

## **Tuesday, January 17, 2024**

The second regular meeting of January 2024 of the Pike County Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Osterberg at 11:00 a.m. at the Pike County Administration Building.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Osterberg, Schmalzle and Caceres; Chief Clerk Gromalski; and Solicitor Farley.

***Motion to recess the Commissioners' Meeting to hold a Retirement Board Meeting. A Retirement Board Meeting was held. Motion to adjourn the Retirement Board Meeting and reconvene the Commissioners' Meeting.***

***Public Comments/Questions concerning today's agenda- None***

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to approve the January 17, 2024 Agenda.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to approve the January 2, 2024 Reorganization Meeting Minutes.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to approve the January 2, 2024 Meeting Minutes.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to approve the January 10, 2024 Conference Minutes.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to approve payment from **GENERAL FUNDS (County Bills)** in the amount of \$498,305.59.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to approve payment from **PIKE COUNTY EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE FUND** in the amount of \$85,338.05.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to approve payment from **LIQUID FUELS** in the amount of \$12,792.67.

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

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to open bids for the Tri-Annual Grocery and Frozen Foods for the period of March 1, 2024 – June 3, 2024.

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

Solicitor Farley read aloud the three bids received. The first is Bernard Foods total bid in the amount of \$14,538.28. The next one is from Sysco. The total amount is \$230,288.89. Next I have Mivilla Foods. Mivilla Foods bid is in the amount of \$225,530.21.

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to table the awarding of the bid for review by the Correctional Facility until February 7, 2024, meeting.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Letter of Transmittal for the Bennett Ave Interior Renovations Payment Application #1 from LH Reed.

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

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to approve the following Human Services Payment Vouchers on behalf of the Office of Human Services: Whole Home Repair in the amount of \$14,667.00; State Food Purchase Program in the amount of \$1,881.94; and Human Services Development Fund in the amount of \$4,000.00.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to approve the 2021 CDBG Program Payment Voucher payable to Hailstone Economic LLC., in the amount of \$3,214.63, on behalf of the Office of Human Services.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to approve the Pike County Home Program Payment Voucher payable to GateHouse Media Pennsylvania Holdings, Inc., in the amount of \$46.80, on behalf of the Office of Human Services.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Certification of County Funds in the amount of \$12,939.00 for 2024 Program Year on behalf of the Agricultural Land Preservation Program Board.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to execute the Lease Agreement between Blooming Grove Hunting and Fishing Club and the County of Pike, on behalf of the Conservation District.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to authorize the Chairman to execute the Contract for Services between PennCares Support Service and Pennsylvania Link of Monroe/Pike/Wayne Counties, on behalf of the Area Agency on Aging.

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

**MOTION:** by Commissioner Schmalzle and seconded by Commissioner Caceres, to execute the fiscal year 2023 fourth quarter payments from the Pike County Emergency Medical Services grant funds to Blooming Grove Township in the amount of \$133,521.76; Palmyra Township in the amount of \$80,000.00; and Delaware Township in the amount of \$53,750.00.

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

#### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

- PennState Extension Calendar of Events- Commissioner Osterberg mentioned that PennState is always looking for dedicated adult volunteers to help those programs that are very important for the residents of the county, particularly the families with children. If you feel the urge, please volunteer with 4H.
- The next thing I have, continued Commissioner Osterberg, we have Shannon Wisniewski here. Over the last couple of meetings, there was questions about Narcan and how it was distributed, what the cost was, how many were going out in Pike County and where and how you’re doing that so you can give us an overview of that.

Shannon Wisniewski said absolutely, and I brought Chris Sorrentino with us. He is our designated person for our CCE. When we originally talked about the Narcan distribution, we had a question come up about the approximate cost. The cost has gone down significantly over the past few years. It is now about \$45.00. Chris Sorrentino said it is about \$45.00 for a box that contains two doses of Naloxone. Shannon Wisniewski continued, it’s the double doses with the four. How we distributed over the past few years in Pike County is we found that going to generalized community events. We’ve gone to the Zane Gray Towers event up in Lackawaxen. We’ve gone to events down in Bushkill with the different communities. We’ve gone to you know events at Camp Akenac and Dingman Township to meet the community kind of where they are at. We’ve also done events both at the Delaware Valley School District and the East Stroudsburg School District and Wallenpaupack to make sure that the families are aware that Naloxone is available and as well as the DisposeRX to be able to get rid of prescription medications if they need to. Chris Sorrentino added we’ve also been able to provide Naloxone to your Sheriff’s Department and to a lot of local agencies like Children and Youth, and also the local ambulance force. I think every single one of them have gotten some Naloxone from us. We’ve been supplying them for the last, at least two years. Shannon Wisniewski added that is as well as the correctional facilities and any rehabs that we work with. There are people at risk coming out of those facilities to be able access it.

Commissioner Caceres asked would you be able to clarify exactly what Naloxone can help with someone has ingested versus maybe something else it may not be able to assist with? Chris Sorrentino answered, Naloxone is used to reverse an overdose on opioids. It doesn’t work with any other substance. If an individual is suspected of experiencing and overdose on opioids, any type of opioids, that could be either heroin, fentanyl, prescriptions like oxycodone. If an individual is given Naloxone in time, it can help reverse the effect of the opioids so that they can get the medical interventions that they need.

Commissioner Caceres asked, what about with horse tranquilizers and things like that? Chris Sorrentino said Naloxone will not have any affect on things like that. Shannon Wisniewski added that you may not know what the person is overdosing on so you may not be aware, but it does not cause any additional harm if that is not what is going on. You know we don’t expect somebody that walks on scene to know whether or not what you ingested. You know if they are not responding to pain stimuli, their respirations are off, we are talking blue lips, blue fingertips, they are not responding, go ahead call 911, administer the Narcan if you have it.

Commissioner Osterberg said I think that is the important message. Call 911 and administer the Narcan. You are doing the best you can in this situation. Wait until help arrives no matter what, even if they come back before the ambulance gets there. Obviously, there needs to be some intervention, and that is the one way we’re going to get intervention. Make sure to stress the call to 911. I know people get fearful that they are going to be in arrested but you can deal with that when you are alive. Chris Sorrentino added that with Act 139 in Pennsylvania, prevents, in most cases, anybody being charged anyway so long as the individual administering Narcan calls 911. The goal here is not to have this be an arrest situation in terms of a legal situation. It’s about giving that person the intervention they need so that they can have their lives to hopefully that on the back end get in contact with an agency like ours so that the individual can get help.

Reporter Person Ehrler asked if Narcan less effective on certain fentanyl overdoses? I’ve heard tangentially that if you were od-ing on fentanyl, it may not work. Chris Sorrentino answered the effectiveness of the Narcan is

going to be based on a number of different circumstances. How much opioids that individual used, within what period of time, has that person experienced an overdose. Obviously, if you witnessed a person passing out from an overdose, that Naloxone is going to be more effective than a person who may have been unresponsive for several minutes. That is why again, the big push is about people calling 911 because the administration of Naloxone is like CPR. You're buying the person time. That is all you're doing. When the individuals come in from EMS, they have more tools at their disposal to help that individual when that person gets to the emergency room. Same thing. More tools at their disposal to help reverse the situation. You're buying that person those precious minutes because if you can give that Naloxone to that person, you may see an immediate response that they are getting better and there's other times you may not get that response that you are hoping for because of any number of circumstances. Also, because there's other drugs that might be involved in that overdose. Again, Naloxone will only work on opioids. If the person used a combination of different drugs, the Naloxone will not reverse benzodiazepine, cocaine, or anything else like that. Shannon Wisniewski added, the other piece is the Narcan is effective for a certain period of time. Depending on how much they ingested, they can go back into an overdose when the Narcan wears off. We know that depending on which hospital you are going to and what area of Pike County you are in, we want to make sure the EMS is available in case they need to readminister the Narcan if necessary. Commissioner Osterberg said there might be a reason why there is two doses in one. Chris Sorrentino said correct. Commissioner Osterberg asked if there are any other questions for Shannon Wisniewski?

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

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024 AT 11:00 A.M. IN THE PIKE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.**