

### **Wednesday, July 5, 2023**

The first regular meeting of July, 2023 of the Pike County Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Osterberg at 11:00 a.m. at the Pike County Administration Building, followed by the “Pledge of Allegiance” to the flag.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Waldron; Chief Clerk Gromalski; and Assistant County Solicitor Ohliger.

#### ***Public Comments/Questions concerning today’s agenda-none.***

Commissioner Osterberg announced they would need to amend the Agenda to include an item under Old Business’ to table the awarding of bids for the Springbrook Road over Rattlesnake Creek Bridge Replacement Project until July 19, 2023.

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to amend the Agenda to include an item under Old Business.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the July 5, 2023, Agenda as amended.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the June 21, 2023, Commissioners’ Meeting Minutes.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the June 28, 2023, Commissioners’ Conference Minutes.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve payment from **GENERAL FUNDS (County Bills)**, in the amount of **\$275,682.46**, subject to further review.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve payment from **BRIDGE REPAIR ACCOUNT**, in the amount of **\$12,451.29**, subject to further review.

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

#### **PERSONNEL**

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to acknowledge receipt from Warden Lowe advising that he has hired **JOHN AVERY**, with Prison Board approval, as full-time Maintenance Staff Member for the Pike County Correctional Facility, for a 40-hour work week, effective July 10, 2023, with benefits after 90 days. This is a replacement position.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to acknowledge receipt from Warden 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 10, 2023, with benefits after 90 days. These are replacement positions: **DAVID ALMODOVAR, CIERA CLEVENGER, EVERETTE JEAN, AND STUARD POZO.**

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to acknowledge receipt from Warden Lowe advising that he has hired, with Prison Board approval, the following individuals as full-time Administrative Clerks for a 40-hour work week, effective July 10, 2023, with benefits after 90 days. These are replacement positions: **TANYA TORRES AND MARYANN KENNEDY.**

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to hire **AUSTIN CONKLIN** as a part-time Training Assistant for the Training Center, for less than 1,000 hours per year, effective July 10, 2023. This is a replacement position.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to hire **TIMOTHY KNAPP JR.** as a part-time Training Assistant for the Training Center, for less than 1,000 hours per year, effective July 10, 2023. This is a replacement position.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to create the position of part-time Dietitian in the Area Agency on Aging, for less than 1,000 hours per year.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to hire **ROBIN SKIBBER** as part-time Dietitian for the Area Agency on Aging, for less than 1,000 hours per year, effective July 3, 2023.

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

*Motion to recess the Commissioners Meeting to hold a Salary Board Meeting.*

*Motion to adjourn the Salary Board Meeting and reconvene the Commissioners Meeting.*

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Chairman to execute Change Order No. 2 for the Pike County Owego Turnpike Repaving Project.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to table the awarding of bids for the Springbrook Road over Rattlesnake Creek Bridge Replacement Project until July 19, 2023.

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

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the following Human Services Payment Vouchers, on behalf of the Office of Human Services: State Food Purchase Program in the amount of \$14,076.93; PHARE in the amount of \$2,266.39; Human Services Development Fund in the amount of \$417.00; and Homeless Assistance Program in the amount of \$4,097.87.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the Affordable Housing Fund Payment Voucher in the amount of \$3,442.00, payable to Delaware Run, on behalf of the Office of Human Services.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to approve the Affordable Housing Fund Payment Voucher in the amount of \$3,488.00, payable to Delaware Run, on behalf of the Office of Human Services.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Contract for Professional Services between Hailstone Economic, LLC and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Office of Human Services.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to re-appoint **DEBORAH FISCHER** to the Pike County Workforce Development Board as Private-Sector Member for a three-year term effective July 5, 2023, through June 30, 2026.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to re-appoint **LORI PHILLIPS** to the Pike County Workforce Development Board as Private-Sector Member for a three-year term effective July 5, 2023, through June 30, 2023.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Service Agreement between Beach Lake Sprinkler Fire Protection Services and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Correctional Facility, as recommended by the Prison Board.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Guardian RFID System Agreement Renewal between Guardian RFID and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Correctional Facility, as recommended by the Prison Board.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Immigration Agreement Modification, on behalf of the Correctional Facility, as recommended by the Prison Board.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the Chairman to execute the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Unified Grant Program (Non Disaster Grants) Letter of Interest, on behalf of the Planning and Mapping Office.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY 22-23 Act 148 Invoice Certification Statement, on behalf of Children and Youth Services.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Agreement between Service Access & Management Inc. and the County of Pike, on behalf of Children and Youth Services.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Purchase of Service Agreement between Michael A. Church, PHD and the County of Pike, on behalf of Children and Youth Services.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Agreement for Subcontracted Services between Destiny Empowerment and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging.  
**VOTE:** Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Waldron voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Agreement for Subcontracted Services between Caregivers of America, LLC. and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging.  
**VOTE:** Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Waldron voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Agreement for Subcontracted Services between Traditional Home Care, LLC. and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging.  
**VOTE:** Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Waldron voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to execute the Agreement for Subcontracted Services between Above the Rest Home Care LLC. and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging.  
**VOTE:** Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Waldron voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the fiscal year 2023 first quarter payment from the Pike County Emergency Medical Services Matching Grant fund to Matamoras Borough in the amount of \$6,050.00.  
**VOTE:** Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Waldron voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Waldron and seconded by Commissioner Schmalzle, to authorize the fiscal year 2023 second quarter payment from the Pike County Emergency Medical Services Matching Grant fund to the following municipalities: Dingman Township in the amount of \$88,005.60; Lackawaxen Township in the amount of \$82,712.53; Milford Township in the amount of \$15,000; Shohola Township in the amount of \$48,199.00; and Lehman Township in the amount of \$85,011.80.  
**VOTE:** Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Waldron voted ‘aye’. Motion carried.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

- PennState Extension Calendar of Events – July 5, 2023 Upcoming Events
- Representative Joseph Adams’ Open House Event, July 27, 2023 - Jill Gamboni announced that the Open House will be held from 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM at the office in Hawley located at 2523 Route 6, Suite 2, Hawley, PA.

