

**MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC MEETING
May 7, 2009**

The Armstrong County Board of Commissioners' Public Meeting was called to order on Thursday, May 5, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room with the following in attendance: Commissioners Patricia L. Kirkpatrick, Richard L. Fink and James V. Scahill, George J Skamai – Chief Clerk, Mitch Fryer – Leader Times, Josh Walzak – Leader Vindicator, Carmen Johnson – Assistant Director, Armstrong County Planning & Development, Darin Alviano - Planning Coordinator, Armstrong County Planning & Development, Myra Miller – Controller, Armstrong County, Amanda Hiles – First Deputy, Armstrong County Controller's Office, Roy Carney – Director, Armstrong County Public Works, Ron Baustert – Coordinator, Armstrong County 911, Patricia Hollinger – Penn State and Strongland Chamber Chair Elect, Janet Talerico – Director, Armstrong County Area Agency on Aging, Nancy Dragan – Administrator, Armstrong County Health Center, Nicole George – AmeriCorps, James Kuemmerle – Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR, Barry Peters – East Franklin Township, Douglas Flanders – East Franklin Township, Dave Croyle – Family Life TV, Public Attendance by: Mary Ann Badura

Ms. Kirkpatrick announced that this meeting is being recorded.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink, and carried unanimously, the minutes for the April 16, 2009 Public Meeting were approved.

BID OPENING

Generator Bids

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Carney, the Commissioners awarded the bid on the generator for the Information Technology Department from Plaza Electric for \$25,900.00. This was the only bid received, and was for a specific model of generator. Mr. Croyle questioned the reason this model was chosen. Mr. Carney described the generator's features and explained it as the best for the job.

CONTRACTS / AGREEMENTS

Bio Haz Solutions Inc

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Dragan and the review of the county solicitor, the County Commissioners approved the contract with Bio-Haz Solutions. Ms. Dragan described this

contract as an improvement over the previous company's contract. There will now be a per container charge, which will eliminate the additional fees incurred by non usage or over usage.

Family Counseling Center Services

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Dragan, and the review of the county solicitor the Commissioners approved the psychiatric physician services contract with Family Counseling Center Services. Ms. Dragan described that due to insurance billing and coding, under the old contract, Dr. Galonski was unable to perform psychiatric services at the health center. This agreement permits Dr. Galonski to provide services at the health center twice a month at \$125.00 per hour for a total of four hours.

Dialysis Clinic Incorporated

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Dragan, and the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners acknowledged the agreement between Dialysis Clinic Incorporated and the County of Armstrong. Ms. Dragan explained that this agreement was to accommodate a resident from the Vandergrift area. It is at no additional cost to the health center, but is a comfort to the resident.

Gilmore Tragus Strategies, LLC Consultant Services

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously the Commissioners acknowledged the consultant services agreement between Gilmore Tragus Strategies, LLC (GTS) and Armstrong County. Mr. Baustert described that this agreement with GTS will cost the county \$5,000 per month, and will assist in applying for and writing grant proposals for the various grants available to 911 and fire departments. The grants generated with the assistance of this contract will help obtain the wireless upgrades that have an approximate cost of 18 million dollars. The fire departments have been divided into five regions. Each region has applied for a grant with the potential of being awarded up to one million dollars. Mr. Baustert has researched GTS's background and has discovered they have been 100% successful in obtaining some money from each grant sought.

Accuracy Testing Contract with Kimball & Associates

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Baustert, and the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Accuracy Testing Contract with Kimball & Associates. Mr. Baustert stated this contract will help the county meet the national standards for compliance of wireless call accuracy. The cost of \$78,463 will be paid for from the

wireless funds money and is a PEMA approved reallocation. The goal is to assure that every wireless call received by the 911 center will dispatch the appropriate aid to the exact location necessary.

Rehab Care Services Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Kuemmerle, the Commissioners approved the contract between Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR Program and Rehab Care Services. Mr. Kuemmerle described that this agreement will help them to meet the states requirement to offer a choice of at least two different therapy options.

Therapy Connections LLC Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Kuemmerle, the Commissioners approved the contract between Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR Program and Rehab Care Services. Mr. Kuemmerle described that this agreement will help them to meet the states requirement to offer a choice of at least two different therapy options.

ARC Manor Services for Inmates

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the agreement between the Armstrong County Jail and ARC Manor. Mr. Fink described this as an annual contract that stipulates the Armstrong County Jail will refer inmates to the ARC Manor program.

Modification of Manor Township's FY 2005 CDBG Program

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Johnson, and the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the modification on behalf of Manor Township's FY 2005 CDBG program. Ms. Johnson explained the township's requested this transfer \$93,917.00 that was originally slated for the Rosston Street Road Improvements Project into the Manor Township – wide Housing Rehabilitation Project. Due to income guidelines, the Rosston Street Road Improvements Project was found to be ineligible.

New Communities Program OBO FLAG (Freeport, Leechburg, Apollo Group)

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Johnson, and the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the DCED contract for New Communities Program OBO FLAG between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the County of Armstrong. Ms. Johnson stated this is a standard contract between the county and state, and that this grant is

specific to the Mainstreet Program. The Commissioners discussed the event they attended this morning with Senator Ferlo, praising both his efforts and those of the communities to work together and bring these advancements to the area. This is the first Mainstreet Program in Armstrong County and involves three communities.

Gastown Bridge Amendment

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved the Gastown Bridge amendment between Armstrong County and Penn DOT. Mr. Alviano explained that an additional \$109,400.00 in funds is necessary for the final design phase of the project. The bridge is on the 2011 replacement schedule and will cost a total of 1.8 million dollars.

Senior Service America Inc (SSAI) for American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) Services

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Talerico, and the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Senior Service America Inc (SSAI) for American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) Services agreement. Ms. Talerico stated that the \$29,959.00 received will enable Area Agency on Aging to provide four additional positions to assist more people.

PROCLAMATIONS

CommuteInfo Commute Options Awareness Month – May 2009

Ms. Kirkpatrick read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved adopting CommuteInfo Commute Options Awareness Month – May 2009. Ms. Kirkpatrick outlined the counties participating in this program and the many options available for commuting. This initiative was generated through the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission and hosts a website at commuteinfo.org.

Mental Health Awareness Month – May 2009

Mr. Fink read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved adopting May 2009 as Mental Health Awareness Month. Mr. Kuemmerle described the challenges of meeting increased service needs while operating with decreased funding. He recognized the efforts of Mr. Fink and in his assistance in keeping abreast of Senate Bill 850.

Older Americans Month – May 2009

Mr. Fink read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved adopting May 2009 as Older Americans Month. Ms. Talerico thanked the Commissioners for attending the Older Americans Luncheon that was held May 6th. She announced the upcoming Senior Games and Art Exhibits, and invited everyone to come observe, and extended a specific invitation to those over 60 years old to join in. Each Commissioner related a story of their time during their recent visits. Mr. Fink spoke of his visit with a “Rosie the Riveter” and her role at Pullman Standard during World War II. Ms. Kirkpatrick described the musical talent that many of the seniors bring to the center. Mr. Scahill conferred with Ms. Kirkpatrick’s statement, adding that the center he attended had the oldest of the musicians.

2009 Rivers Month

Mr. Scahill read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved adopting 2009 Rivers Month. Ms. Hollinger described their efforts to promote the unique opportunities our river systems offer and celebrate the activities scheduled for the summer. The Commissioners extended invitations to everyone to enjoy not only the activities of Rivers Month but the benefits our county’s waterways offer year round.

Americorps Week May 9 – 16, 2009

Ms. Kirkpatrick read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved adopting Americorps Week May 9 – 16, 2009. Ms. George described the activities of Americorps, and their efforts to increase awareness of the organization. As an Americorps worker in the Commissioners’ office, she is focusing on an Asset Mapping Project. The Commissioners expressed their gratitude for the contributions Americorps workers make to our local community.

