

Fayette County Redevelopment Authority prepares to submit grant application

By Natalie Bruzda nbruzda@heraldstandard.com | Posted: Wednesday, August 7, 2013 3:45 pm

The Fayette County Redevelopment Authority received notification Wednesday that the county's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application is due by the end of September.

According to Andrew French, authority executive director, the county will receive about \$1.2 million in CDBG money for fiscal year 2013, which is comparable to the county's 2012 allocation.

French said the authority had anticipated receiving that amount and had already started to work with various communities in the county.

"We're extremely late in the application process this year," French said. "We've already requested proposals from some of the smaller communities throughout the county that we've begun to evaluate. And we've also had meetings with the entitlement townships."

In past years, the program, which is designed to benefit low- to moderate-income people, has enabled the county to improve infrastructure and parks, extend water and sewer lines, remove blight and earmark money for housing rehabilitation.

In a related matter, several county projects will move from the planning stage to groundbreaking following action by the authority on Wednesday.

The board of directors awarded three contracts that will allow for various road projects to get underway.

In unanimous action, the board approved a contract with Seiler Excavating of Hopwood for the installation of a waterline in Dunbar.

Seiler Excavating submitted the lowest acceptable bid of \$53,680. There were a total of four bidders.

The project will be funded through the county's CDBG program, French said.

The authority also unanimously approved a contract for a road reconstruction project in Belle Vernon.

French said the project will take place in the Blind Lane and Arch Street areas of the borough, and will benefit a housing authority property.

El Grande Industries of Monessen submitted the lowest acceptable bid of \$35,550 and was awarded the project. There were a total of three bidders.

A second road reconstruction project is slated to begin following authority action. The board awarded A.C. Moyer Co. of Lemont Furnace a contract to complete a road reconstruction project in various locations of South Union Township. A.C. Moyer Co. submitted the lowest acceptable bid of \$156,758. There were a total of four bidders.

French reported that construction will begin in the next 60 to 90 days for all three projects.

In other business, the authority:

n Approved Bankson Engineers, Inc. to provide engineering services for the Indian Creek Valley Water Authority's Mt. Tabor Road area waterline extension project in Springfield Township. French said the project will cost about \$680,000 and will not only service 12 households, but will benefit the water authority's entire system.

n Approved a right of way agreement between the authority at Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, Inc. for the extension of a natural gas pipeline on a lot at the county's business park in South Union Township.