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

Reporter Chris Jones asked what is the Immigration Agreement Modification? Commissioner Osterberg answered that is the Prison Board having to do with the meeting of clients and detainees. We provided a modification to give them a separate room so that they can do video conferencing with their attorneys. This has to do with the contract we have with ICE up there and this was a modification that ICE has put through and asked us to modify the contract.

Reporter Chris Jones asked if now it all comes under INS right? Who runs ICE? Immigration, Custom and Enforcement? Commissioner Osterberg answered yes. That is who our contract is with.

Reporter Chris Jones asked what happened to the State Police? Commissioner Osterberg answered there was a conflict and they couldn’t show up. We had it all arranged up until Monday at 4:00 PM and they notified us that they could not make it. They’re going to reschedule that when they tell us when they’re available. Commissioner Waldron added we are working with Heritage Affairs section of the Pennsylvania State Police and had them do a more formal presentation for us whether it is here or in conjunction with the schools during them having down time, but we hope to do that within the next month.

Reporter Chris Jones asked what is the presentation on? Commissioner Waldron replied hate crime issues and how it concerns in relation to Pike County. Unfortunately, the focus has been on recent years, toward the LGBTQ community, but not limited to that – it’s other communities. There’s a division of the Pennsylvania State Police called the Heritage Affairs Section and there are actually under the Community Engagement Section. We hear from the officer that heads up the Community Engagement Division and their job is to interact with the community and try to avoid problems. It’s more to try to avoid problems than it is to prosecute or arrest. Reporter Chris Jones asked if that is uniformed officers? Commissioner Waldron answered I don’t know, we haven’t had enough contact with them. We know there are uniformed officers, we’ve even had a chat with an undercover officer who wasn’t wearing a uniform. It’s a mix. I don’t know whether the people in Harrisburg, where that is headquartered, whether they wear uniforms or not. They have titles, ranks or sometime of ranking official in the Pennsylvania State Police.

Reporter Chris Jones asked one more question, regarding #14, Destiny Empowerment? Commissioner Osterberg answered these are organizations that are contracted through the Area Agency on Aging. Robin (Soares) brings these contracts that we’ve had for years with different types of support groups that are given to the Agency on Aging. I would have to ask Robin (Soares) what it is. We defer to the Director of Area Agency on Aging (Robin Skibber (Retired) or Robin Soares (Acting Director).

Meeting attendee Victor Dibiasi, Friends of the Milford Aquifer member, said this is the Attorney General’s address and phone number here. If you continue to say that I am a bald face liar on issues pertaining to the warehouse/aquifer, I am going to ask for an investigation into it and put you (the Commissioners) under oath, the EDA (Economic Development Authority and all the people that attend that and myself and then we’ll see what’s going on. I want to defend myself and I want to get to the bottom so that people know, and the taxpayers know that every time I’ve come here I’ve asked you – are you involved in the warehouse situation? A lot of times I get ‘no, we have nothing to do with it’, but we have the minutes from the EDA and I have posted those and I have them right here. Either you can do it now and properly answer the questions, or we can do it under an investigation – I would ask you a few questions, a few right to know forms ready

to go. According to the minutes, in January, 2022 through April, 2022, you had a contest for warehouses and you had four bidders and the contest was for the 44.7 acres in Milford Township and the 91.84 acres in Dingman Township. Did you have that contest at the EDA? Commissioner Osterberg answered this isn't a trial, and I'm not going to get into it. Commissioner Waldron said this is public comment period. Assistant Solicitor Ohliger said I think you know that. As public comment period, I'm concerned about the threat of report to the Attorney General and an investigation if the Commissioners don't answer questions at your command right now. I think that's a questionable assertion and this should remain a public comment period. Mr. Dibiasi asked can I ask any questions? Assistant Solicitor Ohliger replied the Commissioners can answer or not answer those questions because it's a public comment period.

Commissioner Waldron said I'm going to weigh in here and say I resent the idea that you said you are going to report something to the Attorney General. The job of the State Attorney General is investigating crimes. The idea that there's been some crime committed because there's a differing opinion of your view of the facts versus the reality is not a basis for a crime. You can go ahead and contact the Attorney General all you want, but it's not going to do you any good. The idea that we have to be tried by you because you won't accept the information that's been provided to you on numerous occasions, both at this meeting and at the EDA meetings, it's unfortunate that your people aren't following how often you told what the reality is, and you refuse to accept it.

Meeting attendee Victor Dibiasi continued I want to know the reality okay. There is a venue marketed to warehouses, condos, two acres, the two parcels 41.7 and the 91.84. Have you marketed them and did you get our Right To Know (RTK) here? Did you get plans when you had that contest? It must have had submitted some kind of scoping plan in order for them to be picked. National Land Developers obviously won that contest because they submitted plans or scoping sketches that show whatever they have planned for the Milford Township part and the Dingman Township part – a 400K square foot warehouse in Milford Township and a 500K square foot warehouse in the Dingman Township part. I am going to ask for those sketches. Commissioner Waldron directed Mr. Dibiasi to give it to the RTK Officer and there are five days to respond to that and asked Mr. Dibiasi if he had submitted this previously? Mr. Dibiasi answered no.

Commissioner Osterberg said this is not us anyway, you're bringing it to the wrong person, you fill this out to the Pike County Economic Development Authority, this is not the Pike County Economic Development Authority. After you start to bring in the Attorney General and all this, I'm not answering nothing. I've already stated a million times, what are role is in the Economic Development Authority. How we go about identifying companies that come into this County and offer them information to local realtors who then submit parcels of land where this is able to be done by zoning and then that applicant goes to the Township. There are a number of them going on right now throughout the County, not just this. Now that you bring up the Attorney General, I'll defer to that attorney.

Mr. Dibiasi asked, in terms of the minutes for the EDA, I have minutes here we used to get the Executive Director's Report, that's why I have the January, February, March, April, May, June of 2022, but then after that, you stopped posting the Executive Director's Report and I have a number of times when you just have a sentence. Assistant Solicitor Ohliger asked, is this the EDA? Mr. Dibiasi said yes. Assistant Solicitor Ohliger explained that's not this Board, that's not the Commissioners. Mr. Dibiasi said he wants this to be publicly known that they put here updated the Boards of trends, correspondence and market activities from the previous month. Well, what trends, correspondence or market activities? Assistant Solicitor Ohliger asked what does the EDA's minutes and the accuracy or completeness of their minutes have to do with this Board – the Pike County Commissioners? Mr. Dibiasi answered that Matt (Commissioner Osterberg) is the Chairman of the EDA Board. Commissioner Osterberg added I run the meetings and you should come to our meetings, and you've been to our meetings. Mr. Dibiasi said he asks every time are you still marketing the warehouse projects, condos to particular properties and also noted in these minutes, your also looking at the 230 acres on the other side of I-84. When I went to the April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, I have in my notes that I asked the question are you marketing the warehouses around that interchange? Mike Sullivan answered yes and he is going to continue to do so. When I went on June 6<sup>th</sup>, I asked Mike Sullivan the same thing, are you going to continue to market the warehouses around the I-84 interchange? Mike Sullivan said yes. Since you're not going to answer any other questions, that's all I want to show you and the last thing I'll show you is that I am also putting in a RTK about the minutes – I want the whole minutes. Assistant Solicitor Ohliger asked the minutes of whom? Mr. Dibiasi answered from the EDA – to show the pattern that they used to put the Executive Director's Report and then they stoped and they start off and on. January they did not, February they have three sentences, March they did not and since then they've had three sentences. I am going to contact the RTK Office to see if that is proper minute taking. All I'm trying to get, no matter you want to answer or not, is I understand the role that you (the Commissioners), but you also have a role of inviting these people and having contests, okay? It's in the minutes.

Assistant Solicitor Ohliger asked in whose minutes? Mr. Dibiasi answered the EDA minutes. Assistant Solicitor Ohliger said this is not the EDA – you're conflating two separate agencies. Mr. Dibiasi asked how he gets public notice that this is what's going on at the EDA. Commissioner Waldron said you go to that meeting and you bring that up – you should have done that, the public is invited to attend it. Mr. Dibiasi said I think the public should know what's going on at the EDA. Commissioner Waldron said they can come to the meeting. Mr. Dibiasi again said I think the public should know what's going on, the voter taxpayers should know what's going on at the EDA and if this is not the proper place, then maybe it is the Attorney General, where else am I supposed to go to get that answer? Number one, you keep saying we don't do this, we're not involved, and yet you have contests? Where you have four bidders? I have it right here in the minutes.

Commissioner Waldron said, while we don't have to answer questions, but to put some of this to rest so the public hears the right side of this – there was never a contest conducted by the EDA. There were bids submitted to the realtor, Chant Realtors had that property listed and there were four bids submitted to the realtor. Mr. Dibiasi said it says (the EDA minutes) Joe Marley recently won the competition. Commissioner Waldron said that's right, because he was the high bidder to the realtor. The only thing we did was to market the property. The sale and who gets the bid and what agreement is being accepted is done through realtors, not through the EDA. You have a hard time listening. Whose competition? It doesn't say the EDA competition – we don't do that. The EDA does not do that. We don't have the ability to sell somebody's property. Commissioner Osterberg added, at the last meeting you asked the same questions and we told you – we don't run the competition, we didn't market the property. There's been a For Sale sign on the property for decades, that does not say EDA on it. It says a real estate company on it. You're re-reading that to me that there was a competition like we were out there asking these people to compete. We weren't. All we heard back from the real estate agency is that there was a number of people bidding on the property.

Mr. Dibiasi continued, in your March 1, 2022 minutes you said four bidders on the 91.84 acres, hopefully, will have a 500K square foot purposed building in Dingman Township. Who is hopefully? Commissioner Osterberg answered the

EDA does economic development all over the County, not just those four corners, Shohola, Greentown, every place in this County. The Weis Market was pushed along by the EDA and the nursing home in Westfall was pushed along by EDA. Mr. Sullivan (EDA Executive Director) is just using the terminology that there was a competition going on, people were bidding on the property okay? We don't have a vote on it though. Now, what do we do, we explained this to you at the last meeting. We get the applications in that say we want to build this in the County, they send it to the realtors, the realtors identify property, Mike (Sullivan) takes them and sends them to whoever is inquiring, and they go to the realtors and say we want to investigate this property. That's it.

Mr. Dibiasi said okay, is Mike Sullivan currently and actively marketing those properties? Commissioner Osterberg answered he's actively marketing the County of Pike – that's his job. All of it, every parcel of property in this County is being marketed through local realtors by Mike Sullivan. He does not have listings. He doesn't have a real estate office. One was just sent out, because we get these, I think there's forty-two realtors on his email list and sends it out and says I have this company looking to do X, Y and Z in Pike County, do you have any pieces of property that are applicable for it? We have explained this to you at least ten times. He gets it back, shares it with NEPA, sometimes it's the Governor's Action Team, sometimes it bigger companies that deal with headhunters looking for properties, and he say's contact Chant, contact Tashlik, here's the land that they have listed and that's it.

Mr. Dibiasi said you said at the last meeting that it's your job to market these things. Commissioner Osterberg said market the County. Mr. Dibiasi continued it was right after Mike Sullivan said that he's marketing the warehouse – he did say that. Commissioner Osterberg said the warehouses can be all over the County. There are other parcels of land here. Mr. Dibiasi said I asked specifically about those two particular aquifer sites. Commissioner Osterberg said he was giving Mr. Dibiasi a link to the meeting. This is before the Township Supervisors, we've told you this before. They are the ones who zoned the property for this type of use.