RESOLUTIONS

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the opinion of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the 2009 - 7 Resolution verifying authorization to sign the amendment to the Gastown Bridge Reimbursement Agreement. Mr. Alviano explained that the resolution is only to verify authorization for payment as requested by the state.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Tri-County WIB Appointments

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved the Tri-County WIB appointments:

- a. Mike Coonley, Director, Department of Economic Development, 124 Armsdale Road, Kittanning, PA 16201, to the remainder of a three year term ending September 30, 2009.
- b. Charles Wetmore, Plant Manager, Serious Windows, 1136 Industrial Park Road, Vandergrift, PA 15690 to a term expiring September 30, 2010.

SPC Water Policy Committee Appointments

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved the SPC Water Policy Committee appointments of:

- a. Don Amadee, Buffalo Township Municipal Authority, 904 Freeport Road, Freeport, PA 16229, to a one year term ending 6/30/2010.
- b. Patricia Kirkpatrick, Commissioner, 450 E. Market Street, Kittanning, PA 16201, to a one year term ending 6/30/2010.

SPC Water Technical Committee Appointments

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved the SPC Water Technical Committee appointments of:

- a. Rich Palilla, Director, Department of Planning and Development, 402 East Market Street, Kittanning, PA 16201, to a one year term ending 6/30/2010.
- b. Corey Heller, West Hills Area Water Pollution Control Authority, RR&, Kittanning, PA 16201, to a one year term ending 6/30/2010.

OTHER BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Financial Transactions March 2009

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners acknowledged the Financial Transactions for March 2009.

Mr. Scahill will be attending a National Association of Counties (NACo) meeting in Oregon. In anticipation of his absence, Mr. Scahill described the planned proclamation honoring the Wounded Warrior Walk, to raise funds for veterans wounded in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. The walk begins in Philadelphia on June 20th and will follow the trail taken by General John Forbes. The walkers will arrive in Leechburg July 4th and end the day in New Kensington. Mr. Scahill asked that everyone please show appreciation and respect for these soldiers returning from war. He also discussed the new chapter of Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association (SCAA) that has been formed in Western Pennsylvania (WPASCAA). The survival rate for sudden cardiac arrest has increased from five percent to eight percent, due in part to the nearly one million AEDs in place across the nation and the efforts in training proper life saving usage. Finally, Mr. Scahill credits our trade associations, NACo and CCAP's vigilant watch for the advanced warning of Senate Bill 850. The early alarm enabled the Commissioners to alert all the agencies facing potential reductions to rally against it.

Mr. Fink commended FLAG on overcoming their obstacles to join together and better themselves as a whole. Together they have become more competitive in earning financial assistance towards improvements to their community. He encourages all communities to work together and achieve these goals. Mr. Fink also discussed the Senate Bill 850, explaining concern over the reductions in funding and its impact on county services. As previously detailed MH / MR will be greatly affected if this bill is passed, but Mr. Fink expressed great concern for children's programs, especially those of abused and "in need" children. He advised everyone to prepare for a long summer while awaiting the outcome of this bill and the upcoming passage of the state budget.

Ms. Kirkpatrick discussed the need for tax reform, noting especially the practice of increased property taxation for funding of education, county and municipal government. She said the Board is cautious about the outcome of the state budget, and suggested that we keep our legislative leaders in our prayers.

Ms. Kirkpatrick commented on the Regional Visioning Project that covers four states and 30 counties. She is pleased to be a member of the steering committee, and encourages everyone to get involved in the contest renaming of the project. To enter your submission log on to entercontest@regionalvision.org by June 30, 2009. Prizes will be awarded, which include packages for four people to various locations within the region.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners moved to adjourn the Public Meeting at 2:50 PM until Thursday, May 21, 2009 at 1:30 PM.