

**COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC MEETING**  
**April 7, 2011**

The Armstrong County Board of Commissioners' Public Meeting was called to order on Thursday, April 7, 2011, at 1:30 PM in the Commissioners' Conference Room with the following in attendance: Commissioner Patricia L. Kirkpatrick, Commissioner James V. Scahill, George J. Skamai – Chief Clerk, Mitch Fryer – Leader Times, Josh Walzak – Leader Vindicator, Jonathan Weaver – Kittanning Paper, Myra Miller – Armstrong County Controller, Carmen Johnson – Assistant Director, Armstrong County Planning & Development, Sally Conklin – Planning Division Director, Armstrong County Planning & Development, Maryanne Koleny – Director, Armstrong County Human Resources, Debra Cornman – Head of Housekeeping / Laundry, Armstrong County Health Center, Nancy Dragan – Administrator, Armstrong County Health Center, Roy Carney – Director, Armstrong County Public Works, Janet Talerico – Executive Director, Armstrong County Area Agency on Aging, Rick Croyle – Administrator, Armstrong County Veterans Affairs, Jo Ellen Bowman – Executive Director, HAVIN, Jim Kuemmerle – Administrator, Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR / EI Program, Dave Dunmire – Ford City Ambulance, Chip Echnoz – ESS Insurance, Kittanning Firemen's Band: W E Steim, Ed Ashley, Hyatt Hawk, Mechling Shakely Veterans' Center: Sean Taladay, Joseph Robinson, Tom Mitchell, Brandon Cobbett – FFI Landscaping, Keith Crawford - Bidder

Ms. Kirkpatrick announced that this meeting is being recorded.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the minutes for the March 17, 2011 Public Meeting were approved.

**BID OPENING**

**Mowing Bids**

Mr. Carney stated that this is an annual action that covers four different areas, noting that the prices are based per occurrence.

The following bids were received at the April 7, 2011 meeting:

Company	Canfield Holmes	422	Elderton Hts	Elderton Hts Back
FFI Landscaping	140	35	70	N/A
Keith Crawford	125	30	--	--
Rod Denny	73	20	150	200
Jeff Brooks Landscaping	239	29	49	499

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Mr. Carney the Commissioners awarded the bid for the Canfield Holmes and 422 to Mr. Rod Denny for presenting the lowest bid. The Non-Profit Housing Authority will meet and decide on the bid award for the Elderton Heights and the Elderton Heights back lot bids.

**Election House Bids**

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor the Commissioners approved the sale of the Numine Election House for five hundred dollars (\$500) to Dennis Chobody, Kittanning, Pennsylvania. Ms. Miller stated that Mr. Chobody provided the only bid for the property.

### **AGREEMENTS / CONTRACTS**

#### **Elderton Senior Center Lease**

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor the Commissioners approved the Elderton Senior Center Lease between Armstrong County and Donald C. and Roseline G. Smeltzer. Ms. Talerico explained that the Smeltzers own the facility known as The Towne Hall in Elderton and have agreed to renew the Senior Center lease for one year at the same rate.

#### **Workers' Compensation Self Insurance BABB Absence Management Services**

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor the Commissioners approved the Workers' Compensation Self Insurance service agreement between Armstrong County and BABB Absence Management Services. Ms. Koleny stated that this is a claims agreement for one year.

#### **P.S.S.U. SEIU Local 668**

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the review of the labor consultant, the Commissioners approved the agreement between Armstrong County and P.S.S.U. SEIU Local 668. Ms. Koleny stated that this is a three year contract with the counselors from Children, Youth and Family Services; it will cover from January 1, 2010 until December 31, 2012.

#### **Bio-Haz Solutions, Inc.**

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor the Commissioners approved Disposal of Medical Waste Service Agreement between Armstrong County and Bio-Haz Solutions, Inc. Ms. Dragan stated that this service removes the medical waste from the Health Center; it is a new vendor and offers cost savings over the previous vendor.

#### **Travelers Insurance Renewal**

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor the Commissioners acknowledged the Renewal Agreement with Travelers between Armstrong County and ESS Insurance. Mr. Echnoz stated that the agreement provides a savings of \$29,000.00 for the county. The Board recognized Mr. Echnoz for his successful insurance practice and stated that he has cumulatively saved the County approximately three quarters of a million dollars in the past six years.

#### **Hose Company #6 Kittanning's FY 2009 Federal Emergency Management Agency Grant**

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor the Commissioners approved the Cooperation Agreement Pertaining to Hose Company #6 Kittanning's fiscal year 2009 Federal Emergency Management Agency Grant between Armstrong County and Hose Company #6 Kittanning. Ms. Johnson stated that this is the standard co-operative agreement and that Hose Company #6 was the host. Mr. Scahill explained that this is the second step of the Radio Project and gave a brief review of the capabilities that the project will enable and the grant application project. He also noted that this is a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) mandated project that is not state funded.

#### 2008 PA ACCESS Program

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor the Commissioners acknowledged the previous action to advance the 2008 PA ACCESS Program funds. Ms. Johnson stated that this is a state funded program, and that the county is advancing \$40,000.00 that will be repaid once the funding arrives. She explained that this process has also been executed in prior years.

#### Indiana County Constable Rick Yarnick

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the acceptance of the Indiana County Commissioners, the Commissioners approved the Fiscal Year 2010 – 2011 Contract for the Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR / Program between Armstrong County and the Indiana County Constable Rick Yarnick. Mr. Kuemmerle stated that Mr. Yarnick is a constable who resides near the border of Armstrong and Indiana County and has offered his services in either county.

#### Mental Health Association of Armstrong County

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor the Commissioners approved the Fiscal Year 2010 – 2011 contract for the Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR / Program between Armstrong County and the Mental Health Association of Armstrong County. Mr. Kuemmerle stated the Mental Health Association will provide specially and specifically selected trainers to meet the needs of each participant.

#### National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Indiana County

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved the Fiscal Year 2010 – 2011 Contract for the Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR Program between Armstrong County and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Indiana County. Mr. Kuemmerle stated that this contract will provide outreach for family members of clients in Armstrong County.

### **BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

#### MH / MR / EI Advisory Board

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor the Commissioners approved the re-appointment of Reverend Lori Harris, Family Life Church and TV, 114 South Jefferson Street, Kittanning, PA 16201, to the MH /

MR / EI Program Advisory Board to a three year term to expire December 31, 2013. The board expressed their appreciation to Reverend Harris and recognized that she currently serves as vice chair to the MH / MR / EI Advisory Board.

## **RESOLUTION**

### **Resolution 2011-7 DCNR Grant Funding**

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor the Commissioners approved Resolution 2011-7 to apply for DCNR Grant Funding. Ms. Conklin explained that the county is required to adopt a resolution before they can acquire land.

### **Resolution 2011-8 Adopt the Armstrong County OHV Feasibility Study**

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor the Commissioners approved Resolution 2011-8 to adopt the Armstrong County OHV Feasibility Study. Ms. Conklin stated that the first two phases are complete and gave an overview of what was required to ensure the land was usable. Commissioner Fink was recognized by Ms. Kirkpatrick for his support and contributions to the project.

## **PROCLAMATIONS**

### **Proclamation 2011-6 Area Agency on Aging Volunteer Recognition Week**

Ms. Talerico stated that there are 250 volunteers that have performed over 23,415 hours in 2010. She recognized the opportunities volunteers provide in extended services and cost savings.

Ms. Kirkpatrick read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved Proclamation 2011-6 Area Agency on Aging Volunteer Recognition Week. The board expressed their appreciation for the volunteers. Mr. Scahill stated that conservatively estimating the hours performed by volunteers would cost nearly a quarter of a million dollars if they were paid at minimum wage.

### **Proclamation 2011-7 Renaming of Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR / EI**

Mr. Kuemmerle stated that the name change has been a long time coming. He appreciates the support of the Commissioners.

Mr. Scahill read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved Proclamation 2011-7 Renaming of Armstrong – Indiana MH / MR / EI to Armstrong – Indiana Behavioral and Developmental Health Program.

### **Proclamation 2011-8 World Autism Day**

Mr. Dunmire gave a brief description of the activities that are being held across the nation for Autism Awareness. He described the condition and the challenges that his family faces while assisting his son who has been diagnosed with Autism. Mr. Kuemmerle recognized the Ford City Ambulance Service and Mr. Dunmire for the work they have done to raise awareness and funding.

Ms. Kirkpatrick read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved Proclamation 2011-8 as World Autism Day.

#### Proclamation 2011-9 Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Ms. Bowman expressed her appreciation for the Commissioners constant support and recognized Ms. Kirkpatrick as a board member. She described the Violence Against Women competitive grant that they have received and a team that is currently being formed to respond to any victims that are reported. Ms. Bowman stated that there is a need for increased funding and awareness in the battle against the sexual assault of children.