Mr. Dibiasi asked to make a final statement. Commissioner Osterberg said go ahead, make one. Is it not your job to target these in the appropriate places? Not on top of an aquifer? You should be, as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, looking for properties and placing them in appropriate places, not to every Tom, Dick or Harry to come and put anything anywhere. Commissioner Osterberg said that is the Township Supervisors' job, that's their job. They identify the property that this is an appropriate place they think a warehouse would go, not to say it's going to go, it's not our job to do that.

Mr. Dibiasi said you are inviting them, your marketing, you're sending out SOS's, I don't know how. Commissioner Waldron said they come to the County and ask if we have any property. Mr. Dibiasi asked isn't it your responsibility to say yes, this is appropriate, but on an aquifer is not appropriate? Commissioner Osterberg repeated that is the Township Supervisors' responsibility. Mr. Dibiasi said I think it's your responsibility too. It's in your Comprehensive Plan, it says it over and over. There's statements in there about growing with protecting the aquifer so that we do not destroy our water resources. I believe you should be there accepting the ones that are right for appropriate places and say no to things that are not. Commissioner Osterberg said no according to you. Mr. Dibiasi said no, I think according to the voting taxpayers.

Assistant Solicitor interrupted and said I'm going to say this – if the Pike County Commissioners were to on a case by case basis receive information about people who are interested in the purchase of private property and to themselves, acting completely outside the scope of their authority to veto or nix any potential private sale of property, that would be a problem for the Commissioners. Commissioner Osterberg added, and the EDA and Commissioner Waldron added that might be a Condemnation. Assistant Solicitor Ohliger agreed – that's exactly what that would be. Mr. Dibiasi said in the Association for Commissioners, one of the goals is that they should be properly citing cases. I know a little bit about what I'm talking about. Yes, they should have a say and they do – through your comments about what's going on at Milford Township, which you have responsibilities. You can't say we're going to invite them here, put them there, we have no say, we're not leaders, let them put it there. Commissioner Osterberg said the Township Supervisors have the final say, there's not one vote that's going to come out of this Board or the EDA. At the last meeting you asked these same things – we told you; we don't vote. The process is going through Vito, whether I come out and said tomorrow, I'm opposed to the warehouse or I'm not opposed to it, has nothing to do with this. The Township Supervisors are going to make this decision. Mr. Dibiasi said just acknowledge your part in it. Commissioner Osterberg said I have not part in it. Mr. Dibiasi said here are the minutes to show that you are. Commissioner Osterberg said every business that comes into the County that comes through EDA we give them an invitation to come to Pike County and see if they can open up. There's a couple of locations right now that I know of that are going on in Shohola and Dingmans and Delaware (Townships). There all going up, but it's going to be up to the Supervisors whether they think it's appropriate for their township and whether it meets their Ordinance. Mr. Dibiasi said you're not going to acknowledge that you have a say in inviting these people here? Commissioner Osterberg said we just told you how the process works, we don't invite them. I'm not out there on the street asking people to come here. The letters are coming in, the requests are coming into Mike Sullivan daily on emails. That's his job to market economic development in Pike County to bring businesses to the community. You may not like the businesses, but they have a right to inquire whether they can come here. Mr. Dibiasi said he (Mike Sullivan) should invite businesses for the proper place. Is it not true in the last meeting you said it's Milford Township's fault that all this is happening? Commissioner Osterberg answered I said that Milford Township zoned it, if you want to use it as 'fault' that's fine. Mr. Dibiasi said you said fault. Commissioner Osterberg said I don't remember it verbatim, but it is their responsibility to zone it. If you want to think why it's zoned for a warehouse is somebody's fault, okay, it's the Township, I didn't zone it. It's been zoned like this for forty years! It's not like they did it yesterday. There's been numerous occasions where people have come up there and tried to build something and they left. Mr. Dibiasi asked if you have it in your Comprehensive Plan? Commissioner Osterberg said I know, but it supersedes zoning. Mr. Dibiasi said yes it does. Assistant Solicitor Ohliger answered no, it does not. Commissioners Osterberg and Waldron both said it does not. Commissioner Waldron said it's a suggestion and to an extent, some recommendations, it is absolutely not binding on the municipalities. I've practiced land use law for forty-two years. Mr. Dibiasi said what I'm trying to say is your wrong.

Reporter Chris Jones asked about Mike (Sullivan), the (EDA) Executive Director, he carries out business like you described, what's the role of the Board? The EDA Board, what is their role vis a vis the Executive Director? Commissioner Osterberg answered they listen to his recommendations and go through the packet. We go through the packet on what he's doing, to make sure they agree with what he's doing in the County. There's never an objection to what he's doing, because it's within the purview of the Economic Development Authority to do economic development. He does studies on migration into the County, who's moving here, businesses will call him, even local businesses that are here already, will ask him.

Reporter Chris Jones asked can Mike (Sullivan) advise him? What legally, I pose that to Tony (Commissioner Waldron)

and Mr. Ohliger, what are the legal responsibilities of Board of Directors? You can hire and fire right? You can fire Mike (Sullivan) right? Commissioner Osterberg answered the Board can. Mr. Waldron said they can. Reporter Chris Jones said knowing that, apparently if you have that then you could also direct Mr. Sullivan and tell him about the politics of things. It's almost like your hands off and if that's the case, there shouldn't be a Board of Directors – why have a Board of Directors if you don't steer the actions of your employee? Commissioner Waldron answered if he was acting inappropriately, yes you're right. I've been attending meetings for a little over a year now and we've suggested ideas about things that he could do. In terms of specifically saying 'don't market this property or only market that property' they've never done that while I've been there.

Reporter Chris Jones said as the saying goes, the horse is out of the barn now. These issues are now before the Townships and before their Planning Commissions and there's been presentations and hearings – that's going on. Looking down the pike, is there possibility that the Board with their advise and consent, say to their employee 'look we have to be more careful because this is political? Commissioner Osterberg said there are signs all over the place, what businesses would we decide that he should do and not do? Which ones are we going to pick? Assistant Solicitor Ohliger added that he just wants to clarify the question. I think the question presumes that there's something that he's doing that is not in the interest in the economic development of Pike County. Reporter Chris Jones said because the economic development has to function inside the values of the County and can't. If they're going to work on some of this zoning stuff they need to change the zoning and need to be clear that putting 84 (Interstate) there, I guess it has to be near Milford, near Route 6, unfortunately it's near a water supply and we're stuck with that. I'm not a resident, but it's apparent here that you guys are stuck with that. Commissioner Waldron said there's a legal process. The State has made it clear, in fact there's been attempts since I've been practicing law since 1980 for the counties to say why don't we start doing the zoning instead of municipalities. Every time it's been shot down by the legislature I agree with that to be honest with you. Jason's (Ohliger) been doing the same type of work that I did for many years the last twenty years more or less and quite frankly that's because the idea that it should be a locally controlled decision as to how land is used – that's what zoning is all about, land use. They decide those things, not the county. The county does do a Comprehensive Plan to say how may we develop in the future because there well may be growth. In fact growth helps to increase the tax base, but the idea that the county should be the one controlling that or deciding whose property should be marketed and whose shouldn't? Somebody could say wait a minute you're interfering with my right to sell property. There is a process – just because something is zoned does not mean it will be built. One of the best things about the local is the local knows there is an aquifer there, the municipality knows there is an aquifer there. Matt doesn't know every inch of Greene Township even though he's been a Commissioner for years. I don't know every inch of Lehman Township even though I've been in this County for a while, but they have the right to say if this is going to have a substantial adverse impact on the community, either the health or general welfare of the community and water is a critical element, they have a right to deny that. If they just deny it because of a show of hands because a few people keep saying don't do it, don't do it, they're going to lose that case. Reporter Chris Jones said these people are persistent obviously. Every time there's an opening, the town will come through the competition. There's a lot of talk about takings of property. There's talk of getting say legislators and other decision makers to get grants or to protect the property. What's the role of the Commissioners in that? Are you engaging in that in any way, are you talking to these people about that? Commissioner Waldron replied I'm not the Solicitor for the County, but I would be very wary of interacting on trying to decide how property should be used when there's a pending application. If somehow it gets denied, I think there's a possibility that could happen. Yes it could get approved, there might be a fight over that too, either way it's probably going to end up in an appeal.

Reporter Chris Jones said this one in Milford Township ultimately goes to the Courts. There's a property across the street, same problem, or somewhere out there, meantime is it in an application process now? Commissioner Waldron said I am not aware of any. Reporter Chris Jones asked can the Commissioners get involved and say look we've been through this, Court costs and this, I don't know who pays in all that, could then the County say it's obvious this is very controversial and we think we should do something about this? Could you do that? Commissioner Waldron said I'm not sure what you're asking what we might do. I don't want to prejudge what's going to happen or speculate what's going to happen in the future, it's too open ended. To my knowledge there isn't and if the Township decided they want to amend their Ordinance and they adopt it right away, there's a thing called the Pending Ordinance Doctrine that would say if you want to develop your property you have to comply with whatever the new Amendment is. If the Township really felt there was a need to reevaluate how those properties are zoned, they could do so. They can't do it on the one that's already in, but they could do it on others.

Vito Dibiasi said I could answer part of your question. The EDA isn't an authority, they get their authority from the Municipal Planning Code. In the Municipal Planning Code it says an authority, which they are, is supposed to represent and follow along. Commissioner Waldron said I have to stop you Vito, you're wrong. The Municipality Planning Code does not deal with economic development authorities, that's under the Municipal Authorities Act of 1945. That's not the Municipality Planning Code, which does regulate zoning and subdivision issues. If you're going to be the expert on something you should get it right. Vito Dibiasi said under that law it says the authority is supposed to represent the health, safety and welfare of the community. I will argue that placing advertising or accepting bids conflicts with the mission and the law of 1945 that says you are to be protecting the health and safety of the community. There is statutory things in there that should be guiding the EDA and how they do their policies. I think Chris (Jones) is right, there is some statutory things on there.

Meeting attendee Kevin Hollian, Pike County resident from Dingman Township said he owns 19 acres in Dingman Township some are on either side of Sawkill Creek. I bought it years ago through Duke Snyder when he owned the land up by Sawkill on Sawkill Lake. I think I have a right and need to counter-balance the last half hour discussion. Matt (Commissioner Osterberg) and myself have a Rocky Balboa/Apollo Creed relationship. We've known each other for many, many years. In my prior service with the Federal government I learned how to risk assess, do independent verification and validation and, most importantly, how to put back on a member of Congress or Senator when I was caught up on the hill. I don't know Tony (Commissioner Waldron) that well, I do know Randy and Matt. Commissioner Osterberg corrected him and said it's Ron (Commissioner Schmalzle). This group of people, including Krista (Chief Clerk Gromalski) and Jason (Assistant Solicitor Ohliger) are the most respectful, loving and caring people that can be found in Pike County. I put them up against the wall on so many topics over the years, in an aggressive way at times and at times not fully aware and knowledgeable of every aspect of municipal government, because I never worked in municipal government, I worked in Federal government. You have to trust and respect them, they never bs me, they never lie to me

and they set me straight when I needed to be set straight. I want to make sure the public knows there's two story to every story and the one side with respect to this group of individuals needs to be held very highly. With respect to Mike Sullivan, I knew him years ago when we first started with the work fairs at Best Western. He came from Orange County, New York and he does not need to work for Pike County, but he does. He gives it his all. I know this might jeopardize things that are going on in my personal life and from a legal standpoint, but I don't care. I want people to know that Matt has every right in the world to sometimes take me out in the back and go fist to fist, but he shows me the deepest respect during COVID, giving information about COVID and what the County is doing. If anybody in this room has a thought in the back of their head that these men and women are doing anything underhanded or deceitful or don't deserve your trust, get it out of your head.

