

Redevelopment authority hires Pittsburgh consulting firm

By Patty Yauger pyauger@heraldstandard.com | Posted: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 2:00 am

The Fayette County Redevelopment Authority will enter into a contract with Pittsburgh firm to provide government consulting services for the agency.

In unanimous action of those present Monday, Salvo Strategies was hired at a cost of \$46,500.

Andrew French, authority executive director, said the company was the only firm to meet the advertised deadline.

Last month the authority ratified the December termination of Greenlee Partners LLC of Pittsburgh.

Salvo Strategies owner, Vanessa DeSalvo Getz, formerly worked for Greenlee before forming her own company, said French.

“She was our representative while we were with Greenlee,” said French.

Last year, DeSalvo-Getz aided the authority as it established the county’s gaming revenue local share account through the state Department of Community and Economic Development and was its advocate as it pursued tax credits from the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency for the construction of the Brownsville senior apartment complex, in addition to helping with other authority projects, he added.

“She’s done a good job for the authority,” said French.

The one-year contract expires Dec. 31.

Board members Paul Bortz, Jonathan Garlow, Phil Michael and Odelia John supported the action. Board member Dale Malinzak was absent from the meeting.

Turning to other matters, the board awarded contracts to two regional contractors for separate projects within the county.

In unanimous action, a contract was awarded to BCS Construction Inc. of Altoona to renovate the Smithfield Borough Community Room.

Five contractors submitted bids for the work ranging from the BCS bid of \$32,500 to \$80,070.

Rygiel Excavating was the lowest bidder for the Vance's Mill waterline extension project in North Union Township.

Fifteen contractors offered cost estimates for the project ranging from \$96,806 from the Fayette City contractor to \$214,560.

In other action, the board also conducted the following business:

- n Approved an agreement with Action-Housing Inc. of Pittsburgh to provide quality control inspection services for the authority's weatherization program.

- n Retained Trek Development Group of Pittsburgh as the project coordinator for the environmental abatement, demolition and removal of three existing structures in Brownsville.

- n Authorized French to execute a contract with Maher Duessel of Pittsburgh for auditing services.

- n Accepted a deed from the Brownsville Municipal Authority for a small parcel of land located along Market Street in Brownsville at no cost to the redevelopment authority.

- n Hired Brendan Lee as a part-time weatherization installer at an hourly rate of \$10.