Mr. Scahill read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, based on the review of the county solicitor the Commissioners approved Proclamation 2011-9 Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

#### Proclamation 2011-10 County Government Month Honoring Our Veterans

Mr. Croyle described the function of the Veteran's Office and clarified that they are not employees of the Veterans' Affairs, they are here to work in the best interest of our local veterans. Ms. Kirkpatrick gave an overview of the calendar of activities for the month of April and directed everyone to the County's website for more information at [www.co.armstrong.pa.us](http://www.co.armstrong.pa.us). Ms. Rashlich then described the donation drive that is taking place during the month of April. The drive will include toiletries, simple clothing items, DVDs and playing cards and many other items.

Ms. Kirkpatrick read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved Proclamation 2011-10 County Government Month Honoring Our Veterans. Ms. Kirkpatrick recognized Mr. Scahill as a board member of NACo and an interface to the critical efforts for veterans across the nation.

#### Proclamation 2011-11 Recognizing Mechling – Shakley Veteran's Center

Mr. Taladay stated that they have approximately 61 gentlemen at their facility that are classified as homeless veterans. He gave an overview of the facility and the safety upgrades and improvements they have been working to achieve. Mr. Taladay expressed his appreciation for the support the Commissioners and the community has given and encouraged everyone to participate in the activities planned for the month and upcoming months. He also described the Wednesday afternoon bowling sessions at Kings Lanes where anyone is welcome to attend and participate.

Mr. Scahill read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved proclamation 2011-11 recognizing Mechling – Shakley Veteran's Center. Mr. Scahill recognized that the center is named for two local veterans from Armstrong County. He praised the facility and the work they are performing for veterans.

#### Proclamation 2011-12 Honoring The Kittanning Firemen's Band

Mr. Steim detailed the upcoming trip and concert that is planned to be held July 9, 2011 in Washington DC at the World War II Memorial. The band will be providing a free trip to any interested World War II Veteran and offering passage to anyone interested in attending. Mr. Steim recognized the donations of area businesses and residents as making the trip possible. Mr. Ashley stated that he is honoring his father a WWII Navy Veteran by participating in the band and in planning this trip. Mr. Hawk has been a member in the band for ten years and credits the fellowship and enjoyment of membership as the reason he has recovered from many illnesses and injuries.

Ms. Kirkpatrick read aloud the proclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the Commissioners approved Proclamation 2011-12 Honoring the Kittanning Firemen's Band.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENT**

##### Financial transactions for March 2011

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously, the Commissioners acknowledged the Financial Transactions for March 2011.

Mr. Scahill described the grant that Kittanning Hose Company #6 received and the need for the upgraded radio system that is mandated and under way. He credited the vision of Commissioner Fink for identifying the need for an ATV trail throughout the county to help prevent the violation of posted and private properties. Mr. Scahill then shared stories that were a result of previous trips made by the Kittanning Firemen's Band. He explained that, when asked by the Governor's office to, "present something uniquely Armstrong County", the Kittanning Firemen's Band was selected to represent the County for Governor Rendell's inauguration.

Mr. Scahill spoke briefly about a recent service held at the Soldiers and Sailors Hall in Pittsburgh honoring Charles Hutchison, a Kittanning native who was killed in 1965 in the Dominican Republic. He then presented an overview of the Veterans' Affairs office's current endeavors, noting some of the challenges faced by that office and the veterans they serve. He encouraged all veterans to seek the support and services that are offered.

In his closing comments Mr. Scahill invited everyone to attend the Last Supper, a Passion Play based on the Di Vinci painting, to be held at Grace Presbyterian Church on April 17, 2011 at 7:00 PM.

Ms. Kirkpatrick began her comments by recognizing each person who was in attendance as the representative for the various proclamations that afternoon. She acknowledged the value of, and shared her appreciation for, those who volunteer. She encouraged those who selflessly give of their time to share that spirit with the younger generations.

Ms. Kirkpatrick then expressed her dissatisfaction in the federal government's inability to resolve pending budget issues. She contrasted their ineffectiveness with the successes of the County's elected officials, who recognize the necessity to put aside personal agendas and work for the best interest of the people they represent.

Ms. Conklin announced that April 30<sup>th</sup> will be "Hard to Recycle Day" at the Kittanning Walmart Plaza. This year through the efforts of the District Attorney's office there will also be a "Special Pharmaceutical Collection" for the collection and disposal of expired or unused prescription and nonprescription medications.

### **ADJOURN**

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Ms. Kirkpatrick and carried unanimously; the Commissioners adjourned the Public Meeting at 3:12 PM. The next Public Meeting will be held Thursday, April 21, 2011 at 1:30 PM.