

COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC MEETING

August 21, 2014



THE ARMSTRONG COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2014 AT 9:00 AM IN THE COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM WITH THE FOLLOWING IN ATTENDANCE:

Commissioner David K. Battaglia, Commissioner Robert T. Bower, Commissioner Richard L. Fink, George J. Skamai, Chief Clerk/County Administrator, Carmen Johnson – Assistant Director, Armstrong County Planning & Development, Josh Walzak – Leader Vindicator, Jonathan Weaver – Kittanning Paper, Jeanne Englert-Director, Tax Revenue, Brad Pederson – Leader Times, Kevin Andrews – Tourist Bureau, Vincent Milie – Assessment, Myra Miller - Controller

Mr. Battaglia announced that this meeting is being recorded.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Bower, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the minutes for the August 7, 2014 Public Meeting were approved.

RESOLUTION

Resolution # 2014-17 Regarding the Environmental Protection Agency's Proposed Clean Power Plan

Mr. Fink stated that the Commissioners feel very strongly, that here in Pennsylvania the EPA regulations are strongly opposed by County Commissioners. The Commissioners had a request from the United Mine Workers for this resolution and they are working very closely with the industry. We are pleased to honor their request and to adopt this resolution.

Mr. Fink read aloud the resolution.

Mr. Fink stated that there are hearings being held in locations outside our region; Atlanta Georgia, Denver Colorado, Washington DC, and in our region it was held in Pittsburgh PA, and industry workers showed up in mass. The EPA considers all comments and we urge everyone to take a stand to be heard; we need to get our point across because if these regulations pass it will devastate us here in Armstrong County.

Mr. Bower stated that this is something that is near and dear to Commissioner Fink, because of being a past coal miner and being in the industry. His commitment to the coal industry and those who depend on coal mining for their own economic well-being, also our well-being, just proves the importance of this resolution to the federal government. This shows the impact of shutting down the power plants that are coal operated, and how important it is to Armstrong County. Mr. Battaglia stated that coal is one of the cleanest sources of energy out there today.

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Bower and carried unanimously, the Board of Commissioners acknowledged the adoption of Resolution # 2014-17 Regarding the Environmental Protection Agency's Proposed Clean Power Plan.

AGREEMENTS / CONTRACTS

Michael A. Renosky

Ms. Englert stated that this will be a 90 day contract with the former Chief Assessor as a consultant, and the contract has been approved by the County Solicitor.

Mr. Fink stated that the Interim Chief Assessor is Mr. Vince Milie and the former Chief Assessor Mike Renosky has agreed to assist Mr. Milie for a 90 day as need basis.

Ms. Englert stated that she will be taking classes starting September 8, 2014, at the Belmont Complex with other Assessors from across the state. Her absence from the office is another reason we will need Mr. Renosky for 90 days.

On a motion by Mr. Bower, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Board of Commissioners approved the consulting agreement between Armstrong County and Michael A. Renosky.

Policies and Procedures for the Fiscal Operations for Armstrong County's CDBG Program via Resolution

Ms. Johnson stated that the DCED is the state department designated by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to administer its CDBG program, which is funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). One of the requirements of the CDBG Program is that each grantee must have adopted Policies and Procedures for its Fiscal Operations. Ms. Johnson respectfully requested that the Board of Commissioners adopt Policies and Procedures for our Fiscal Operations for the CDBG Program via resolution pending County Solicitors review.

Mr. Battaglia noted that even though the Board of Commissioners has reviewed the Policies and Procedures DCED cannot review them until we pass the resolution.

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Bower and carried unanimously, the Board of Commissioners approved the Policies and Procedures for the Fiscal Operations for Armstrong County CDBG Program via Resolution subject to the County Solicitor's review.

OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURN

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Bower, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously; the Commissioners adjourned the Public Meeting at 9:15 am. The next Public Meeting will be held Thursday, September 4, 2014 at 9:00 am.

ATTEST:

ARMSTRONG COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

George J. Skamai
County Administrator/Chief Clerk

Richard L. Fink, Secretary