

MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC MEETING
June 4, 2009

The Armstrong County Board of Commissioners' Public Meeting was called to order on Thursday, June 4, 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, Sally Conklin – Planning Coordinator, Armstrong County Planning & Development, Myra Miller – Controller, Armstrong County, Gary Montebell - Director, Armstrong County Belmont Complex, Roy Carney – Director, Armstrong County Public Works, Randy Brozenick – Director, Armstrong County Public Safety, Lori Leard – Aging Care Manager Supervisor 2, Armstrong County Area Agency on Aging, Laurie Johns – Outreach Education Coordinator, HAVIN, James Kuemmerle – Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR, Steve Novak – Family Life TV, Dave Croyle – Family Life TV / Kittanning Paper, Dan Shaffer – Dan Shaffer Painting, Austin W. Rearick – Eagle Scout, Public Attendance by: Lori Rearick, Doug Rearick

Ms. Kirkpatrick announced that this meeting is being recorded.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick, and carried unanimously, the minutes for the May 21, 2009 Public Meeting were approved. Mr. Scahill abstained due to his absence at the last meeting while attending a NACo meeting in Oregon.

BID OPENING

Opening of Belmont Paving Bids

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Carney, and pending the opinion of the county solicitor, the Commissioners awarded the bid on the paving of Belmont Complex Driveway to A. Folino Construction of Oakmont, PA for \$62,515.50. Mr. Carney described the paving to be the located area between Routes 422 and 268. He stated that Penn DOT helped to design the specifications outlined for the project, bypassing consulting fees and enabling the county to save money. Mr. Alviano stated that money from the Liquid Fuels fund will be used to fund this project.

The following bids were received:

White's Paving	Worthington, PA	\$76,212.84
Derry Construction Company	Latrobe, PA	\$64,434.00
A. Folino Construction	Oakmont, PA	\$62,515.50
Holbein Construction	Sarver, PA	\$73,988.77

CONTRACTS / AGREEMENTS

Dan Shaffer Agreement

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Carney and the review of the county solicitor, the County Commissioners acknowledged the agreement with Dan Shaffer. Mr. Carney explained that the county has occasional need to use of lifts that are very expensive. This agreement permits the county to borrow lifts owned by Mr. Shaffer's painting company, and guarantees that the lifts will be covered under the county's insurance while on loan.

The Board of Commissioners gratefully acknowledged and thanked Mr. Shaffer for his generosity.

Rural Valley Construction Change Order

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Alviano, and the review of the county solicitor and Widmer Engineering, the Commissioners approved the change order between Armstrong County and Rural Valley Construction. Mr. Alviano explained that this Change Order will increase the project cost for joint and concrete repairs on eight county owned bridges being completed by Rural Valley Construction. The increase is due to additional joint repairs needed to the bridge in West Hills leading to the hospital, State Police and several businesses. The Change Order will increase the costs of this project by \$10,522.77 from \$84,339.50 to \$94,862.27.

Widmer Engineering Supplemental Agreement

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Alviano, and the review of the county solicitor and Penn DOT, the Commissioners approved the supplemental agreement between Armstrong County and Widmer Engineering. Mr. Alviano stated this agreement allows for construction consultation services in an amount not to exceed \$73,392.31 as part of the Climax Bridge replacement project. Execution of this agreement will increase the total contract from \$255,015.67 to an amount not to exceed \$328,407.98. All costs are 100% reimbursable through federal and state funds.

Cooperation Agreement with Kittanning Borough and Kittanning Hose Company #4

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Johnson and the opinion of the county solicitor and Kittanning Hose Company #4, the Commissioners approved the cooperation agreement among Armstrong County, Kittanning Borough and Kittanning Hose Company #4. The County of Armstrong, on behalf of Kittanning Borough, utilized portions of the Borough's 2008 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds (\$37,218), for Hose Company #4's purchase of building generator.

Cooperation Agreement with Mahoning Township

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 Cooperation Agreement with Mahoning Township. Ms. Johnson described this project as an extension of sewer line to the Village of Seminole. The County of Armstrong, on behalf of Mahoning Township, will be utilizing a Federal Fiscal Year 2009 Competitive Community Development Block Grant (\$450,000) along with FY 2005 County CDBG funds (\$111,415) for the Mahoning Township Sewage Phase II – Village of Seminole Project. This project will involve 59 residences, housing 131 people with an estimated 69 people of low to moderate income. The Board of Commissioners expressed their gratitude for the diligence and success of Ms. Johnson and everyone in Planning & Development in seeking and attaining the percentage of competitive grants that they achieve.

Cooperation Agreement with Pine Township

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 Cooperation Agreement with Pine Township. The County of Armstrong, on behalf of Pine Township, will be utilizing a Federal Fiscal Year 2009 Competitive CDBG (\$273,000) to install lateral connections associated with a sanitary sewer project in the Templeton, Belltown and Whiskey Run areas. This project will assist connections for 78 low to moderate income owner-occupied homes.

Modification of FY 2005, 2006 and 2007 CDBG Funds and Program Income Funds

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 resolution 2009-12 to modify the FY 2005, 2006 and 2007 CDBG Funds and Program Income Funds for Armstrong County on behalf of Kittanning Borough. Ms. Johnson explained that DCED now requires a resolution before each modification.

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 modifications of FY 2005, 2006 and 2007 CDBG Funds and Program Income Funds for Armstrong County on behalf of Kittanning Borough.

Modification of FY 2006 CDBG Funds

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 resolution 2009-13 to modify the FY 2006 CDBG Funds for Armstrong County. Ms. Johnson explained that the resolution and modification will re-appropriate funds from a discontinued water meter replacement project in Seminole, Mahoning Township to be used in the Kittanning Suburban Joint Water Authority Village of Cadogan Water Lateral Replacement Project. The funding will enable residents to connect to a new main water distribution line that has been installed.

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 modifications of FY 2006 CDBG Funds for Armstrong County.

Awarding of Applewold Borough Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project Phase II to S&E Utility Contracting Inc.

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendations of Ms. Johnson and the West Hills Area Water Pollution Control Authority and the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners awarded the contract for the Applewold Borough Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project Phase II to S&E Utility Contracting Inc. The contract was bid at \$217,643.70 and will be funded by 2008 CDBG Funds.

Kimball Radio Communications Contract

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Brozenick and the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Revised Communications Contract with Kimball & Associates Inc. Mr. Brozenick discussed the current contract and the plans for ongoing updates to equipment and services. Phase I has been finished, and the cost for the continuance of Phases II & III is \$142,991. Armstrong County is working with Kimball to remain current with necessary updates while selecting those options best suited for pending updates. He stated that these changes are directed by the FCC and that all counties are faced with the same situation. The Board of Commissioners expressed their confidence in Kimball's ability to direct the county, and the work performed by the steering committee.

Department of Public Welfare's Office of Child Development and Early Learning Operating Agreement

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Kuemmerle, and following the approval of Indiana County Commissioners, the Commissioners approved the operating agreement between DPW's Office of Child Development and Early Learning and the Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR

Program. Mr. Kuemmerle stated that this is an annual agreement with no changes from last year.

Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR Program’s Fiscal Year 2010 – 2011 County Mental Health Plan Update

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved the Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR Program’s Fiscal Year 2010 – 2011 County Mental Health Plan Update. Mr. Kuemmerle explained that this had previously been an annual plan but has been converted to a three year plan. The change is in an effort to attain more grant approvals and money by having the plan in place earlier.

PROCLAMATIONS

Austin W. Rearick Eagle Scout Proclamation

Mr. Rearick recently had a special recognition ceremony, where he displayed his proclamation. He described his project which included the construction of a four in one exercise station for public use in the Elderton / Plumcreek Township Park in Elderton.

Ms. Kirkpatrick read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the Commissioners acknowledged the Austin W Rearick Eagle Scout Proclamation. Mr. Fink complimented Mr. Rearick on the feat he accomplished, stating this is a sign of great achievement. Mr. Scahill commended Mr. Rearick on following the required steps to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. Mr. Scahill added that, statistically, approximately only one in one hundred scouts earn Eagle Scout. Ms. Kirkpatrick stated that she anticipates that the local residents will enjoy using Mr. Rearick’s project.

Elder Abuse Awareness Proclamation

Ms. Johns wanted to take the opportunity to raise awareness of the services HAVIN offers the community. Ms. Leard stated that the Area Agency of Aging receives approximately six to eight reports of abuse a month. It is their hope to resolve elder abuse issues and improve lives.

Mr. Fink read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved adopting the Elder Abuse Awareness Proclamation. The Board of Commissioners requested assistance from the press in sharing information on available services and from County Residents to report cases where elderly individuals are in need of assistance.

RESOLUTIONS

2009 CDBG Stimulus Fund Resolution 2009 –8

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Johnson and the opinion of the county solicitor, the Commissioners acknowledged the 2009 CDBG Stimulus Fund Resolution. The county received approximately \$80,000, Parker City received \$96,000, and each of the other three entitlements received between \$32,000 and \$33,000.

2009 CDBG Application for Kiskiminetas Township, Kittanning Borough and Manor Township Resolution 2009 –9

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Johnson and the opinion of the county solicitor, the

Commissioners adopted the 2009 CDBG Application for Kiskiminetas Township, Kittanning Borough and Manor Township Resolution 2009-9. Ms. Johnson described these as annual CDBG applications. After following the required process and approvals the following projects are planned to be undertaken with the 2009 CDB funds;

- Kiskiminetas Township's, Jackson Drainage Area Phase I sanitary Sewer Project (Multi-year) \$107,653
- Kittanning Borough, North grant Ave Paving Project \$105,754
- Manor Township Housing Rehabilitation, Township-wide, \$99,278

Several water and sewage projects will be undertaken with the County's 2009 CDBG allocation, program income funds, and reallocated County 2006 CDBG funds with a combined total of \$326,767, including water improvements in Sagamore, Cadogan and West Kittanning Borough, and sewer improvements in Ford City and Applewold Boroughs.

Fair Housing Resolution 2009 –10

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Johnson and the opinion of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Fair Housing Resolution 2009-10. Ms. Johnson stated that each year when the CDBG Resolution is signed the Fair Housing Resolution must also be signed. This is a standard yearly resolution.

2009-11 Resolution to Approve the Armstrong County Comprehensive Recreation, Park, Open Space and Greenway Plan as an Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Conklin and pending the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners adopted the 2009 -11 Resolution to approve the Armstrong County Comprehensive Recreation, Park, Open Space and Greenway Plan as an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Conklin stated that all the required meeting and public reviews have been completed and that they are ready to proceed with implementation. The Board extended congratulations for a job well done and their appreciation of the efforts of all those involved in bringing this plan to fruition. Special reference was made to Mr. Rearick's Eagle Scout project which sets an example for the importance of good physical fitness associated with recreation.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR Appointments

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved the Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR appointment:

Roderick B. Groomes, MD, Director, Emergency Department, Armstrong County Memorial Hospital, One Nolte Drive, Kittanning, PA 16201, to a three year term expiring December 31, 2011.

Mr. Kuemmerle stated that the MH / MR act of 1966 directed the advisory board on member's requirements. This will be Dr. Groome's first term.

RACA Board Re-appointment

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved the RACA Board Re-appointment of:

- a. Robert Bower, 117 Cleveland St., Kittanning, Pa 16201, to a five year term ending May 29, 2014.

OTHER BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Financial Transactions March 2009

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

Mr. Scahill referred back to today's first resolution for the stimulus money. He expressed concern with the lack of transparency, equity and the deciding factors involved in the allocation of funding through the economic stimulus package. He stated that every area of the state deserves its fair share.

Mr. Fink shared details about his trip to Harrisburg as a representative of the State County Commissioners' Association Human Services. He expressed concerns over the potential passing of Senate Bill 850. He described the extremely detrimental effect budget cuts would have on Human Services, and discredited the state legislators trumpeting of "no tax increases". He challenges their statement by demonstrating that budget cuts to Human Services funding would have to be compensated by increased property taxes on the county level.

Ms. Kirkpatrick expressed thankfulness at not being a state legislator, because of the extreme challenges and difficult decisions associated with balancing the state budget. As a Commissioner she has worked on the county budget and knows the challenge and importance of operating government in a fiscally responsive manner. She described the considerable deficit that the state legislators are facing and her concerns for how it will affect all services across Pennsylvania. Ms. Kirkpatrick said she does not expect the state budget to be passed by June 30.

Mr. Scahill noted that the state budget follows a fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th) and not a calendar year like the county budget. The Federal budget follows a fiscal year starting October 1st to September 30th. He stated that the state's shortfalls mostly occur when the money is spent prematurely or when it has not been federally budgeted for the next year. He estimates that the state may not pass a budget until as late as August or September.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners moved to adjourn the Public Meeting at 2:35 PM until Thursday June 18, 2009 at 1:30 PM.

ARMSTRONG COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

James V. Scahill, Secretary

ATTEST: _____
George J. Skamai, Chief Clerk