

## **Commissioners' Workshop Meeting Tuesday, March 20, 2012**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, March 20, 2012 at 10:30 A.M. in the 13th floor Boardroom of the Berks County Services Center, pursuant to due notice to Board members and the public.

Commissioner Chair Christian Y. Leinbach called the meeting to order with Commissioner Kevin S. Barnhardt in attendance. Commissioner Mark C. Scott is out of town this week, and did not attend the meeting. Also present were County Solicitor Alan S. Miller and Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk.

Commissioner Leinbach opened the meeting with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and announced that the Board met in executive session on Monday, March 19, 2012 in the afternoon to discuss labor issues.

### **II. PRESENTATION**

Peter Edelman, Esq., of Stevens and Lee, presented information to the Board of Commissioners for a proposed Ordinance to be considered for enactment this Thursday with respect to the refinancing for Reading Area Community College. Mr. Edelman commented that because of the low interest rates, the College can refinance some of its debt. Mr. Edelman introduced Daryl Deck, of S&Lutions, the County's financial consultant.

### **III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:**

#### **Budget Department**

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2011 Budget Appropriations in the amount of \$2,485.00, 2012 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$138,579.00 and 2012 Appropriations in the amount \$1,700.00 per listing dated March 16, 2012. Robert Patrizio, Chief Financial Officer, commented there is nothing out of the ordinary today.
- B. Adopt a resolution ratifying, confirming and approving the Direct Pay Bond Compliance Procedures Policy effective March 4, 2010 regarding issuance of bonds by the County of Berks that constitute Build America Bonds or Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds within the meaning give such terms in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended. Robert Patrizio, Chief Financial Officer, commented this action was recommended by bond counsel, and only applies to the Build America Bonds that are no longer issued.
- C. Adopt a resolution approving the Tax Exempt Bonds Compliance Program effective March 22, 2012 by which the County will monitor and continually update its use of bond proceeds and bond financed facilities throughout the term of any Bonds issued for its benefit. Robert Patrizio, Chief Financial

Officer, commented this is regarding a form that must be filed with the IRS in which the IRS asks if the County has a Tax Exempt Policy. Mr. Patrizio commented that bond counsel recommended this policy be put in place so we can check the yes box on the form; and there is nothing in this policy we haven't been doing.

### Human Resources

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated March 20, 2012. Commissioner Leinbach commented on the three items listed today.

### Purchasing

- A. Motion authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach as Chairman of the Board, to execute Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated March 16, 2012. Commissioner Leinbach commented on the contracts listed today. Commissioner Leinbach asked District Attorney John Adams to comment on the Agreement listed on the Contract Agenda under his office. District Attorney Adams commented this is an ongoing grant the District Attorney's Office has been working with BWIC (Berks County Women In Crisis) the past five years. This documentation will renew the grant. District Attorney Adams further commented the grant has been reduced by approximately \$100,000.00 less than last year, and the County will be receiving approximately \$112,000.00. Mary Kay Bernosky, of Berks Women In Crisis, commented on the services provided to the community including emergency shelter, transitional housing, legal representation and prevention education.

### Community Development

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the 2011 Emergency Solutions Grant Program Substantial Amendment with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and further authorizes the Chair of the Board of Commissioners to execute any and all substantial amendment documents in connection with the amendment and any resulting contract or agreement with HUD. This is the second allocation of 2011 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program funds. Kenneth Pick, Director of Community Development, commented this award was approved as part of the 2011 budget process, but U.S. Government just recently announced the allocation and the requirements for receiving it. Specifically the funds will be going to Family Promise of Berks County to provide homeless prevention and assistance. Mr. Pick briefly described the process Family Promise implements to determine how they distribute the grant funds.

### District Attorney

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizes execution of the Grant Application for the OVW Fiscal Year 2012 Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program, U.S. Department of Justice, in

the amount of \$300,000.00, which is 100% federally funded. District Attorney and Ms. Bernosky previously addressed this grant as another component of the grant was listed on the Contract Agenda.

**Planning Commission**

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of an application for the Pennsylvania Water Company Grant Program to create a virtual Stormwater BMP (Best Management Practices) Tour to be located on the Berks County Planning Commission's website. Supporting partners would be Berks County Conservation District, Berks County Conservancy and the Center for Excellence in Local Government. Shannon Rossman, Berks County Planning Commission, commented this virtual tour will allow the public to see a map and look at the site and what type of management practices are currently being used. Ms. Rossman further commented the Planning Commission will provide a workshop in the fall to promote the website. Ms. Rossman also advised the Board there will be an application grant with REN (water resource education network) to execute, which will cover the cost of the time of the staff to put the program together.

**IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Commissioner Barnhardt**

Commissioner Barnhardt commented on three positives occurring within the County. Tomorrow Carl Geffken will start with the County as the Chief Operations Officer, and the County will hire a Library Director starting April 25, 2012. Commissioner Barnhardt also commented the County is tentatively approving the improvements to the elevators located in the Courthouse and Services Center.

**Commissioner Scott**

**Commissioner Leinbach**

**V. Citizen Comment from the Floor**

Donna Morganti attended the meeting and questioned Commissioner Leinbach on her concern she spoke with him about yesterday. Commissioner Leinbach commented that if Ms. Morganti has additional information she should pass it along to Mary Buerer.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:58 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk