

Wednesday, April 21, 2021

The second regular meeting of April 2021 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 Osterberg (via Zoom), Schmalzle and Guccini; Chief Clerk Orben; Solicitor Farley.

Public Comments/Questions concerning today's agenda.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, 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 Osterberg, to reconvene the Commissioners' Meeting.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the April 21, 2021 Agenda.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the April 7, 2021 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the April 12 and 16, 2021 Commissioners' Conference Minutes.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve payment from the **GENERAL FUND (County Bills)**, in the amount of **\$485,084.56**, subject to further review.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve payment from the **AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUND (Habitat for Humanity)** in the amount of **\$75,000.00**.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve payment from the **DEBT SERVICE FUND (TD Bank Interest)** in the amount of **\$164,041.67**.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve payment from the **SRCP DEBT SERVICE FUND (TD Bank Interest)** in the amount of **\$21,247.49**.

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

PERSONNEL:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to acknowledge receipt of a letter from the Courts advising that they have promoted **JOANNE STALLONE** from Clerk 1 to Office Manager for District Magistrate's Fischer's Office, effective May 1, 2021. This is a replacement position.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to change the Probation Legal Secretary position to a Financial Caseworker position in the Adult Probation Office, and to acknowledge receipt of a letter from the Courts advising that they have promoted **KRISTINE ST. JOHN** to fill this position effective April 26, 2021.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to change the Case Manager position to a Probation Office Aide position in the Adult Probation Office, and to acknowledge receipt of a letter from the Courts advising that they have promoted **KIM WALKER** to fill this position effective April 26, 2021.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to acknowledge receipt of a letter from Prothonotary Denise Fitzpatrick advising that she has hired **KAREN WAGENHOFFER** as a part-time Clerk in the Prothonotary's Office for less than 1000 hours per year, effective May 3, 2021, with no benefits. This is a replacement position.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to execute the Contract between Pioneer Construction Company and the County of Pike for the Winona Falls Road over Saw Creek Bridge Parapet Deflection Joint Repairs Project.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to adopt Resolution No. 21-12, National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 18-24, 2021.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.
Resolution read aloud by Commissioner Guccini.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to adopt Resolution No. 21-13, Conservation District Week, April 18-24, 2021.

VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted 'aye'. Motion carried.
Resolution read aloud by Commissioner Schmalzle.

Pike County Conservation Director Michele Long was introduced and thanked the County Commissioners for recognizing the Conservation District with this Proclamation. Your support is very important to what we do at the Conservation District and resources of Pike County. We also want to acknowledge our volunteer Board of Directors that oversee policy and programming who provide guidance and support to our professional staff team. The District is blessed with an experienced team of individuals. These individuals share a passion for the natural resources of our community and strive to provide information and technical assistance to our customers in a professional and courteous manner. Although some individuals come across the District through our State delegated programs, the majority who work down in the Conservation District Office is through education and technical assistance on a variety of topics which you'll hear one in a little bit from Stephen Alessi that are related to our community environmental concerns. We provide a number of educational program throughout the year, a few that are coming up having to deal with how to eradicate Japanese Knotweed in your backyard and workshops for local engineers. We also have a website that is packed with information, webinars, podcasts and an interactive homeowners' checklist that folks can use for your backyard. We also have a very active social media presence and you can find us on Face Book and Instagram. The work that we do isn't in a vacuum, we work very closely with a variety of partners besides the County Commissioners. We also work with local municipalities, State and Local Government agencies, non-profits and pretty much everybody. Pike County is a very vast area with a lot of different concerns, so we can't do this alone. We are very fortunate to have many stewards in the community that help us with our work. Again, I want to thank you for this opportunity to recognize the Conservation District for the work they do. Also, we have a litter clean-up on Friday if anybody wants to join us.

Commissioner Schmalzle said, as the Commissioner representative to the Conservation District, and I participate with Michele on a regular basis, I want to commend you (Michele Long) for your leadership, dedication and your enthusiasm for the job and developing a really exceptional staff. Well done, keep up the good work.

Director Michele Long added she also has some "I Survived the Virtual Pike/Wayne Envirothon Masks" for you folks. The Envirothon was last week and it went very well, the students did well. They announced yesterday the winner was Honesdale overall, but Pike County representative is going to be Wallenpaupack and they're going to States.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to execute Amendment #4 to the Reimbursable Agreement between the National Resources Conservation Service US Department of Agriculture and the County of Pike for the Green-Dreher Kintz Creek Dam Supplemental Watershed Plan for an extension of time to June 30, 2022.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to execute the Master Service Agreement and Statement of Work for InSight Video Remote Interpreting between Language Line Services and the County of Pike, on behalf of Children & Youth Services.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to approve the following for the Pike County Small Business Forgivable Loan Program: Rohman's Pub - \$35,000; Second Street Salon - \$39,574 and Murro Enterprises dba Supercuts - \$35,000.

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

MISCELLANEOUS:

Stephen Alessi, Penn State – Spotted Lantern Fly – PowerPoint Presentation – I am getting information out about Spotted Lantern Fly to residents of the County, I work with Penn State Extension in Pike County. I'd like to thank some organizations. First of all, the Conservation District, Michele (Long) and also to our Extension staff. They are taking this issue very seriously for the last few years. Picture slide was shown with Spotted Lantern Fly and a lot of people have said this is a beautiful bug. While it is pretty to look at, it is also a very destructive pest. The first time a Spotted Lantern Fly was discovered in Pennsylvania was in Berks County in 2014. We believe it arrived in Pennsylvania during 2012 but it took a couple of years for it to be discovered. It was discovered in a quarry area in Berks County. It's native to parts of Asia, it most likely came over in a shipment in shipping containers. It's also been recently discovered in South Korea as well and also as an invasive pest, it's not native to South Korea either.

Why are we concerned with Spotted Lantern Fly? It feeds on about 70 plus plants and they could be destructive to those plants. We're concerned with not only the long term health of these commodities throughout the State, but also what other States can say to us about transporting goods and being able to export our products out of Pennsylvania, we could have an interruption of commerce. Not only that, but the destruction to the ecosystem. There's environmental issues

and also commerce issues. Some of the popular hosts for this fly are grapes, so vineyards are very concerned and apple trees, so are orchards; maple, birch, sycamore trees, sumac and many others. A full list can be found on the Penn Extension website. As you can see, hardwoods are a concern as well. We know one of the preferred hosts is the ailanthus altissima tree (tree of heaven) which is also another invasive. A lot of times we are finding in counties where Spotted Lantern Fly is present, we are seeing they are being attracted to that tree. It's kind of a good way to monitor their movement. A couple of years ago, Penn State Extension did a report looking for a tree of heaven throughout the State of Pennsylvania and, using that information, we are hoping that will give us a good clue where Spotted Lantern Fly will go next. Life cycle of the Spotted Lantern Fly was explained. Each egg mass contains about roughly 50 Spotted Lantern Fly. Destroying egg masses is very important. The eggs have started hatching in the southeastern part of the State and as the weather warms up more eggs will start hatching more throughout the State. The next stage happens in late Spring/early summertime and it looks like a ladybug. After that is the adult stage from later in the Summer/early Autumn and after Autumn they start laying eggs again and the cycle starts again. Resources are available on the Penn State Extension website, there is a lot of information for homeowners and businesses:

www.extension.psu.edu.

Pike County was added about a month ago to the quarantine counties for Spotted Lantern Fly (slide shown of map of Pennsylvania). That means there are confirmed Spotted Lantern Fly activity within those counties. There are 7 Townships in Pike County that have confirmed activity: Delaware, Dingman, Greene, Lehman, Milford Township, Porter and Shohola. We're seeing them travelling along busy corridors and they travel well on vehicles. They are travelling through railroads as well. Quarantine means no one can intentionally move viable life stages of Spotted Lantern Fly in and out of the quarantine zone: outdoor items, crated materials, vehicles, equipment, trailers, recreational vehicles, stone, tile decorative materials, firewood and nursery stock. The Department of Agriculture with Penn State's help, have done a quarantine training course. Businesses can take this training course and then train their employees. There is also a checklist of what you should be looking for in a quarantine county. It's very simple – inspect your vehicle before you travel for any viable stage of the Spotted Lantern Fly to make sure it doesn't spread. It's a travel and likes to hitchhike. This is an important step in slowing the spread of the Spotted Lantern Fly and fully eradicating it from Pennsylvania. There are links on the Extension website and coming up on April 26th is a full webinar on Spotted Lantern Fly and there is a pre-registration requirement. There is also the Spotted Lantern Fly training course link for certification. Stephen Alessi also left his contact information: spa15@psu.edu. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us. Thank you for allowing us to present today.

Questions and comments were opened to the Public and the Press:

Commissioner Ron Schmalzle update on vaccine clinic within the County. Yesterday we had a 2nd dose clinic on 739 in Lords Valley at the Training Center. Today there is a walk-in Moderna clinic until 3PM. Next Wednesday we have 2 clinics, one right here in Milford at St. Patrick's Church from 9AM-11AM and then from 9AM-1PM at the Training Center in Lords Valley. Collectively we encourage everybody to do the research and we urge you to have interest in getting the vaccine. We believe it is helpful to reopening businesses and operating businesses safely. We also understand that it's your personal decision to get or not get the vaccine. In doing the clinics that I mentioned we want to thank the Wayne Memorial Health Centers and the hospital for a wonderful partnership and helping us and the residents of Pike County. Also, our Emergency Management staff and leaders for participating and providing leadership. If you go on our website: www.pikepa.org, there is a list of other places, pharmacies and providers where you can get the vaccine as well. Thank you all of the County residents for your cooperation and moving forward.

Commissioner Steve Guccini said Wayne Memorial Hospital and their health care centers have stepped up. The situation is very good. Anybody here who wants a vaccine can pretty much get one. They have been instrumental in all this – thank you.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Osterberg, to adjourn the Commissioners' Meeting.

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

ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 2021, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.