

**MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC MEETING
August 6, 2009**

The Armstrong County Board of Commissioners' Public Meeting was called to order on Thursday, August 6, 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, Janet Talerico – Executive Director, Armstrong County Area Agency on Aging, Chad Paz – Family Life TV, Tiffany Chaffee -Kittanning Paper, Roy Carney – Director, Armstrong County Public Works, Randy Brozenick – Director, Armstrong County Public Safety, Ron Baustert – Coordinator, Armstrong County 911, Denny Demangone – Administrator, Armstrong County Children, Youth and Family, Carmen Johnson – Assistant Director, Armstrong County Planning & Development, Ken Heilman – Director, Armstrong County Community Action Agency, Dan Dodd – Armstrong County Community Action Agency, Dave Rupert, District Manager, Armstrong Conservation District, Don Pepler – Armstrong County Financial and Special Projects Manager, Amanda Hiles – First Deputy, Armstrong County Controller's Office, Jim Venturini, Armstrong County IT Director, Tony Arduini, Armstrong County IT Technician, Christopher Brewer, Esq. Partner of Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, Attorneys, Al Smith - Technical Advisor, Kimball and Associates, Representing Milton Loop Campground: William Doverspike, Debbie Doverspike and Kevin Dunmire.

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 July 16, 2009 Public Meeting were approved.

CONTRACTS / AGREEMENTS

Windstream Contract

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Carney, and the review of the county solicitor, the County Commissioners approved the phone contract with Windstream. Mr. Carney stated that the contract reflects a one cent reduction; this sets the contract price at five cents per minute.

Memorandum of Understanding between Armstrong County and Indiana County

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the recommendations of Mr. Brozenick and Mr. Baustert, and the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners acknowledged the Memorandum of Understanding between Armstrong County and Indiana County. Mr. Baustert explained that Armstrong and Indiana Counties are both in the process of upgrading their respective 911 systems; by joining efforts both counties can benefit by obtaining substantial upgrades that would be unavailable if requested on an individual county basis.

Memorandum of Understanding among Armstrong County, Indiana County and CONXX

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Brozenick, and the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners acknowledged the Memorandum of Understanding among Armstrong County, Indiana County and CONXX. Mr. Baustert explained that CONXX will be helping to advise both counties regarding their upgrade selections. He noted that this is not a contract with CONXX at this time.

Broadband Application Supporting Documentation and Financial Commitment for Broadband Technical Opportunities Program

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the recommendations of Mr. Smith, Mr. Brozenick, Mr. Baustert and the review of the county solicitor, the County Commissioners approved the broadband application supporting documentation and financial commitment for broadband technical opportunities program. Mr. Smith described the application that seeks grant approval from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Board of Commissioners stated that this is the beginning application of a nationally competitive grant. Mr. Baustert explained that the grant money is available to assist un-served and

underserved counties to upgrade their broadband before the compliance deadline of 2013. Notification of money awarded will be by November 14, 2009.

Child Welfare Education for Leadership Agreement - University of Pittsburgh

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Demangone, and the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Child Welfare Education for Leadership Agreement (C-WEL) between Armstrong County and the University of Pittsburgh. Mr. Demangone explained that C-WEL provides a caseworker with a graduate education at no cost to the county or the employee. Ms. Lyda Koeser will be the twelfth employee to attend this program.

Change Order #2 Hyde Park Footbridge with Widmer Engineering

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Johnson, and the review of the county solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Change Order #2 Hyde Park Footbridge with Widmer Engineering. Ms. Johnson explained that the change order in the amount of \$2,572.76 will change the cost of the project to \$327,859.43. This will be paid from grant funds associated with this project.

Area Agency on Aging Contracts

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 acknowledged the nine contracts that have been signed for Area Agency on Aging. Ms. Talerico stated these are annual contracts for the 2009 – 2010 year. She expressed appreciation for the contracts of services that are with other county agencies and their ability to work together and be cost effective.

