

COMMISSIONERS' PUBLIC MEETING
July 1, 2010

The Armstrong County Board of Commissioners' Public Meeting was called to order on Thursday, July 1, 2010, at 1:30 PM 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, Josh Walzak – Leader Vindicator, Dave Croyle – Kittanning Paper, Chad Puz – Family Life TV, Nancy Dragan – Director, Armstrong County Health Center, Roy Carney – Director, Armstrong County Public Works, Cheryl Morris – Director, Armstrong County Domestic Relations, Myra Miller – Armstrong County Controller

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 June 17, 2010 Public Meeting were approved.

Mr. Scahill abstained because he was not in attendance at the June 17th meeting.

CONTRACTS / AGREEMENTS

CCAP Grant to Improve Access to Electronic Information

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Dragan and Mr. Venturini, the County Commissioners approved the grant between Armstrong County and County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP). The grant will provide \$59,500 to enhance the network structure to be able to gain access to electronic information.

Cooperative Agreement for Private Attorney under Title IV-D

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, based on the recommendation of Ms. Morris, the County Commissioners approved the Private Attorney Cooperative Agreement under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act. Ms. Morris explained that the agreements are renewal contracts with a 5 year term and that the rates will remain unchanged.

Contract for Professional Consulting Services

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved the Professional Consulting Services Contract with Mission Critical Partners. Mission Critical brings a very high level of expertise in assisting the county with the complexities of the radio/broadband project.

Contract for Garbage Removal Services

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners approved the Garbage Removal Services Contract with Waste Management. Mr.

Carney was able to negotiate the consolidation of eight (8) current agreements that each had individual termination dates. This measure will save the county \$5,341 in monthly fees.

Agreement of Software Maintenance

On a motion by Mr. Fink, seconded by Mr. Scahill and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners acknowledged the agreement with New World Systems. This agreement has a three year term and covers the Financial Management, Payroll and Human Resources suites.

OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENT

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the County Commissioners acknowledged the financial transactions for June 2010.

Ms. Kirkpatrick opened the meeting to comments and questions.

Mr. Scahill, with Ms. Dragan's confirmation, stated that the Health Center has, thus far, received four grants from CCAP totaling nearly four million dollars. Mr. Scahill then commended Ms. Dragan for her effort and diligence in obtaining the grant money which is used for improvements to the facility.

Mr. Scahill then spoke about his experience with the Wounded Warrior Walk. While he was unable to join in the actual walk, he assisted by cooking meals, maintaining the safety of the walkers and coordinating traffic. The goal for the Wounded Warrior's project is to raise awareness of the wounded service men and women that return home and need assistance in readjusting to civilian life. The walk raised approximately one-hundred thousand dollars for the project.

Mr. Fink reiterated Mr. Scahill's comments about Ms. Dragan and the Health Center. He also commented on how well the county department heads and staff work with the Board of Commissioners to accomplish the goal of serving the needs of Armstrong County residents.

Ms. Kirkpatrick shared details of an article that she recently read in Time magazine regarding the recession and its impact on local services, placing many of them in jeopardy. The article stated that the organizations affected by the financial crisis have been forced to adapt and in many cases reduce services.

Ms. Kirkpatrick offered praise for the County's Information Technology department on their work in bringing the latest technological advances to the County. One example of the advancements is the ability for the commissioners to participate in critical meetings without the expense of travel and time away from the office. She also commended Mr. Pepler for his efforts in maintaining a positive general fund cash balance. She expressed her gratitude to the tax payers of Armstrong County for supporting the essential functions of county government.

Both Mr. Fink and Ms. Kirkpatrick commented on the state budget. Mr. Fink noted that several weeks will be required to decipher the state budget. Ms. Kirkpatrick agreed with Mr. Fink, and then reported on a reimbursement check, received by the county from the state, for a portion of the District Attorney's 2008 salary. She commented that although the amount received was not adequate to satisfy the state's portion of the District Attorney's salary, it was a positive sign.

Ms. Dragan thanked the IT department for their assistance with applying for the aforementioned CCAP Grant.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Mr. Scahill, seconded by Mr. Fink and carried unanimously, the Commissioners moved to adjourn the Public Meeting at 1:57 PM. The next Public Meeting will be held Thursday, July 15, 2010 at 1:30 PM.