Meeting attendee Theresa Brown, Pike County resident from Milford said she moved here from Tucson, Arizona and there were a lot of people who didn't want any kind of growth there. We absolutely have to protect the aquifer and our resources, but we also need to be careful to just stop growth because that isn't good for the community either. I want to pick up on our last discussion – those who don't know history are destined to repeat it. America's founders were escaping tyranny. They were Christians who were led by God and studied the greatest history known to man, the Bible. Now we look around and see a complete erosion of our borders, economy, Country and freedoms that have made America the greatest country in the world. The so-called Patriots here in this room are not here as Patriots who want to victimize any oppressed class. We're here fighting for the freedoms granted through the written Constitution to protect the God given rights and freedom of every American citizen. When we deviate from biblical values, when we attempt to shut God out of the room and do things our own way, it does not end well. The story of David, Solomon and Saul tells us how God saved Israel from an enemy much greater than Esau. After they were saved, Israel clamored for a king so they could be like other countries. God told them he would give them a king, that the king would be flawed, corrupt, would treat them badly and tyrannically. They wanted a king because following a corrupt leader who lets you cheat and get away with stuff was more appealing than taking personal responsibility for our sins. They got a king, and it didn't end well. Today, we see people willing to give up our God given freedoms so we can be as bad or worse than every other country in the world – they're winning. I fear that none of us will like the prize. Last meeting, somebody here told us about his Catholic upbringing and his biblical studies. He told us the Bible does not mention homosexuality. On the contrary, the Bible is full of admonitions against homosexuality and promiscuity of any kind. Lust, along with pride are among the seven deadly sins. Romans 18 states in part: for the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth and unrighteousness because what may be known of God is manifest in them for God has shown it to them. In other words, God gives conscience to know right from wrong, to discern good from evil. We can lie to one another all we want, but sooner or later we will face God's judgment and he may not be so gullible. Romans 18 goes on: since the creation of the world, his invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and divine nature, so that they are without excuse because although they knew God, they did not glorify him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts and their foolish hearts were darkened professing to be wise, they became fools and changed the glory of an incorruptible God into an image made like a corruptible man. We see so much of this happening in our culture and in our society and in our country today. Therefore, God also gave them up to uncleanness in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who changed the truth of God for the lie and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator. For this reason, God gave them up to Bible passions, for even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise, also the men leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another. Men with men committing shameful and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. It goes on and even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind to do those things which are not fitting, being filled with unrighteousness, sexual amorality, wickedness, covertness, full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil mindedness and it continues from there. The Bible is full of history and I think it would do us all good to look at it more closely. There are people today that feel empowered by their ability to lead others and to destruction and decay and we've all seen what happens when evil takes hold. I want to say in Jesus' name, we do not want Milford to become another San Francisco, another Seattle, another Portland or another New York City. We don't want it to become Sodom and Gomorrah – thank you and God bless you.

Meeting attendee Alexander Letevori, Dingmans Ferry resident said first of all, thank you to the Board, I wasn't here at the last meeting because I was on holiday. I appreciated the comments by all of you and appreciate what you're doing working with Triversity and everything like that. I feel like the conversations you are having are important and I feel like you are on the right track and really grateful. I also wanted to thank Solicitor Farley, I know he's not here, but he defended me at the last meeting I was at. I'm grateful for that, thank you. I would like to address some misinformation and comments made at the last meeting, it's not an attack. LGBTQ+ was, by someone at the last meeting, that the plus stands for pedophilia and other deviations. I'm here to say that's not true. There is no legitimate LGBT organization that welcome pedophiles. It's actually a right-wing extremist attempt to delegitimize us. It's been going on for a while. It's not a sexuality, when we say love is love and people go what about pedophiles? That's not even love to begin with, we're talking consenting love. Also, equating LGBT to what goes on close doors to me is a very narrow way of looking at relationships. Most of the LGBT community is not about sex. I really wish we could move away from some of that. There is an important part that is, but the 'I' in LGBTQIA stands for Inter-sex which are people who have both genitalia, medically speaking; 'A' stands for asexual which is actually a spectrum of sexuality that involves very little to no sex. These are people who are put off by the mere idea of it and they're a part of our community because they don't fit into what is called a heteronormative structure. How many times growing up having heard your parents or family or other families or friends say 'do you have a special lady in your life' or 'when are you going to get married'? These are all things that not everybody wants to do and a lot of asexual people have no interest in that and that feel a little ostracized even if they are not legally discriminated against most of the time. It's just an inclusive environment for people who have no interest in these things. Equating LGBT to sex is really weird to me, there's so much more to our community than that. There was also commentary about pride and about being better than other people. Pride is not about being better than anybody, we don't believe that at all. We want to be treated the same as everybody, that's the whole point. Our rights have been jeopardized for so long that we just want to be seen as equals, we want the same rights. The pride comes in the fact that we survived all of this persecution in spite of everything being thrown at us, we had the AIDS crisis, which is nowadays heterosexuals have higher rates of AIDS than non-heterosexuals, we've had to be in the closet, homosexuality being declared a mental illness, to the point of people in Sweden used it as an excuse to call out of work and eventually



the Swedish government was like, I guess it's not a mental disorder anymore because they realized it wasn't if you could use it to call out of work. Pride has nothing to do about being better than anybody. When we propose legislations that specifically identifies people in our community, it is not to be better than these people, heterosexuals, cis gendered, whatever person, it's to be on the same plane and we're not there yet. We didn't start this culture war, we simply existed for thousands of years and we have historical and archaeological references to prove our existence. I want to let people know that if you want to come have fun and relax and be in a safe environment with people who are not going to hurt you, join us for pride. I think you might have a lot of fun, also rainbows are pretty. I want to clarify a comment I made at the last meeting about cis, heterosexual, white, males. I was referring to a republican friend of mine. Cis means the gender in your head, not just your genitals, it is a scientifically neutral term, it is not derogatory. Heterosexual, obviously you know what that means. Of course, white male, and he is a republican. I wasn't using these labels to be insulting or trying to separate him. I was using these terms to prove that human rights are non-partisan or bi-partisan or should not be republican or democrat okay? Human rights are all rights for all of us. The fact that in the LGBTQ community here we do have allies that are cis, het, white men, but they're already left-wing. Right now, a lot of the anti-LGBT legislation is being passed by republicans, but I know republicans who don't care about the queer community in the sense that they don't have any issues with us. I was on holiday in Cape Cod recently and I was hanging out with people of both parties, Trumpers and other republicans there were like live and let live. I feel like those are the republicans I grew up with, here in the United States. Outside of my high school time in Georgia, that was interesting, but I wasn't using these terms to be insulting, okay? If I say you are cis gendered and heterosexual, I'm describing what you are scientifically speaking. I don't think that's any better or worse than what I am, that would be ridiculous, I care about people genuinely. It's like Black Lives Matter – it's not that black lives matter more than anybody else's. In history, black lives haven't mattered, so now we're trying to make it matter just as much. This goes for all minorities. Many republicans I've met here in Pike County are either unaware of what's going on, or just simply uneducated. It comes from a place of ignorance, but because they're asking me, they're coming from a place of learning and I am okay helping to educate people. People who support LGBTQ but are too afraid to do so because we do have gun police in this area and the Proud Boys and have had threats and harassment. Most of the people I know do support us, they are republican, they are Christian, they are devout and I wanted to say this is not a left-wing ideal. LGBT laws involve protecting everybody, there are Jewish, black indigenous and Asian. Our history goes back to every section of the globe where human civilization has lived and thrived. The only reason why I think people are getting so up in arms is because there is a lack of education on how far back we go and how diverse we are because we've been silenced for so long. When an LGBT law is passed protecting LGBT is protects all minorities. It makes an entire place safer. We know this when it comes to schools too. When LGBT students are protected it goes to the entire student body. Meeting attendee Alexander Letevori continued we have a separation of church and State. I've lived in five different countries and as of 2019 I've visited forty countries across five continents. I spent time in Italy and spoke with Vatican scholars. We talked about homosexuality. Leviticus is the Old Testament, a lot of people don't go by the Old Testament as much, but also Romans there are several different interpretations of those verses. There's a lot of cherry picking of Bible verses, you're not allowed to wear mixed cloths, you're allowed to stone your neighbor, they work on the Sabbath, you can sell your daughter to her rapist. There's all kinds of draconian verses in the Bible that people don't follow. I don't understand why they're picking these couple of verses when they're not even following the rest of the Bible anyway. The closes country I've seen with their draconian laws from the Bible is the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. I know a lot about and have studied intensely and have a lot of friends there. That's a religious society and a lot of their laws are very similar to laws in the Bible. Everyone here would agree that the KSA is not a model country or not a model society. That's what happens when you take away people's freedoms to be religiously diverse and identity diverse. This whole thing with pride being a sin. You're proud to be an American are you not? That's not anything different, it's still pride. The Bible doesn't differentiate between being queer or being proud of a nation, it's still pride. The most stable countries in the world with the most freedoms have the most egalitarian laws: Sweden, Norway, Finland, Iceland, Denmark, Netherlands, New Zealand and Germany. I've lived in some of these countries and often felt I had more freedom there than I do here. America is not rated number one in most categories. Number one or two for largest military in the world, our prison system, most incarcerated adults and maybe people who believe in angels. I just think we need to work together to improve this area and this country for everybody, it's not about being better, it's about equality. If you have any questions, I'm easy to contact on Facebook and I volunteer with Triversity.

Meeting attendee Pierre Tardy said he would like to make a comment about what was said – what is the real issue today? The reason we're having a situation now is because of children. Many parents are reacting in school boards all over the country because they don't want their children to be sexualized when they are innocent children. The don't want it in schools. Otherwise, they wouldn't be so involved, there's a feeling of tension that's really I think the root of the situation. Parents don't want their children, especially when you see a seven year old child that doesn't understand, they don't need this. We have a problem, for instance, Homeland Security lost 85,000 children that don't know where they are. We have a lot of situations and everything is coming to the surface. I've heard two or three weeks ago one person saying that they were overrun with four hundred seventeen laws against gays. If you look, most of those laws are about children in school. We have to make sure that we don't think this is an antigay, anti-LGBT, it's really about the children. This will always come back in the end. On the issue of LGBTQ, the word Q, that's the one nobody knows what it means. If you study the queer theorists those are what the official documents are going back all the way to football in France, we cannot deny the reality. It says 'queer it is to be against everything that is normal'. It is about violating every boundary. It is about breaking down every category. People think queer means being in line to LGBTQ, that's not true. The Q is the key word. Some in the LGBTQ community have said 'oh, it's not about pedophilia or incest', actually queer is about everything, everything is against what is normal. We have to look at those recorded documents, not what we think it is. That is the big issue, just a summary of what I've said, anyway it's about children. It's about understanding exactly when people say things what they really mean. What the key, the Q is a very important word. We have to understand what it means, and somebody can say I'm saying lies, but just read the books. This is the reality. That's all I want to say.

Meeting attendee John Helman, Vice President of Triversity, two quick things: I have a master's in queer theory. The quote on queer theory is technically correct, but completely out of context; just like the term gay meant happy in the 1920's and LGBT has gay and it doesn't mean the same thing. If you want more conversation about queer, queer theory, I'm happy to share my master's thesis with you. The second thing is the biggest hypocrisy, contradiction and deception of the far right has is that it's for the children. If they were really concerned about children, they would be focusing on the number one killers of kids from zero to eighteen in this country which is firearms or the number perpetrator of sexual



assault against minors which is heterosexual, cisgender people related to the victim. Stop gaslighting us into thinking your about the children, because it falls flat under the tiniest bit of scrutiny.

