Wednesday, July 17, 2019
The second regular meeting of July 2019 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, 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 July 17, 2019 Agenda.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the July 3, 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 July 11, 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 $369,189.75, subject to further review.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to acknowledge receipt of a letter from the Courts advising that they have hired LISA STANKIEWICZ as a part-time Clerk for Magisterial District Justice Alan Cooper’s Office, for less than 1000 hours per year effective July 16, 2019, 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 Schmalzle, 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 July 22, 2019, with benefits after 90 days: COREY JACOB, VICTORIA BATZEL and MICHAEL SHERIDAN.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to hire VICTORIA MUNDY and MICHAEL GAMBONI as part-time Van Drivers for the Transportation Department, for less than 1000 hours per year effective July 11, 2019, with no benefits. These are newly created positions.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to hire REBECCA DOTTER as a full-time Van Driver for the Transportation Department, for 40 hours per week effective July 18, 2019, with benefits after 90 days. This is a newly created position.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to hire MICHAEL ULBRICH as a full time Computer/Network Specialist in the IT Department, effective July 22, 2019, with benefits after 90 days. This is a newly created position.
VOTE: Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Guccini voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to hire LISA MCDONOUGH as a full time Legal Secretary for the Public Defenders’ Office, for a 37 ½ hour work week, effective July 22, 2019, with benefits after 90 days. 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 Pike County Courthouse Sally Port Project.

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

Solicitor Farley opened the following bids: The first bid is from Grimm Construction and the bid is $434,088.00. It also has some contingency items, with that being added the total is $437,143.00. The next one is Ziton Construction. The bid is $479,000.00. With contingencies $481,250.00. The last bid is from LH Reed and Sons, Inc. and the bid (I think it is only for mechanical) is only $65,100.00 and it says total bid but it says contract mechanical. They didn’t bid the whole project. This is going to have to be looked at by our engineer. Commissioner Osterberg asked if we could authorize the Board to approve this in a conference before August 7th? Solicitor Farley answered yes you can approve it at a conference meeting and added that he is going to need a motion on a date some time – pick a week for the conference. We are going to need at least a week or two to review it. Commissioner Osterberg answered the week of July 29th.

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to table bids received for the Pike County Courthouse Sally Port Project until the week of July 29, 2019.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to adopt Resolution No. 19-17, Notice of Intent to Participate in the DCED Multimodal Transportation Grant Program.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the PA Board of Probation and Parole FY 2019-2020 Grant-In-Aid Continuing Program for the Improvement of Adult Probation Services Application and Agreement, on behalf of the Probation Office.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Agreement between Robert Vicari Jr. and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging for accessible adaptations for a property located in Bushkill.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute Purchase of Service Agreements FY 2019-2020 between the following Providers and the County of Pike, on behalf of Children & Youth Services: Adelphoi Village, Affinity Forensic Services, LLC, Clear Vision Residential, Justice Works Younchare, Merekey, Mid-Atlantic Youth Services, New Way Youth Services, PA Treatment and Healing and Pentz Run Youth Services.

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

MOTION: by Commissioner Guccini and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Certification Statement for the 3rd Quarter FY 18-19 Act 148 Invoice, on behalf of Children & Youth Services.

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 the Monroe/Pike Counties Housing Collaboration Agreement between Family Promise of Monroe County and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Human Development Office.

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

MISCELLANEOUS:

• Robert Ruiz, Director of Human Development/Transportation introduced himself and announced that, in collaboration with Family Promise of Monroe County, the County of Pike Human Development Office has hired someone (in Monroe County) to do our “211” and keep them updated. This has been a big project for “211” and our coordinated Housing Entry. The new hire will also attend, on behalf of the Offices of the County, the monthly meeting of the Pocono Region Housing Advisory Board. The new hire will also be able to look at working with and partnering
with landlords so that when people are looking for homes in the area, and have low to moderate income, this individual will have established relationships with landlords. Along with the Agreement comes some of the funding for Re-Housing that they are willing to share. We don’t have a plethora of housing, but we are going to work on getting a Housing Locator, which will help us identify places, landlords and areas where we can actually help individuals who are struggling. Some of the other problems that we are addressing as a County is the 211 Report came back and the top three things we are looking at are: housing, regular assistance and utility assistance. In the next couple of weeks you will be hearing about how we are planning to address that as well.

• Madison Scarfaro of Marsy’s Law for PA - Guardians of Victims’ Rights Award – Marsy’s Law for Pennsylvania is an organization that is working to take statutory rapes that crime victims currently have in Pennsylvania and elevate them into Constitutional Rights. Marsy was assaulted and killed by her ex-boyfriend in California in 1983. A week after her death her mom and brother visited her grave and they were approached by the man that actually killed Marsy and had no idea he was released on bail. Marsy’s brother took it upon himself that this never happens to another family again and that is how Marsy’s Law, for all, was started. We are working on it right here in PA right now and today I am here to present the Guardian of Victims’ Rights Award to the Pike County Commissioners and the Pike County District Attorney’s Office. This is our highest award given to those who advocate for crime victims and their families. Thank you – Pike County Commissioners and the Pike County District Attorney’s Office for being champions of victims’ rights and supporting us, we couldn’t do it without you. We will actually be on the ballot in November for all of Pennsylvania to vote on. If you need any more information, ([informational packet was circulated) https://marsyslawforpa.com, Commissioner Osterberg did state that the Pike County Commissioners support everything the District Attorney’s Office does, they are the ones that are working through this project and they are the ones that are dealing with the victims. We appreciate the award to us, but we truly appreciate you recognizing what the District Attorney’s Office does every day for the victims of Pike County: Sarah A. Wilson, Senior Deputy District Attorney and Director of CAC Services; Mary Beth Sayles, Victim Witness Coordinator; Sara Loeb-Special Victim Advocate; and Molly Carson, Child Forensic Interviewer. These are the individuals who really work toward this for the County and we appreciate them. Two awards were presented – one to the Pike County Commissioners and one to the Pike County District Attorney’s Office. Commissioner Guccini added that what they are doing in the Pike County District Attorney’s Office is very difficult work and he appreciates everything they do.

• Penn State Extension – August 1-15, 2019 Events – Circulated Event Information

• Area Agency on Aging Care Manager Supervisor Joan Edel – Joan Edel is an HCM Supervisor at the Area Agency on Aging and she announced there will be two events held. The first event is Senior Health Benefits in coordination with the Catholic Social Concerns Committee from the churches, Pike Aging and the Apprise Program at the Aging Office. The event will take place tonight at St. Patrick’s Church from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM. Medicare will be discussed and people will be briefed how to navigate through the Medicare system. I will be talking about various programs offered and how we can connect people through different programs through Pike County Aging. The event will be held a second time by the Social Concerns Committee for St. John Neumann Church on Thursday, July 25, 2019 from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM in Lords Valley, PA.

PRESS/PUBLIC COMMENTS

An attendee asked what the Sally Port Project is. Commissioner Osterberg replied that the Sally Port is the project that is on the corner of the existing Courthouse across the street from District Magistrate Deborah Fischer’s Office. That is going to be a facility built so that the vans holding the inmates from the Correctional Facility will back into and then they will be in a secure, locked-down facility and brought into the Courthouse from there and be processed for the Court. It was then asked why it cost $500K? Commissioner Osterberg answered it is a fairly large brick structure and that is the cost. Solicitor Tom Farley added that one of the reasons is prevailing rates (wages). The prevailing rates are significantly higher than what the average rates are for labor and it makes a big difference.

ADJOURNMENT: THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2019, AT 9:00 A.M., AT THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.