

**Commissioners' Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, July 10, 2012**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, July 10, 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 and Commissioner Mark C. Scott in attendance. Also present were County Solicitor Alan S. Miller, Chief Operating Officer Carl E. Geffken, and Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk.

Commissioner Leinbach opened the meeting with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

II. PRESENTATION

Diane Price, Chair of the Berks County Armed Forces Day Parade, presented Certificates of Appreciation to the County, County Commissioners and various elected officials and County department heads. Ms. Price also commented that this was the 64th Annual Armed Forces Day Parade and is the oldest of its kind in the Country.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Department

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2012 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$371,758.00 and 2012 Appropriations in the amount \$672,550.00 per listing dated July 6, 2012. Robert Patrizio, Chief Financial Officer, commented that the majority of appropriations are related to the movement of the federal ICE program to the CRC building. Mr. Patrizio commented most of the funds will be reimbursed by the Federal government.

- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing the County's insurance broker, Engle Hambright & Davies of Wyomissing, Pennsylvania, to enter into agreements with the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) and other insurance companies for insurance renewals commencing July 1, 2012 as presented at the Budget Workshop on June 21, 2012. Mr. Patrizio commented this relates to insurance renewal for July 1 policies with the CCAP program. Mr. Patrizio further commented that the County solicited quotes from other insurance providers and found the best price was with the CCAP program, and was previously discussed at an advertised Budget Meeting.

Purchasing

- A. Motion authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated July 6, 2012. Commissioner Leinbach gave a brief rundown of the Contracts listed today.

Chief Operating Officer

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing the re-naming of the Berks County Youth Center to Berks County Residential Center (BCRC). Carl Geffken, Chief Operating Officer, commented that with the closing of the Youth Center, the department called the Youth Center has several other components not just the youth detention center, and includes the Federal Immigration program the County runs, and as such, the Department is submitting a request to change the name incorporating what the program facility actually does.

Community Development

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing the County's participation in the Tax Increment Financing Plan (TIF) dated May 2012 for a tax increment district to be created by the Township of Cumru, Pennsylvania, known as the Grings Hill Tax Increment District. Ken Pick, Executive Director of Community Development, commented that the Governor Mifflin School District has voted for 100% participation in the TIF and now it comes before the County for its approval. This TIF Plan is necessary in order for development and public improvements to occur to the area.
- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing the Board of Commissioners to execute a funding application to the Emergency Solutions Grant Program seeking a grant of \$100,000.00 and to execute all documents and agreements between the County of Berks and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested funds. If awarded a grant, the County will provide a sub-grant in the amount of \$96,250 to the Berks Coalition to End Homelessness. Mr. Pick commented that the City and County has received grant money from the State, and Emergency Solutions Coalition has asked the County to apply for the grant to be used for homeless prevention and rapid rehousing activity for people who are in imminent danger of becoming homeless. Commissioner Scott questioned exactly what the money will be used for. Mr. Pick commented it will provide job training services and homeless prevention due to job loss and is available to all residents of the County.

Emergency Services

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Access Easement Agreement (In Lieu of Condemnation) between Carol A. Behm and the County of Berks in regard to the Berks County Emergency Radio Project – Cumru Tower Site.

- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing the Director of Emergency Services to execute Change Order No. 9 to the contract with Pyramid Network Services directing the design, fabrication, and installation of a communications tower and support structure on the roof of the Courthouse. Work is to include all related services including grounding, lighting, and cable management. The change order is not to exceed \$150,000 with final cost and scope to be negotiated by the Director and final approval by the County Solicitor. Commissioner Leinbach commented that this will be a several day process and will involve the closing of portions of Court and Reed Streets.

Facilities and Operations

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing the execution of Addendum No. 4 to Agreement No. 116349-10 between the County of Berks and High Safety Consulting Services, Ltd. to provide indoor environmental quality services for the Old Berks Heim building for an additional two (2) month period ending September 30, 2012.

Adult Probation

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Grant-In-Aid Application and Grant-In-Aid Agreement for Improvement of Adult Probation Services for FY2012-2013 Continuing Program between the County of Berks and Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole in the amount of \$3,335,987.00. Nancy Xavios commented this is a 5% decrease over last year's contribution and is reimbursement of eligible salaries and is an annual renewal of the Grant.

CareerLink

- A. Adopt a resolution authoring execution of the Sixth Amendment to Lease Agreement between the County of Berks and 501 Crescent Partners, L.P., for office space occupied by Berks County CareerLink for an additional sixty (60) day period ending August 31, 2012. Carl Geffken, Chief Operating Officer, commented the County is in the middle of negotiating a new lease and this is a 2 month extension in order to complete the negotiations.

IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Barnhardt

Commissioner Barnhardt requested from the floor to add the appointment of Daniel Sauder, Wyomissing, PA, to the Berks County Parks and Recreation Board effective July 12, 2012 for a term expiring March 10, 2014. This is a replacement for Joe Ayala who resigned.

Commissioner Scott

Commissioner Scott yielded his time to Fred Sheeler, Berks County Recorder of Deeds, who has recording information to report.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach commented on recent legal action taken by the Appalachian Trail Conservancy against the County regarding the proposed tower placement and how it affects the process of moving ahead with the project.

Recorder of Deeds

Fred Sheeler reported on the real estate transactions and transfers on the first six months of this year compared to the first six months of last. Mr. Sheeler believes we are experiencing the first prolonged increase in sales since the down turn in 2007. Mr. Sheeler a verbal breakdown of mortgage transactions and deeds. Mr. Sheeler further commented that as a result of recent reminders to the veterans, request for veteran discharges has increased. Mr. Sheeler further advised that there was an 8.4% increase in documents filed over last year.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:15 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk