

**Wednesday, August 19, 2020**

The second regular meeting of August 2020 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 telephone), Schmalzle and Guccini (via telephone); Chief Clerk Orben; and Solicitor Farley.

*Public Comments/Questions concerning today's agenda.*

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

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the August 19, 2020 Agenda.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the August 5, 2020 Commissioners' Meeting Minutes.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve the August 5 and 12, 2020 Commissioners' Conference Minutes.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to approve payment from **GENERAL FUND (County Bills)**, in the amount of **\$664,508.02**, subject to further review.

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

**PERSONNEL:**

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to promote **CARLA BROWN** from Caseworker 1 to Caseworker 2 for Children & Youth Services effective August 17, 2020.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to promote **ALEX LEVITIN** from Caseworker 1 to Caseworker 2 for Children & Youth Services effective August 17, 2020.

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

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

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

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

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to table the bid award for the Correctional Facility Wastewater Treatment Plan Controls Building Roof Replacement Project until September 2, 2020.

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

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to adopt Resolution No. 20-23, Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month, September 2020 and Suicide Awareness and Prevention Day, September 10, 2020, which was read by Commissioner Schmalzle.

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

Commissioner Guccini commented that every year there is a walk at the Wallenpaupack School. He was not certain if it was being held this year due to the pandemic. This is an issue that continues to have more and more importance as time goes on especially among young people. The numbers are pretty staggering. This is a very important issue to recognize. Commissioner Osterberg concurred with Commissioner Guccini and that people know the importance of helping each other. There will be resources posted on the County website.

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to execute the Survey of Polling Place Accessibility for the Elderly and Persons with a Disability County Summary Sheet on behalf of the Election Office.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to execute the PCCD STOP Violence Against Women Grant Application for the Domestic Abuse Response Team Project for \$125,000, on behalf of the District Attorney's Victim Witness Program.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to execute the Contract for Professional Services between Michael P. Caiazzo, Psy. D. and the County of Pike, on behalf of Children & Youth Services.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Vice Chairman to execute Amendment No. 2 to the Memorandum of Understanding between the PA Department of Aging and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Vice Chairman to execute the Affordable Housing Fund Payment Voucher in the amount of \$5,075, payable to Diana T. Myers & Assoc. for the July 2020 Pike Strategic Plan, on behalf of Human Services.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Vice Chairman to execute the Affordable Housing Fund Payment Voucher in the amount of \$1,812, payable to Delaware Run for August 2020 Senior Rental Assistance, on behalf of Human Services.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Osterberg and seconded by Commissioner Guccini, to authorize the Vice Chairman to execute the Affordable Housing Fund Payment Voucher in the amount of \$63.75, payable to Recorder of Deeds for a Lien Satisfaction from Act 37, on behalf of Human Services.

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

#### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

- Commonwealth Financing Authority PA Small Water and H2O Programs Grant Award for the Well at the Blooming Grove Complex was awarded in the amount of \$165,750. Commissioner Osterberg stated that the Planning Department worked diligently on this funding application. This funding will enable the County to complete the project and make the property more appealing to commercial development, such as medical providers, etc. The County has needed a third well there for quite some time, and hopefully with these funds the well can be drilled. This County needs proper infrastructure to get medical providers and/or hospitals. That property will add more to invite those entities to the Blooming Grove area where we need more medical services. Commissioner Osterberg thanked Mike Mrozinski and the Planning Office, Mike Peifer, Lisa Baker and Rosemary Brown for their support.
- 2020 Census Update – Krista Gromalski presented the following updates on behalf of the Pike County Complete County Committee who have been meeting the past couple of months to help boost responses to the census. The census is critical to Pike County because over the next 10 years it does affect funding for so many important services to the people of Pike County. Currently, the Census are conducting Mobile Questionnaire Assistance Centers at various locations throughout the County. In the coming weeks if you can't respond online or don't have time to wait on the phone you can go to these Centers and Census staff will help you complete the very brief survey. The upcoming dates are today at Key Food in Milford from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.; August 22<sup>nd</sup> at Weis Market in Lords Valley from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; August 27 at Key Food in Milford from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and August 29 at Weis Market in Lords Valley from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Census takers will be visiting households in Pike County who have not responded to the census. Total within Northeastern Pennsylvania will be about 1200 census takers in the area over the coming weeks. There is also time for people to respond online or by phone. For more information please visit [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov). There is about a month or so left to respond. It is very important for Pike County to get as many people to respond as possible to create more funding options over the next decade. The County rate of response currently is about 39.2% which is up from 2010 about 9 points, but that number really needs to be boosted much more. The Commissioners continue to urge everyone to complete the census. We can do better than 39%.
- Pike Housing Survey – Commissioner Guccini explained that arrangements were made to have a housing survey done and is pretty well along in terms of gathering data. There was a survey just out, which is on the County website, to send out to a lot of other individuals and entities. The Aging Office is also getting the survey out there. The Commissioners are asking everyone to complete the survey, which is about 9 pages, to get input from the community on what they feel the most important housing needs are in the County and this is a very important part of the study.
- Electronic Recycling Event open to all Pike County residents sponsored by the Commissioners and the Dingman Township Board of Supervisors on Saturday, September 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Dingman Township Park, 679 Log Tavern Road, across from the firehouse. Cash only – a car load is \$20, a pickup load is \$40, commercial entities is \$100 but you must be pre-registered. There was a similar event in Wallenpaupack and it was very busy and a great opportunity to get rid of all the electronics left after upgrading and moving on to new things. There is no charge for Dingman Township residents, as costs are being covered by Dingman Township. Proof of residency is required.

#### **PRESS & PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/ADJOURNMENT**

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2020, AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.**