1. accessAbilities, Inc.: Attendant Care Services.
2. Armstrong County Community Action Agency: Outreach Services.
3. Dr. Frederick Doerfler, Physician Consultant: Will provide psychosocial evaluation review as needed.
4. Joseph F. Caruso, Legal Services: Will provide emergency protective services as needed.
5. James A. Favero, Legal Services: Will provide conflict resolution as needed.
6. Geidel's Personal Care, Board Home: Will provide emergency placement.
7. Mid County Transit Authority, d/b/a Town and Country Transit: Providing transportation.
8. Nutrition, Inc., Congregate & Home Delivered Meal Services: Providing meals to the senior centers and homes.
9. Senior Service America, Inc, Sponsor Agreement for the operation of Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP): Nineteen individuals are currently enrolled in this program for training.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2009-16 Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners acknowledged adopting Resolution 2009-16 in favor of the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). Mr. Dodd explained the resolution will permit Community Action to apply on behalf of Armstrong County for grant money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Fund to provide housing and prevent homelessness. This grant money, potentially totaling over \$300,000.00 in a three year period, will be in addition to the general funds they receive. The money will potentially be used to assist foster children who have turned 18, domestic violence victims who have exceeded their time in a shelter, fire victims, and released inmates; they hope to extend the list of potential recipients.

Resolution 2009-17 Armstrong Conservation District Board Requirements

Mr. Rupert described the process of board selection, and the laws that permit the Board of Commissioners to select only residents of Armstrong County.

Ms. Kirkpatrick read aloud the resolution.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners adopted Resolution 2009-17 setting Armstrong Conservation District Board Residency Requirements.

Resolution 2009-18 Termination of Constant Maturity Swap

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners adopted Resolution 2009-18 terminating the Constant Maturity Swap. Mr. Brewer detailed the financial transactions that the county has performed. By terminating the Constant Maturity Swap at this time the county has earned a financial gain of \$308,000.00. Mr. Pepler stated that during the past two and a half years financial transactions such as, and including this one, have earned the county almost two million dollars. Mr. Brewer accredited Mr. Pepler and Mr. Wenger's attentiveness for a large part in the success of the transactions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Introduction to the New County Website

Mr. Venturini and Mr. Arduini introduced the new county website. This is the third layout of the county website since its inception in 2004. Mr. Venturini stated they are always looking for new and better ways to bring information to the public, including user friendliness. Mr. Arduini demonstrated navigation while he described the new features. The address will remain the same; www.co.armstrong.pa.us. The Board expressed their thanks to everyone in the IT Department, especially Mr. Arduini, for their extensive work and final outcome on the new site.

OTHER BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Financial Transactions

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners acknowledged the approval of financial transactions for July 2009.

Mr. Fink recognized the difficult situation that the human services are experiencing due to the lack of state funding. He will be attending committee meetings regarding human services at the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) Conference next week. He stated that the Governor has looked at State Bill 850 and used his power of line item veto. Mr. Fink expressed continued concern for when the state funding will be granted and for the state employees that have not received their pay since June.

Ms. Kirkpatrick explained the effects the state budget has on the county budget. She assured everyone that the county has a secure budget in place until December, but adjustments will need to be made depending on how the state budget balances. She expressed grave concern for the state, in regards to how businesses will be attracted to the state and how the county will help cover shortfalls. While at the CCAP Conference, Ms. Kirkpatrick stated she will be attending committee meetings on economic and community development.

Mr. Scahill stated that while at the CCAP Conference he will be attending committee meetings on assessment and taxation.

Ms. Kirkpatrick invited everyone to attend the ArmTech exhibit at the Belmont. The public showcase will be from 5:30 to 7:00 PM on Thursday August 20, 2009 and is free to attend. The exhibit showcases industry and opportunities in Armstrong County.

Mr. Doverspike expressed his gratitude to the Commissioners for their support and assistance in attaining access to resources to enable improvements at Milton Loop Campground. He also thanked Mr. Skamai for his support and advisement during their preparations and first year of operations. The Board of Commissioners conveyed the positive feedback they have received from campers and visitors to the campground. Mr. Doverspike discussed some of the improvements and detailed some of the future projects they have planned. He described some of

the activities they have hosted this summer, and the great people he and his family have met. He stated his family is enjoying their time together and is thankful for their friends the Dunmires.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the Commissioners moved to adjourn the Public Meeting at 2:25 PM until Thursday August 20, 2009 at 1:30 PM.

ARMSTRONG COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

James V. Scahill, Secretary

ATTEST: _____
George J. Skamai, Chief Clerk