

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, May 25, 2004

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 25, 2004, at 10:30 AM, in the thirteenth floor Board Room of the Berks County Services Center, pursuant to due notice to Board members and the public. Commissioner Chair Judith L. Schwank called the meeting to order with Commissioner Thomas Gajewski and Commissioner Mark C. Scott in attendance. Also present were Chief Clerk, Terry L. Styer, County Administrator, William E. Dennis and Solicitor Alan Miller.

Commissioner Schwank followed with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Board of Commissioners discussed and approved the following items for listing at the May 25, 2004 Meeting:

II. PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES/PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Commissioner Gajewski presented a Certificate of Recognition Certificate of Recognition for the Reading Royals Hockey Team and their successful season. Ray Delia, General Manager was present to accept the certificate.
- B. Commissioner Schwank presented a Certificate of Recognition for Wayne R. Weidner, recipient of the Berks County Senior Citizens Council Leadership Award.
- C. Commissioner Schwank presented Certificate of Recognition for Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel, Sr. Pastor at St. Paul's Church of Christ in Fleetwood for her dedication and leadership serving numerous Berks County Community organizations.
- D. Commissioner Schwank presented Certificate of Recognition for Chris G. Kraras for his dedication and leadership serving numerous Berks County Community organizations.
- E. Commissioner Schwank presented a Proclamation to establish May 24th to May 31st, 2004 as World War II Veterans Week. Those attending to accept the proclamation were The Reverend Samuel B. Scales; Leigh Tallas, Director of Veteran's Affairs and Bob Kelly, Veteran. Commissioner Schwank described the efforts over the last 60 years to establish a World War II Veterans Memorial in Washington DC which is planned for dedication this Memorial Day and recognized those in attendance who were planning to attend the dedication representing Berks County Veterans.

- F. Commissioner Gajewski presented Certificate of Recognition to memorialize and pay tribute to all Veterans and their families from Berks County who served their country and especially to those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

III. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS:

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing the County of Berks to sign the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Contract. Beth Schiepan, Director Berks County Human Resources; Larry Murin - Assistant Council Director, District Council 88 and Michelle Meneely - President, Local 462 of AFSCME were present for a ceremonial signing of the contract. The Commissioners each expressed their appreciation for Beth Scheipan as well as the AFSCME union representatives who worked for the last 6 months to finalize what was described as a very fair contract. James Troutman, Clerk of Courts referred to a letter dated April 7, 2004 from Lawrence Murin to the County agreeing that the "side agreement" between the County and AFSCME District Council 88 and certain Row Officers involved with Section 1620 issues, will not be affected with the approval of this contract. Solicitor Alan Miller stated that the current Board of Commissioners had not yet taken a formal position with regard to such prior "side agreement."

Commissioner Schwank

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing Judith L. Schwank, Commissioner, Chair, and Sandy Graffius, County Controller, to execute Certification of County funds for Agricultural Land Conservation Easement Purchase in the amount of \$138,080 or \$1,600 per acre for Roy W. & Betty Jane Hetrick, Joel R. Hetrick, Scott W. Hetrick and Hetrickdale Farms, a PA General Partnership at 69 Hetrick Road, Bernville, PA, consisting of 86.3 acres of which all 86.3 acres would be subject to the easement.
- B. Adopt Resolution authorizing Judith L. Schwank, Commissioner, Chair, and Sandy Graffius, County Controller, to execute Certification of County funds for Agricultural Land Conservation Easement Purchase in the amount of \$172,952 or approximately \$1,684.05 per acre for Warren J. and Peggy A. Hartman at 59 Valley Road, Bernville, PA, consisting of 102.7 acres of which all 102.7 acres would be subject to the easement.

Commissioner Gajewski

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing Edward McCann to sign On-The Job Training Contracts and Subsidized Employment Agreements per list including January 2004 to the current month.
- B. Authorize payment of invoices under the following Community Development Disbursement Vouchers:
 - 1-No. 2079 – Community Development Block Grant Program
 - 2-No. 1217 – Property Rehabilitation Program
 - 3-No. 462 – Home Grant Program

Commissioner Scott

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing execution of Delegation of Signatory Authority to the State Civil Service Commission for Berks County Office of Aging.
- B. Adopt Resolution approving Berks County Office of Aging four-year plan for Aging services for the period July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2008.

IV. OTHER REQUESTS:

Budget Director:

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing 2004 Budget Transfers totaling to \$5,000 and 2004 Budget Appropriations in the total aggregate amount of \$80,922.00 per listing dated May 21, 2004.

Contract Coordinator:

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per attached listing dated May 21, 2004.

Facilities & Operations:

- A. Change Order Request by and between the County of Berks (Berks Heim), the Architect (L. Robert Kimball & Associates), and the Contractor (Ray Angelini, Inc.), to provide material and labor for the installation of a separate electrical service for the fire pump at the New Berks Heim Nursing Facility project, in the amount of \$46,169.00. Scott Adams, Project Engineer was present to discuss the changes and mentioned that this project is over 50% completion with only less than ½ of 1% in change orders to date.

Solicitor:

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing George Kovarie, Executive Director of Berks County Children and Youth Services, to execute all certifications for subsidized adoptions and subsidized permanent legal custodianships as proposed in the annual Children and Youth Services budget.
- B. Adopt Resolution approving a proposed amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of the Reading Regional Airport Authority to extend the existence of such Authority.
- C. Adopt Resolution approving execution of Lease Agreements for the rental of desk space in the Berks County Recorder of Deeds Office.

V. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

- A. Commissioner Schwank presented a letter for approval and signature that supports the County's desire to establish a 13th Judgeship for Berks County. The letter was approved by a motion made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Gajewski and all agreed to sign and send to Pennsylvania Senators Michael O'Pake and David "Chip" Brightbill.
- B. Commissioner Schwank commended the staff of the Office of Aging for their preparation of a very forward thinking four-year plan.
- C. Commissioner Schwank then suggested that Dave Veron, Recycling Coordinator prepare a report identifying potential improvements to the Berks County recycling efforts.
- D. Commissioner Scott expressed his appreciation for seeing veterans at the County Commissioners meetings and noted how many Veterans regularly participate in the political process. He stressed the importance of speaking with the Veterans of our area for input and values based on their history and experiences while serving their country.

VI. CITIZEN COMMENT/BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk