

Commissioners' Board Meeting
Thursday, September 16, 2004

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, September 16, 2004 at 10:30 AM in the Board meeting room on the thirteenth floor of the Berks County Services Center, pursuant to due notice to Board members and the public.

Commissioner Vice Chairman Thomas Gajewski called the meeting to order with Commissioner Mark Scott in attendance. Commissioner Schwank was not in attendance due to the observance of Rosh HaShanah. Also present were the Chief Clerk Terry L. Styer, Solicitor Alan S. Miller and County Administrator, William E. Dennis.

The Commissioners' Meeting Minutes for the September 7, 2004 Commissioners' Workshop Meeting and the September 9, 2004 Commissioners' Meeting were approved as published with a motion made by Commissioner Scott seconded by Commissioner Gajewski, the motion carried.

Prior to a vote on the consent agenda, Commissioner Scott made a motion that was seconded and approved to recess the regular Commissioners' meeting and convene a public hearing for the Saint Mary Hospital Authority's financing project. Hearing no public comments other than Commissioner Scott's support of St. Joseph's Hospital describing them as an important employer of Berks County citizens, the hearing closed and the regular meeting resumed.

On motion by Commissioner Gajewski, seconded by Commissioner Scott, the following Consent Agenda was approved unanimously-noting a decision approved to table resolution 401 F. regarding the St. Joseph's Medical Center financing project until next week when all three commissioners were present.

Consent Agenda

1. Resolutions:

- 396.04 A. Resolution authorizing the appropriation of \$204,730 for the express purpose of funding BARTA's eligible expenses for the period July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005.
- 397.04 B. Resolution appointing John Rothenberger, CFO Clover Farms Dairy Company, 3300 Pottsville Pike, Reading PA 19605 to the Berks County Workforce Investment Board to fill the unexpired term of John W. Kaisoglus; said term to expire June 30, 2006
- 398.04 C. Resolution authorizing an Agreement between Owner and Architect AIA Document B151-1997, by and between the County of Berks and the Architect (Synergetics Architects, Partnership) to provide a Feasibility Study for the County of Berks Adaptive Recreation Center for a Not to Exceed fee of \$7,500 Cost Containment approved the project on 9/8/04.
- 399.04 D. Resolution Authorizing execution of Application for County Aid MS-339 (Liquid Fuels) in the allocated amount not to exceed \$225,000 for the Borough of Robesonia to replace the superstructure of the bridge on Meadow Avenue.

- 400.04 E. Resolution authorizing reappointing Robert Bagenstose to the Berks County Council on Chemical Abuse, term to expire February 1, 2007.
- 401.04 F. Tabled to September 21, 2004 for the vote.
- 402.04 G. Resolution authorizing 2004 budget Transfers in the amount of \$175,900 per listing dated September 10, 2004.
2. Motion approving the recommendations of the Berks County Open Space and Recreation Advisory Council for 2005 Open Space and Recreation Grants.
3. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per attached listing dated, September 10, 2004.
4. Motion to award as a result of Request for Proposal #04-10-RC, a contract for a stability and flood analysis of Antietam Dam to Schnabel Engineering with an office at 501 East Gay Street, West Chester, PA, 19380 at their cost proposal of \$74,990.00.

Reports

The County's Controller, Sandy Graffius and County Treasurer, Nelson Long, CPA provided their weekly reports to the board.

Agenda Items for Discussion

Administrator Bill Dennis requested approval from the board to apply to the CCAP (County Commissioners' Association of PA) for grant funding of \$20,000 to support the Crime Mapping project as proposed by the County District Attorney. Bill indicated that this \$40,000 project will require a \$20,000 match from the County. Commissioner Scott made the motion that was seconded by Commissioner Gajewski and all voting yes to approve this application.

Commissioner Scott then questioned the cost containment committee's position regarding a recent request to replace a management position in the Library System. Administrator Dennis informed him that due to the Commissioners' resolution for a "hiring freeze" the Cost Containment's response to the request was, "can the replacement be held off until next year due to the County's cash flow situation." He informed the board that the Library System could come back with new information to support the need for immediate replacement, but the facts presented originally didn't provide compelling argument either way.

Commissioner Gajewski reflected on the fact that the Cost Containment committee's determination can be appealed to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Scott argued that the issue to be addressed by the county is one of deficit spending, not cash flow.

Citizen Comment/Business From The Floor

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to salary board at 11:00 A.M.