

# LEADER TIMES

## Armstrong commissioners OK contract to fix Lower Pine Run Bridge

By Mitch Fryer

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A 100-year-old bridge in Redbank Township must be replaced or renovated. Armstrong County commissioners Wednesday approved a contract with P. Joseph Lehman Inc., of Holidaysburg, for a feasibility study of the county-owned, 82-foot, Lower Pine Run Bridge that carries a township road, Lower Mudlick Road, over Lower Pine Run Creek and its engineering and design for an amount not to exceed \$323,000.

But not without Commissioner Jim Scahill questioning the cost for the bridge.

"I'm amazed at how much," said Scahill. "We'll probably end up with another million dollar bridge. It's getting out of hand."

Rich Palilla, executive director of the county's Planning and Development Department, said all costs associated with the bridge are funded 100 percent by PennDOT.

Palilla said Lehman was selected because of the firm's expertise in the rehabilitation of bridges.

"If it can be rehabilitated, if it stands sound, there is very little traffic, it may be better to rehabilitate it (and less costly)," said Palilla.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Awarded a contract to low bidder Shaffer Painting, of Kittanning, for \$15,580 to paint the county's recycling barn on the Armsdale property along Route 85 in Rayburn.
- Approved the contract with the state's Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for its 2010 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for projects in county communities in the amount of \$687,894. The program provides annual grants to needy communities for infrastructure improvements.
- Approved a competitive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) agreement on behalf of East Franklin Township to help low to moderate income residents in Adrian, Cowansville and Tarrtown pay for construction of their lateral line to the main line for a sewer project. The grant is for \$175,000.
- Approved a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) agreement on behalf of the Kittanning Suburban Joint Water Authority as associated with the Cadogan Water Lateral Replacement Project to help low to moderate income

residents pay for construction of their lateral line to the main line. The grant is for \$19,000.

- Approved a contract with Government Payment Processing for the county's Treasurer's office to accept electronically-processed payments for dog licenses.
- Approved extending the area of an existing commercial LERTA in Parks Township. The state's Act 76, known as the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Law, authorizes taxing bodies to provide abatements. The program applies abatements to new construction and renovations made to existing buildings.
- Approved an application to the Local Economic Development Assistance (LEDA) program. The Armstrong County Industrial Development Council (IDC) will receive \$13,531 from the state's Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to use for marketing.
- Acknowledged an Armstrong Voter Hall of Fame ceremony at 11 a.m. Sept. 30 at the Kittanning Township fire hall in which 193 of the county's voters will be recognized by the state for their voting record of 50 or more consecutive years without missing a vote.

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