

Minute No. 716

Washington County Commissioners

Washington, PA, March 20, 2003

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Public Meeting Room, Courthouse Square, Washington, Pennsylvania, with the following members being present: Commissioners John P. Bevec, Diana L. Irely and J. Bracken Burns, Sr. Also being present: Catherine Kresh, Administrator/Chief Clerk; Richard DiSalle, Solicitor; Linda Belcher, Administrative Assistant; Lisa Cessna, Vicki Bryan and Melanie Finney, Planning Commission; Sheriff Larry Maggi and Chief Deputy Sheriff John Rheel; Gary Mucho, Veterans Affairs Benefit Coordinator; George Krcelich and Jennifer Johnson, Human Services Department; Ken Barna, Tax Revenue Office; Lane Turturice, Tax Assessment Solicitor; Reverend Ralph Volpe, Central Assembly of God; Ken Drummond, member of the Mid Mon Valley Shipmates; Malcolm Morgan, Washington County Council on Economic Development; Dr. Richard Martin, Principal Beth Center High School; Tamara Mayton, Melissa Barrett, Matthew Falcone, Shannon Booze and Adam Elway, students from Beth Center High School who participated in the Mock Trial Competition; Patrick Cooper, Jim Ross and Mark Thomassin, Washington County Historical Society; Bonnie Gilbert and Dennis Fazzolare, Air Charter Service, Inc.; Carl Maggi, Harry Sabatasse, John Adams, Richard Warco, interested citizens; Jim Jefferson, WJPA; Linda Metz, Observer-Reporter and Josh Frisback, CUTV.

Chairman Bevec called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

Reverend Volpe led with a prayer.

Mr. Drummond led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Bevec entertained a motion to approve Minute No. 715 dated March 6, 2003.

Moved by Mrs. Irely, seconded by Mr. Burns, that Minute No. 715 be approved as written.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irely - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Commissioners presented certificates of congratulations to students from Beth Center School District who were members of the Mock Trial Competition held by the Washington County Bar Association.

Lane Turturice, Coach for the competition, commented on the event and introduced Dr. Richard Martin, principal of Beth Center High School. Mr. Turturice commended the student's dedication and hard work preparing for this competition and wished them well in all their future endeavors.

Chairman Bevec introduced Gary Mucho, Veterans Director, who made a public announcement regarding a grant received for the purpose of permanent supportive housing for homeless veterans with disabilities. Mr. Mucho stated that \$177,000 of a \$295,000 five year grant from the Federal Housing and Urban Development was received for Washington County. He reported two veterans have been placed and eight slots are still available. Mr. Mucho stated the program is administered through the American Red Cross and the Veterans Affairs Offices.

(RECESS FOR PHOTOS)

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS (CON'T)

Lane Turturice, Tax Revenue Solicitor, presented to the Board for their consideration and approval two pilot agreements with the Student Association, Inc. of California University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Turturice explained the Student Association, Inc. will make payment to the county in lieu of taxes.

Moved by Mr. Burns, seconded by Mrs. Irely, approving the foregoing pilot agreements with the Student Association, Inc.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irely - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Burns thanked California University of Pennsylvania for this mutual agreement whereby the association volunteers to make payment to the county in lieu of declaring tax exemption.

Chairman Bevec also thanked California University and commended them for working with the local municipality and Washington County.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Harry Sabatasse, of Burgettstown, addressed the Board regarding the controversy between the veterans and the Board of Commissioners, discussing personnel issues at a public meeting and the fact he was being falsely accused of disrespecting the veterans. Mr. Sabatasse declared he has the utmost respect for veterans that fought in wars and saved our country. He noted he endorses any disabled veteran or anyone who needs help in any way.

Mr. Sabatasse stated his feelings regarding Mr. Irwin making demands on the "Bevec-Irely" administration at a previous meeting.

Mr. Sabatasse questioned Commissioner Burns whether or not he was a veteran of foreign wars.

Commissioner Burns stated he served two years in the Army Infantry and is not a VFW member.

Mr. Sabatasse questioned Commissioner Burns regarding a van driver for the veterans van being turned down by his administration.

Commissioner Burns stated no.

Mr. Sabatasse questioned Commissioner Burns as to whether or not he requested veterans post to donate money to help pay the costs of the van driver.

Commissioner Burns stated yes.

Carl Maggi, a member of the Veterans Advisory Council, stated Mr. Sabatasse's remarks are disgraceful.

He pointed out this is the same man who made the statement each veteran should pay \$1.00 to pay their way.

Mr. Maggi also stated Mr. Sabatasse has made a fool of himself today and tried to make a fool of his stepson, Lew Irwin.

Mr. Maggi noted Mr. Sabatasse should speak to Mr. Irwin personally regarding this matter.

OLD BUSINESS

Solicitor DiSalle recommended the Board authorize the extension of the bid contract for the purchase of Industrial Commodities for all county facilities. This extension is in accordance with the current contract and has been agreed to by the vendors, Quality Mechanical Services, Verona, PA and Invensys Building Systems, Canonsburg, PA.

The contract will be extended through May 31, 2004 and all terms and conditions of the current contract will remain the same. The total yearly cost is approximately \$30,000 year.

Moved by Mrs. Irely, seconded by Mr. Burns, authorizing the bid extension for the purchase of industrial commodities as per above.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irely - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval an agreement amending the March 29, 1979 agreement between Washington County and Fayette County for the joint operation of the ferry service on the Monongahela River across their common boundary. This revised agreement specifies the time frame for invoicing and payments as well as required documentation to be submitted with each invoice. The revised language becomes effective upon execution by both counties and applies to all invoices retroactive January 1, 2003 throughout the term of the Monongahela Joint Ferry Ordinance.

Moved by Mrs. Irely, seconded by Mr. Burns, approving the agreement amending the 1979 agreement between Washington County and Fayette County as per above.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irely - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval authorization to bid for the obstruction removal project at the Washington County Airport. The project involves removing four utility poles and burying the lines underground. The costs will be paid 90% federal, 5% state and 5% county.

Moved by Mrs. Irely, seconded by Mr. Burns, approving authorization to bid for the obstruction removal project at the Washington County Airport.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irely - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval the 2003 fire inspection agreement with the South Franklin Township Fire Company in the amount of \$1,000 for the Washington County Airport. The term of the agreement is January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003.

Moved by Mrs. Irely, seconded by Mr. Burns, approving the 2003 fire inspection agreement with the South Franklin Township Fire Company.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irely - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval a maintenance agreement with Air Services of Cleveland, Inc. for the maintenance of the navigation equipment at the Washington County Airport according to the established rate schedule. The previous contractor ceased operations in aviation in July of 2002. It is to be noted Air Services has completed necessary emergency repairs on the navigational equipment in recent months.

Moved by Mrs. Irej, seconded by Mr. Burns, approving the maintenance agreement with Air Services of Cleveland, Inc. as per above.

Department of Public Welfare as per above.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irej - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval an agreement and lease with the Washington County Historical Society to construct a Frontier Experience Center at Cross Creek County Park. The Historical Society will construct a fort and associated buildings and hold educational programs in conjunction with the Parks staff. Washington County will complete necessary access road improvements, coordinate programs and maintain the grounds.

Moved by Mrs. Irej, seconded by Mr. Burns, approving the foregoing agreement and lease with the Washington Historical Society.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irej - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS

Patrick Cooper, of the Washington County Historical Society, thanked the Board for their consideration on this matter and for giving the Historical Society an opportunity to expand their ability to present educational and informative programming in the county. Mr. Cooper stated the Frontier Experience Center will be a recreation of one of forty-four frontier forts that existed in Washington County.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval the following Child Care Provider Agreements. These agreements will be automatically renewed until either party to the Agreement notifies the other party in writing of their intent not to renew under the current terms of the provider agreements.

Bubbles, Bears to Books Day School, Inc., North Strabane
Edwin L. Davis, Marianna

Helen Burgess, N. Charleroi
Billie Jo Jones, Washington

Moved by Mrs. Irej, seconded by Mr. Burns, approving the foregoing Child Care Information Services agreements.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irej - Yes; Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval an agreement with Try Again Homes, Inc. for independent living in the amount of \$101,250.00 for the period of October 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003. No County funds are required.

Moved by Mrs. Irej, seconded by Mr. Burns, approving the agreement with Try Again Homes, Inc. for the independent living as per above.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irej - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval an addendum to the contract with Odyssey Healthcare to restate the federal requirements for providers and nursing facilities offering hospice services. The second addendum addresses the mutual responsibilities under the HIPAA privacy standards.

Moved by Mrs. Irej, seconded by Mr. Burns, approving the addendum to the contract with Odyssey Healthcare as per above.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irej - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval a contract supplement with HRG, Inc. in the amount of \$4,010.85 for additional work associated with the Pigeon Creek #2, Stockdaletown bridge project in Monongahela. Since the construction will be federally funded and State Route 481 must be partially relocated, additional environmental and cultural impact analysis must be documented. The revised total contract is \$318,688.17 and will be paid 80% state and 20% county funds.

Moved by Mr. Burns, seconded by Mrs. Irej, approving the contract supplement with HRG, Inc. for additional work associated with Pigeon Creek #2, Stockdaletown bridge project.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irej - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval authorization to bid for tree removal and trimming on properties within the ILS approach at the Washington County Airport. The negotiations with property owners are ongoing, but once they sign agreements the bid may be advertised concurrent with final execution of the agreements to save additional time delays with commissioning the system. The costs of tree removal and trimming will be paid 50% Capital Grant and 50% County funds.

Moved by Mr. Burns, seconded by Mrs. Irej, to approve authorization to bid for tree removal and trimming on properties as per above.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irej - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval a contract supplement with DMJM/Harris in the amount of \$22,958.52 for additional inspection hours on the Buffalo #38, Brownlee Bridge in Buffalo Township. The revised contract total is \$310,311.54. The costs will be paid 80% state and 20% county liquid fuels.

Moved by Mr. Burns, seconded by Mrs. Irej, approving a contract supplement with DMJM/Harris for additional inspection hours on the Buffalo #38, Brownlee Bridge project.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irej - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval rent for office space remain at the established rate of \$13.50 per square foot for the period of March 1, 2003 through February 29, 2004.

Moved by Mr. Burns, seconded by Mrs. Irej, approving rent for office space remain at the established rate of \$13.50 per square foot as per above.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irej - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval a Lease Agreement with Centerville Borough for the purpose of leasing office space for District Justice Pelkey. The terms of the agreement are as follows:

First five year term: \$9.38/sq. ft with a 3% increase each year (\$1,500/month first year)
Second five year term: \$10.87/sq. ft. with a 3% increase each year (\$1,738.91/month first year)

This rate includes all utilities, trash removal, janitorial service and supplies.

Moved by Mr. Burns, seconded by Mrs. Irej, approving a Lease Agreement with Centerville Borough for office space for District Justice Pelkey.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irej - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval a state contract purchase of Cisco VPN connection and network infrastructure equipment to provide connectivity for the JNet and Human Services applications via a secure Internet connection. This purchase will be funded by the CCAP VPN connectivity grant of 50/50 monies for the JNet extension to the County-wide police departments and the remaining 50% funding coming from the Human Services budget. The total cost of the equipment will be \$86,766.00.

Moved by Mr. Burns, seconded by Mrs. Irej, approving a state contract purchase of Cisco VPN connection and network infrastructure equipment as per above.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irej - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval the following list of expenditures which have been allocated in the Juvenile Probation's budget for 2003:

Annual Juvenile Court Advisory Board dinner to be held April 23, 2003	\$979.60
Annual Peer Jury Recognition Picnic to be held May 8, 2003	\$1,347.50

Moved by Mr. Burns, seconded by Mrs. Irej, approving the foregoing list of expenditures.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irej - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval a request from the Washington County STOP Grant Coordinating Team to approve the submission of the 2003/2004 STOP Violence Against Women grant application with PCCD. The grant is divided into three specific areas: Law Enforcement, Prosecution and Victim Services. The grant award is \$140,000 cash with a \$20,000 county match.

Moved by Mrs. Irej, seconded by Mr. Burns, approving the request from the Washington County STOP Grant Coordinating Team as per above.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irej - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Clerk presented to the Board for their consideration and approval a contract with Malcolm W. Moore for architectural work required to bid for construction of a bridge department maintenance building at the Washington County Airport. The fee of \$0.50 per square foot of maintenance building/storage area and \$2.00 per square foot of office area will be paid through bond issue funds allocated to the project in increments set forth in the schedule provided.

Moved by Mrs. Irej, seconded by Mr. Burns, approving the foregoing contract with Malcolm W. Moore for architectural work required to bid for construction of a bridge department maintenance building at the Airport.

Roll call vote taken:

Mr. Burns - Yes; Mrs. Irej - Yes; Mr. Bevec - Yes.

Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

An Executive Session was held on March 19, 2003 immediately following the Agenda Meeting to discuss personnel.

The quarterly Salary Board Meeting will be held today immediately following the Board of Commissioners' Meeting.

There being no further business, Chairman Bevec declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:45 a.m.

THE FOREGOING MINUTES SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL

_____ *April 1*, 2003
 ATTEST: *Cassius E. Fresh*
 ADMINISTRATOR/CHIEF CLERK