. We conquered many hurdles and roadblocks and were discouraged at times, but we never gave up. There are many Hometown Heroes Programs throughout the country. Our Program is unique as it involves four Municipalities. We're doing Milford Borough, Milford Township, Westfall and Matamoras. Thank you Westfall and Milford Townships for all of the help and support that they've given us. Thank you Mayor Sean Strub – he is allowing us to use seven poles in Milford Boro and thank you to Mayor Janet Clark for working with us on behalf of Matamoras. Due to our collaboration, the size of the banners will be the same and the designs will be similar so it will look uniform. Steve Grimaldi from Pike County Power and Light has been very helpful to get permission to hang the flags on the utility poles and Pike County Chamber of Commerce has stepped up and saved the day for us when we needed to provide Milford Boro with insurance. Dr. John Bell, Superintendent of Delaware Valley School District has stepped up and allowed us to use the DV Foundation to collect money for our fundraising as well as to deposit all the checks that we collect for the flags so we can pay and has been very helpful since the beginning as to finding other resources. Colin Smith, local business owner and owner of Remark Printing, has designed our flags and he is printing them for us at cost. He is doing us a huge favor-thank you Colin! Fundraising was generously kicked off by VetStock-there are two gentlemen here from VetStock. They donated a large sum of money to us so that we could get this started sooner than we had expected. Donations from local businesses have also been coming in: The Dimmick Inn, Prime Time Meats, Key Food and the Dingman's Fire Department has graciously agreed to hang these flags for us in the Municipalities that could not hang them themselves. Westfall Township did agree to hire somebody to hang the flags. We are all very proud of our boys that are serving. We have put many, many hours into this. We did a whole lot of organizing to get this done, but it has truly become a community effort. This is for all of us to show our appreciation to the United States Armed Forces – for all that they do and sacrifice to keep us safe.

Mayor Janet Clark – I didn't know any of these ladies before. Since we have been working together I have some new friends. Now, people from every community are talking to us about this Program. It has been a great community effort for Pike County.

Tom Ryan, VetStock – VetStock presented \$5K today to 6 Navy Moms for the Military Hometown Heroes Project. This is to help you kick it off and get it started. The Program is already moving into Hawley, PA-we just got a \$10K donation from an individual in Hawley to start a Program in Hawley and we are working on Honesdale.

Commissioner Steve Guccini asked if we could have a summary of what needs to be done to apply and any information about how that process works. Tammy Savarese said they will be holding a live registration over at the Pike County Chamber of Commerce starting on Saturday, September 7, 2019 from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Bring in the application or they can pick up the application at the Pike County Chamber of Commerce. We also have a Facebook Page – DVSD HOMETOWN HEROES BANNER PROGRAM – you can print the application from the Facebook Page too. Bring in the application with a picture of the person and a check for \$100.00. We will scan the photo in at that time so we can give the picture right back to the person. From there it is all put in a file and sent to Colin. Colin will print it out and make a template of it and send it back to the 6 Navy Moms and they will get in touch with the families who will have to okay the template (everything needs to be spelled correctly, etc.). Once they approve the template, we send it back to Colin and Colin will print it. From there, we (6 Navy Moms) will get it and we have some of the banners here with us today. Banner displayed for meeting attendees.

Reporter Fran Harris asked how many banners will be put up? Tammy responded that there are 150 poles that they can start with. Milford Boro will only allow us to use 7 of their poles. They're using the other 7 poles that are available for their own use. All 7 of the banners hung in Milford Boro will be a different size than the rest, because Milford Boro did not approve the larger banner size. We are doing a different size in Milford Boro to keep them all uniform.

- Brian Snyder, Community Planning Office – NEPA Environmental Partners Awards Dinner – Brian Snyder was introduced and announced that this year the Pike County Tick Borne Diseases Task Force was awarded a Northeast Pennsylvania Partnership Award for Environmental Health. It is focusing on our partnership with DVSD, Representative Brown, Representative Peifer, Senator Baker, ESU, WMH, Hemlock Farms Conservancy and local residents as well. Through our partnerships, we have conducted two studies of black legged ticks in Pike County. One was in Milford Boro and we are doing a County-wide study that is collecting 1K black legged ticks to test them for 7 different pathogens, one is Lyme Disease, another is Powassan. That study is almost done. We work with Legislators to draft legislation for tick removal on students in schools, health care providers to cover tick borne diseases and treatment, and getting more education for doctors. Commissioner Steve Guccini asked about information on the Awards Dinner. Brian answered it will be on October 24, 2019 at the Woodlands Inn and Resort in Wilkes Barre, PA. The Pike County Tick Borne Diseases Task Force will be presented the Award and, hopefully, the Commissioners will be able to join us as well. Anyone who has any questions can contact Brian Snyder at the Community Planning Office (570) 296-3500.
- Penn State Extension – August 26 to September 15, 2019 Events – A two page list was circulated.

PRESS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2019, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.