

COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC MEETING
February 17, 2011

The Armstrong County Board of Commissioners' Public Meeting was called to order on Thursday, February 17, 2011, at 1:30 PM in the Commissioners' Conference Room with the following in attendance: Commissioners Richard L. Fink, James V. Scahill, George J. Skamai – Chief Clerk, Mitch Fryer – Leader Times, Lindsay Sturgeon – Leader Vindicator, Jonathan Weaver – Kittanning Paper, Myra Miller – Armstrong County Controller, Carmen Johnson – Assistant Director, Armstrong County Planning & Development, Rich Palilla – Executive Director, Armstrong County Planning & Development, Sally Conklin – Planning Division Director, Armstrong County Planning & Development, Kevin Shepard – Deputy Warden of Administrations, Armstrong County Jail, Matt Roofner - Deputy Warden of Operations, Armstrong County Jail, Jim Kuemmerle – Administrator, Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR / EI, Roy Cigola – Progressive Workshop of Armstrong County

Ms. Kirkpatrick was absent due to circumstances beyond her control.

Mr. Fink announced that this meeting is being recorded.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried, the minutes for the February 1, 2011 Public Meeting were approved.

BID OPENING

Recycling Trailers and Extra Bins

Ms. Miller stated that this is the second time a bid has been advertised to purchase the recycling trailers and extra bins, and that once again no bids were received. Ms. Conklin confirmed that there are companies that manufacture the bins but have not bid at this time. Mr. Fink has announced that no action will be taken at this time and the board will wait for further action from Ms. Conklin. Ms. Conklin stated that she will review the county code as it pertains to this situation.

CONTRACTS / AGREEMENTS

Canon Copier Lease Agreement

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the solicitor, the Commissioners approved the copier lease agreement on behalf of the Armstrong County Jail between Armstrong County and Canon Copiers. Mr. Shepard explained the details surrounding the purchase of the copier.

Ikon Copier Lease Agreement

No action was taken on this issue.

Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Emergency Transportation Services Contracts for Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR / EI Program with Armstrong County Constables

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Fiscal Year 2010 – 2011 Emergency Transportation Services Contracts for Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR / EI Program with Armstrong County Constables Barry Rosen and Charles Bracken. Mr. Kuemmerle stated that this is a routine contract that is occasionally needed; he cited the example of moving someone from the emergency room to a service provider for treatment.

Cooperation Agreement for the City of Parker’s Replacement of Aeration System at the Sewage Treatment Plant Project

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the solicitor, the Commissioners approved the Cooperation Agreement for the City of Parker’s Replacement of Aeration System at the Sewage Treatment Plant Project. Ms. Johnson explained that the county administers the City of Parker’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. She stated that all other aspects of the original agreement are in place and have already been signed by the municipality. This agreement is in place between the City of Parker and the Parker Authority.

Ford Cliff Volunteer Fire Company Renovation Project Cooperation Agreement

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the solicitor and the approval of the Ford Cliff Fire Department, the Commissioners approved the Cooperation Agreement for the Ford Cliff Volunteer Fire Company Renovation Project between Armstrong County and the Ford Cliff Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. Ms. Johnson noted the county has approved a portion of the 2010 CDBG funds for upgrades at the Ford Cliff Volunteer Fire Company.

Advancement of ACT 137 Funds to Armstrong County’s 2008 PA ACCESS Program

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the solicitor, the Commissioners acknowledged the advancement of ACT 137 Funds to the Armstrong County’s 2008 PA ACCESS Program. Ms. Johnson explained that the county has received a grant for 2008 PA ACCESS Program, but that the funding has not yet arrived locally; the request was granted to advance the funding and begin the scheduled work while waiting for the funding to arrive.

Gastown Bridge Engineering Agreement for Construction Inspection Services with Senate Engineering

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the review of the solicitor, the Commissioners acknowledged the Gastown Bridge Engineering Agreement for Construction Inspection Services between Armstrong County and Senate Engineering Company. Mr. Palilla stated that the bridge is in Plumcreek Township and that Palo Construction has been awarded the construction bid; this is a required action that will provide scheduled inspections throughout the project.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Farmland Preservation Board Re-appointments

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously; the Commissioners approved the re-appointments to the Farmland Preservation Board of Mr. Jeff Miller, 1 Glade Park East, Kittanning, PA 16201 as a Member at Large, Mr. Jim Chestnut, 326 Smeltzer's Flat Road, Ford City, PA 16226, as a Member at Large, Mr. Terry Bowser, 179 Church Road, Kittanning, PA 16201, Contractor, for three year terms to expire March 1, 2014.

Re-appointments to the Armstrong County Public Participation Panel

Mr. Palilla stated that the panel has been maintained since 1998, with appointees serving two year terms. He explained that one of their primary functions is to help identify transportation needs and issues.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously; the Commissioners approved the re-appointments to the Armstrong County Public Participation Panel of: Mr. Tom Bradigan, PO Box 995, Kittanning, PA 16201, Mr. Harry Breski, 1381 Butler Road, Worthington, PA 16262, Ms. Susan Torrance, 247 East Brady Road, Kittanning, PA 16201, Mr. William Grey, RD #4 Box 71, Kittanning, PA 16201, Mr. Harold Mateer, 298 Mountain Trails Road, Templeton, PA 16259, Mr. Leonard Meneely, 301 Oak Avenue, Kittanning, PA 16201, Ms. Jean Ruffaner, 301 Oak Avenue, Kittanning, PA 16201, Mr. Dean Shakley, 108 Century Street, Parker, PA 16049 to two year terms to expire December 31, 2012.

Appointments to the Armstrong County Public Participation Panel

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously; the Commissioners approved the appointments to the Armstrong County Public Participation Panel of: Mr. Scott Kloes, 220 North Grant Avenue, Kittanning, PA 16201, Mr. William Hamilton, 1 Nolte Drive, Kittanning, PA 16201, Mr. Sean Taladay, 1412 State Route 268, Cowansville, PA 16218, Ms. Janet Talerico, 125 Queen Street, Kittanning, PA 16201, Mr. Randy Brozenick, 450 East Market Street, Suite 104, Kittanning, PA 16201, Mr. Doug Flanders, 1180 Butler Road, Worthington, PA 16262, Mr. Randy Arduini, PO Box 13, Rural Valley, PA 16249, Mr. Dennis Wolfe, 589 State Route 66, Leechburg, PA 15656, Mr. Paul Duriancik, 1124 Erie Avenue, Vandergrift, PA 15690, Mr. Charles Pepper, 410 Main Street, Ford City, PA 16226, to two year terms to expire December 31, 2012.

OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Fink opened the meeting to comments and questions.

Mr. Scahill expressed his appreciation to the members of the Public Participation Panel. He stated that the formation of the board was required by both federal law and the Southwest Planning Commission. He noted that the feedback from the board is invaluable and assists improvements of roads and safety. Mr. Scahill encouraged everyone to consider participation and requested the press to assist in soliciting increased membership. He then described how the Gastown Bridge repairs were long overdue and how happy he was that they were coming to fruition. Mr. Scahill described his concerns over the proposed closure of the locks and dams along the Allegheny River. He cited 1982 as the year that the Army Corps of Engineers first curtailed the hours of lock and dam operations along the Allegheny River. He then listed numerous companies that were previously or are currently located in Armstrong County that have

utilized the river and its locks and dams. Mr. Scahill proudly stated his advocacy of the river transportation and recreation system and its contributions to the count for many years. He authored a 1986 report entitled "Recreation the Other Allegheny River: that was used by the Allegheny River Development Corporation (ARDC) in their efforts to advocate for the river. He encourages the word "recreation" to be added to the Locks and Dam language to encourage positive funding changes.

Mr. Fink discussed President Obama's recently announced budget cuts, including reduced funding for the Army Corps of Engineers Locks and Dams. He encouraged everyone to attend the upcoming locks and dams meeting scheduled for February 24, 2011 at 7:00 PM at the West Kittanning Fire Hall and to be a part of the solution. He stated that many critical human services are also being cut and added that legislators want to instill even further cuts. He described their recent trip to Harrisburg that included Mr. Palilla and Mr. Kuemmerle and their efforts to gain support for funding. Mr. Fink recognized the significant impact that the block grant reduction will have. He stated we must keep our eyes on the future and be aware of the changes that are sure to come. He recognized Ms. Johnson for her efforts and assistance in capturing many of the competitive grants that are applied for.

Mr. Fryer asked Ms. Johnson for the amount of the 2010 CDBG funds that were allocated to the Ford Cliff Fire Hall. Ms. Johnson responded that the county will provide \$20,833 and that the fire hall will match \$14,167.00

ADJOURN

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners adjourned the Public Meeting at 1:58 PM. The next Public Meeting will be held Thursday, March 3, 2011 at 1:30 PM.