Meeting attendee Timothy Daniels, resident of Pike County said he has heard quite a few things here and I'd like to address them all, but I would rather be brief and say you've heard two sides, you've heard some Biblical scripture, you've heard some statements from people who call themselves gay or pride, or whatever the correct thing is. Bottom line is simple, you got a picture here of the Constitution. This country was founded on the Bible in Judeo-Christian beliefs, it's my belief that because they adhered to those, and it wasn't every single person, not everyone is on the same side, we were a Judeo-Christian nation, we were blessed. We went from using fires and iron tools to landing on the moon in 250 years – that's the 5K year leap of technology that we've had. That happened, I believe, because we had the blessings of God. I'm a person who believes God is who He says He is. He is the one who determines right and wrong. When I develop an opinion, I don't develop my own opinion. I quoted for you at the last meeting Leviticus 18:22. Bottom line is Jesus Christ said you are either for me or you are against me. In ancient times, before Constantine, every part of the known world was ruled by pagan gods, Aphrodite, Zeus, Adonis, so on and so forth. It all goes back to three gods, Baal, Molech and Ishtar. Ishtar was the one who had pride and was responsible for gender transition. Ishtar was involved with a lot of these pagan rituals that were by Western civilization was overcome. We changed our way of life. Now we have a choice, are we going to support, whether you are aware of it or not, you honor a pagan god by putting a misrepresentation of the rainbow that was created by God as a sign of mercy now is transitioned that to mean something different, or do you want to stick with what got us where we are. The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Jesus said there is no middle ground – your for me or you're against me. You are in one of those camps. In the end of Romans it says if you stand to the side, if you take no position, you are against me. You can't say oh this is acceptable or I know God thinks its an abomination, but people are people – you can't do that. You guys as Commissioners and leaders in this County if you're going to take a side it's going to be one or the other, your either going to defend what our founders believed or your going to defend this new pagan rise of religion. That's your two choices. I suggest that every time you make a decision, have that in the back of your mind. This is what the difference between good and evil, what God calls evil.

Meeting attendee Kerry Williams, resident of Pike County, said she wants to follow up on what Pierre (Tardy) was saying. I've been thinking more and more about this, it really is about protecting our children and preventing the sexualization of our children. Alexander (Letevori) I did notice you said LGBT and you didn't say 'Q', but when John (Helman) was here the last time he used LGBTQ quite often and the truth is, whether you have a master's degree or not, queer is interpreted by many scholars as being just what Pierre said. It's really disrupting of all the norms in society, all sexual norms. There are many scholars who have said that pedophilia should be normalized. I'm not saying you guys are promoting this, but I'm saying is the LGBTQ community is more and more giving it another name – minor attracted person. Even at Delaware Valley they flew the LGBTQ flag that now some of the flag have pink and blue in it and if you're not aware of that, it means being attracted to young boys and girls. A meeting attendee said that means transgender. Meeting attendee Kerry Williams said for a lot of people, it means that (minor attracted person), you are allowed to have your own interpretation. The point I'm trying to make is that we really are about protecting our children and there is an effort underway for that to happen. You should know that there is a push by individuals, some of whom are in this room, to adopt books like 'Gender Queer' in our library at Delaware Valley, which is pornographic material. What often comes up at the school board meetings is if you don't want your child to get at a certain book, you can let us know, but there are people here who have asked Right to Know certain books in the library and were not given a list of books, we don't even know half the books that are there. Please understand it comes from the heart of the parent, it comes from the heart of the grandparent to protect our children and I really think Love and Respect is for everyone here what is needed.

Meeting attendee Lisa Emery Schibner, a Milford resident, said she is actually coming in representation of a group, Unity in the Community. The group was started after the tumultuous election between Sean (Mayor Strub) and I. Sean reached out to me and said we have so much going on in our community, such a small area, we honestly need to try to join forces and figure this out of how to bring back the unity in the community. We have been doing that and we've become a 501(c)(3) which we are grateful for. We have a mission statement and a pledge I'd like to give to you if you would like it. Our mission statement reads "We are a group of diverse individuals with different backgrounds committed to preserving the quality of life in Milford and surrounding communities. We believe cultivating the mutual understanding and respect for all community members, regardless of one's cultural background, political beliefs and/or religious affiliation, is vital to accomplishing this. Our belief is that change happens best when rooted locally" and then we have a pledge that we've adopted "I commit to treating others as I'd like to be treated. I commit to practicing active listening seeking first to understand then to be understood. I commit to asking questions to clarify and better understand a differing opinion. I commit to be a respectful speaker by speaking clearly, concisely and to the topic at hand so that others have the opportunity to participate in the conversation or meeting. I commit to avoiding negative labeling with others based on politics, religion, gender, sexual orientation, etc. I commit to being respectful in my responses no matter how much I may disagree". Our bottom line is that we're all different. My biggest thing, everyone has spoken the Bible, I believe the biggest command in the Bible is to just love one another. Just love, that's honest to God, the biggest commandment – love one another. It doesn't matter what or whom or what your beliefs are, how about we just love each other? If we show love it will just radiate, we don't need all this division and hate and labeling, we are all just people. People of God, whoever you believe, whatever your belief is. The biggest commandment in the Bible is just to love, love one another. If you love one another, smile at everyone and agree to disagree, stop fighting with you friends and family over politics and what your belief is – just love each other and respect them for whatever their belief is because that's how really God made us right? We are all different. I was not at the last meeting. The last meeting talked about why don't we just adopt Love and Respect? We have a group that is all about Love and Respect, not categorizing anyone, not asking you to do anything but just love one another. We're promoting to Pike County, why don't you just adopt Unity in the Community and promote these sort of things to take place and to not be fighting amongst each other continuously? It's Nationwide and the whole world is done with it, we just want to get back to loving one another and not put shame, which seems to be happening, pushing everyone's thoughts as the thoughts that should be everyone's thoughts. How about we just accept each other, agree to disagree and just show love to one another in whatever environment you're in?

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2023 AT 11:00 A.M. IN THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**