

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

The second regular meeting of May 2019 of the Pike County Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Osterberg at 10:00 a.m. at the Pike County Administration Building, followed by the "Pledge of Allegiance" to the flag.

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

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 May 15, 2019 Agenda.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the May 1, 2019 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 May 2 and 9, 2019 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 **\$225,928.35**, subject to further review.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to adopt Resolution No. 19-14, Corrections Employees Week, May 5-11, 2019, which was read by Commissioner Guccini.

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

PRESENTATION OF "CORRECTIONAL OFFICER OF THE YEAR" AWARD TO CORRECTIONAL OFFICER DIANE TARANTO.

Warden Craig Lowe introduced Correctional Officer Diane Taranto and awarded her the title of Pike County Correctional Facility Correctional Officer of the Year for 2019. You perform your duties in an outstanding manner, demonstrating extraordinary levels of correctional professionalism, job proficiency and dedication to duty with exemplary diligence. Your efforts have significantly contributed to the successful mission effectiveness of the Pike County Correctional Facility since your employment on November 26, 2001. Your superior performance reflects honor and pride for yourself, fellow officers, Pike County and the Pike County Correctional Facility. Congratulations! A plaque and certificate were then presented to Correctional Officer Diane Taranto.

Commissioner Guccini added that this is a very difficult job they have (correctional officers) and, in addition to doing their regular duties, Warden Lowe and his staff have been very active in our Re-Entry Committee. We are coming up on our fourth of six meetings and we are trying to come up with a Strategic Re-Entry Plan in July, which we are going to meet today and start to write. I attended a Re-Entry fair in a State Correctional Facility out in Indiana, Pennsylvania and they had 250 inmates going through the large gymnasium and talking to all of the providers there. I think there is a general idea that the correctional facilities and the correctional officers are there to sort of keep people in line and that's the extent of their job. In the State and County system there are just hundreds of hundreds programs, many volunteers who do things like adult literacy, adult education-all sorts of faith based initiatives and program and the people who do this are very dedicated-they're not doing it for the money. THANK YOU for all you do-we really do appreciate it.

PERSONNEL:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to promote **PENNY SELTZER** from Caseworker 2 to Caseworker Supervisor for Children & Youth Services effective June 10, 2019. This is a replacement position.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to open bids received for the purchase of groceries and frozen foods for the Correctional Facility.

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

Solicitor Farley opened bids from the following vendors: Bernard Foods for \$12,380.80; Benjamin Foods for \$157,858; Sysco Foods for \$109,092.71; La Villa for \$147,007.99; and Bimbo for \$141,859.96.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to table bids received for the purchase of groceries and frozen foods for the Correctional Facility until June 19, 2019.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Chairman to execute Contract Documents between Zitone Construction and the County of Pike for the alterations to the 102 John Street Court Facility.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Chairman to execute Change Order No. GC02 between Grimm Construction and the County of Pike, for the cost of extra materials and labor for stamped colored concrete relating to Courthouse Front Entrance Modifications Project.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Addendum to the Intergovernmental Agreement for a Sewer Study between Westfall Township, Milford Township, Milford Borough and the County of Pike and the Municipal Authority of the Township of Westfall, to add Matamoras Borough.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the PA Department of Human Services Medical Assistance Transportation Program Participation Grant Agreement and Assurance of Compliance, on behalf of the Transportation Department.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Agreement between Scott Eyler and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging, for handicap accessible adaptations of a property located on Bennett Avenue, Milford.

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

MISCELLANEOUS:

- Penn State Extension – May 15-31, 2019 Events.
- Jill Gamboni – Reality Tour.

Jill Gamboni stated we have 58 people registered for this tour. Jill Gamboni also announced there is an Elder Justice Day on June 12, 2019 at St. Patrick's Church in Milford, PA.

- CGI Press Release Video.

