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**PIKE COUNTY ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

PRESS RELEASE



Pike County Economic Development Authority brings over \$650,000 into the community by successfully sponsoring gaming grant applications

Next round of Gaming grant program opens for applications on July 1

Milford, June 3, 2010: The Pike County Economic Development Authority (EDA) is bringing over \$650,000 into Pike County by successfully sponsoring two grant applications through the very competitive Monroe County Local Share Gaming Program this year. The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) recently announced that the EDA has been awarded grants for the two projects in Lehman Township. DCED awarded \$380,313 for a road improvement project on Bushkill Falls Road in Lehman Township relative to the Highland Village development which encompasses the properties formerly known as Tamiment Resort and the Mountain Laurel Center for the Performing Arts. The second award of \$380,312 is designated for a water and sewer infrastructure expansion on behalf of the Pennsylvania Utility Company to serve the same development. These grants will leverage funding from other sources in excess of \$24 million to complete the projects.

"We can't thank the Pike County Economic Development Authority Board and staff enough for all of their hard work sponsoring and supporting the applications. We also thank our local and state officials for their efforts to bring these resources to Lehman Township, Pike County, as well as the Northeastern PA Alliance for its support," said Dan Mita, Project Manager for O'Neill Properties, the developer of Highland Village. "These awards are examples of how gaming proceeds can be reinvested into the community to facilitate smart growth here in the Poconos. We are very fortunate that the Department of Community and Economic Development and the Commonwealth Financing Authority selected these projects to bring additional investment to local Pocono communities."

The Monroe County Local Share Gaming Grant Program distributes a specific pool of grant dollars generated at Mount Airy Casino in Monroe County. Half of the pool is distributed to projects within Monroe County and half is distributed to projects in counties contiguous to Monroe. Funds can be used for public interest, community improvement or economic development projects. Eligible applicants include counties, municipalities or consortiums of municipalities, and economic development authorities. Previously, the EDA sponsored an application that is bringing \$1 million into the county for the Pike County Public Library.

The next application period for the Monroe County LSA Gaming program opens on July 1. Applications must be submitted by September 30th. The EDA will sponsor projects once again this year. Letters of request should be submitted to the EDA office no later than July 27th. A \$500 application fee is due to the EDA if the EDA Board approves sponsoring the project at its meeting on August 3rd. Subsequently, application materials developed by the applicant must be made available for review by EDA staff prior to submission.

For more information on the Monroe County LSA Gaming Grant Program or obtaining sponsorship from the EDA for your organization's project, please contact Rachel Hendricks at 570-296-7332.