Krista Gromalski from Pike County Conservation District announced the County is working with a company from Rochester, NY-CGI, on a series of promotional videos that will be available on the County website this coming Summer. We are doing five videos on tourism, quality of life, economic development and history. The promotional video on our website right now is similar to a public relations video that CGI will be taking out into the community to solicit sponsorships from local businesses that will support the project. The video on the Pike County website www.pikepa.org was then shown. Commissioner Osterberg said that the County has partnered with CGI through NACo which is the National Association of Counties. There is no expense to the County and, even if they do not solicit any sponsors, the videos will still be put on our website. There really was no downside to partnering with them. It is free. Reporter Chris Jones asked how they get the income for that? Commissioner Osterberg answered - their commitment is they have an allocation of funding throughout their company to do a number of these videos in each State. They are out there doing these videos nationwide in each State. They are going to sell some advertising on them. Reporter Chris Jones then asked if our residents will be seeing these videos with ads in them? Commissioner Osterberg answered: when you click on the video, it will take you to a different website, it will not be necessarily on the Pike County website. When you click on the video it will take you to a landing page that includes the videos and the sponsors will be featured around the videos. The company is leveraging the sponsorship to support the program. Reporter Chris Jones asked if they would be ready for the Summer? Commissioner Osterberg answered he did not know when they would be ready, but it would be pretty soon. Krista Gromalski Conservation added that they will be filming in June and they should be complete by the end of the Summer.

PRESS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Reporter Chris Jones asked what is a “fiscal technician” in Children and Youth and what does that person do? Commissioner Guccini answered that a fiscal technician and a fiscal officer are required by the State and that every agency have one to essentially keep track of all the money. Most of the approximately 80% of funding for the County are passed through from the State and Federal government. There are fairly substantial reporting requirements and that is what those two people do. Commissioner Osterberg added that they are keeping track of all the funding and where the money is being spent and how the money is coming in. It is State mandated and they’re funding Children and Youth on average about 80%.

Reporter Chris Jones asked what is going on with Bennett Avenue, the handicap accessible adaptations? What else is going on? Commissioner Osterberg answered that has to do with Area Agency on Aging. They have a specific amount of money that they can use to adapt houses. The idea of keeping people home and in place – Aging in Place. Handicapped accessibility for somebody’s house? Yes, it is not a County project. That is a residential home of a senior citizen that needs a ramp or renovation to get in and out of their home.

Reporter Chris Jones asked about John Street – do we have a dollar amount for that? Commissioner Osterberg answered yes, we did that last month. It’s \$149,900.00 to adapt the building so the District Magistrate, Public Defenders’ office and Central Booking office can be moved in there. There will be some work that will be done, essentially the lobby with service windows for each one of those offices. Central Court will also be moved there and that will operate through the Magistrate’s office.

Reporter Chris Jones asked what is Central Court? Commissioner Guccini explained that Central Court is, when anybody is charged with a criminal offense, they are entitled to a Preliminary Hearing within three to ten days unless they ask to postpone it. Typically, what happens here is those Preliminary Hearings will be held at the District Magistrate’s office – wherever that is. There are four of them in Pike County. In a Central Court situation, the Preliminary Hearings will be held once a week-all of them in Milford. It is not just a time-saver, it is strategic saving in terms of transporting people from prison, having the district attorney and attorneys there, etc. Most Preliminary Hearings are “waived” - the defendant agrees not to have a Preliminary Hearing. They agree that there is enough evidence for the case to move forward. If those hearings are waived, it will happen in Central Court. If the person wants an actual hearing, then it will be rescheduled to the specific Magistrate’s office. It is substantial time savings and there are other things that are going to occur there in terms of providing documents to attorneys, etc. It can all happen in one location. Wayne and Lackawanna Counties have it also and it works quite well. That is a function of the Court and the Court is agreeable to do that. Do the District Judge’s still have to be there, at the actual hearing? Commissioner Guccini answered the District Judge will be there and they will rotate to handle Central Court. Commissioner Guccini added that the Penn State Wayne/Pike Alumni Association awarded Commissioner Osterberg Alumnus of the year for 2019.

ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2019, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.