

**Commissioners' Workshop Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 4, 2005**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, October 4, 2005 at 10:30 A.M. in the thirteenth floor Board Room of the Berks County Services Center, pursuant to due notice to Board members and the public.

Commissioner Vice-Chair Thomas Gajewski called the meeting to order with Commissioner and Commissioner Mark L. Scott in attendance. Commissioner Judith L. Schwank was not present. Also present were County Administrator William E. Dennis, County Solicitor Alan Miller, Esq., and Chief Clerk Terry Styer. The Commissioner opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**II. PRESENTATIONS/ PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES:**

Matt Anspach, a member of the BCEAC (Berks County Environmental Advisory Council) Internet committee and Suthida Chairatananuwat, Berks County Web Administrator presented a live demonstration of the new Berks County Haze Cam which is currently mounted on the County Services Center building and provides a live feed of a visual demonstration for the air quality in Berks County. Matt explained that through a grant provided by the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources the County was able to purchase a haze-monitoring camera from Air Resource Specialists, Inc. (ARS). This camera, which is updated every 15 minutes, will then provide a live feed of photographs for viewing on the Berks County Haze Cam web site. Matt Anspach, a member of the BCEAC Internet committee assisted by Berks County Information Systems Web Administrator, Suthida Chairatanuwat provided a demonstration and overview of the haze cam as well as the detailed air quality informational links now available through the Berks EAC web site.

Other members of the EAC including Craig Hafer, Chairman, Martha Coyle, Steve Wheeler, Tom Power, Secretary. Gavin Biebuyck from Liberty Environmental Consultants thanked the Commissioners for their support and discussed the advantages (including economic development incentives) for Berks County to continue in this proactive approach towards the issue of air quality in our Community. Mr. Biebuyck indicated that Berks County is years ahead of what he believes will ultimately be an EPA requirement for Air Quality monitoring by Counties. The Commissioners commended the BCEAC members for their many valuable accomplishments in only two years since the organized. They also paid special recognition to Suthida Chairatananuwat for her enthusiastic spirit and many long hours committed to this project.

Commissioner Gajewski presented a Certificate of Recognition to President Judge Grim for being elected **Chairman of the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission**. The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission was established by the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1959. Members of the Commission are nominated by the Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and appointed by the Governor for three-year terms. The Commission is responsible for advising juvenile courts concerning the proper care and maintenance of delinquent children; establishing standards governing the administrative practices and judicial procedures used in juvenile courts; establishing personnel practices and employment standards used in probation offices; collecting, compiling, and publishing juvenile court statistics; and administering a grant-in-aid program to improve county juvenile probation services.

Commissioner Gajewski presented a Proclamation for **Polish American Heritage Month**. Accepting the Proclamation were the following: Dorothy Gajewski, Vice President, Polish American Heritage Association, Ted Zaorski, President, Polish Falcons and Casimir Wulkowicz - "Kaz"

Commissioner Gajewski presented a Proclamation for **Volunteer Firefighter Memorial Day**. Kathrn Houck ("Mom Cass) was present to accept the proclamation.

Commissioner Gajewski presented a **Proclamation for Columbus Day**, accepting the proclamation was Dan Amoroso.

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

#### **Budget Director:**

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2005 Budget Appropriations in the total amount of \$161,000.00 per list dated September 23, 2005. Kim Grinage, Deputy Budget Director presented the budget appropriations.

#### **Human Resources Director:**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing the Human Resource recommendation as per list dated October 4, 2005. Jennifer Biehn presented one recommendation, which was approved at this meeting by way of a motion made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Gajewski, the motion to approve **Resolution 339.05** carried and will be attached to these minutes.

#### **Purchasing Department** **Contract Coordinator:**

- A. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated October 3, 2005. Candace Noll presented the list of contracts.

**IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS:**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing the appropriation of \$212,020 for the express purpose of funding BARTA's eligible expenses for the period July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006.

**Commissioner Schwank****Commissioner Gajewski**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing payment of invoices under the following Community Development Disbursement Vouchers:
1. No. 1263-Property Rehabilitation Program-\$3,087.00
  2. No. 2163- Community Development Block Grant Program-\$25,808.64
  3. No. 512-HOME Grant Program-\$12,949.00
- B. Adopt Resolution approving the Berks County Workforce Investment Board's recommendation to award a contract to operate a TANF Youth training program in partnership with the PA CareerLink~Berks County to the following service providers: **Schuylkill Valley School District**, Solomon Lausch, Ph.D., Superintendent, Administration Center, 929 Lakeshore Drive, Leesport, PA 19533-8631 **and Junior Achievement of Berks County, Inc**, Robin Costenbader-Jacobson, President & CEO, 601 Penn Street, Suite 105, Reading, PA 19601, Program operations are schedule to begin on October 15, 2005. The amount of the proposed contract budget for **Schuylkill Valley School District** is **\$31,549**. The amount of the proposed contract budget for **Junior Achievement** is **\$29,982**.
- C. Adopt Resolution authorizing the application for a regional policing study for seven municipalities in Berks County including Womelsdorf, Wernersville and Robesonia Borough and Marion, Lower Heidelberg, South Heidelberg and Heidelberg Township.

**Commissioner Scott**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing execution of a contract to Tetrahedron Environmental Consultants, Oxford, PA to review the DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) landfill expansion permit application in relation to the expansion of the Conestoga Landfill in New Morgan, PA not to exceed \$10,000.

**Commissioner Scott continued:**

- B. Resolution authorizing the formal establishment of a line item revenue stream to set aside funding sources for the purpose of programs involved in health related environmental issues. The County Environmental Advisory Council requested that all funds received from a legal settlement with the Pottstown Landfill be placed in a special account and supplemented by \$100,000 annually from the county operating budget or other landfill related fees. It was suggested that these funds would then be applied towards the cost of environmental litigation, assisting municipalities with land-use and environmental issues as well as provide educational programs on environmental issues. Commissioner Scott said the landfill settlement amounts to \$166,500 a year, with five more payments before the agreement ends in 2010. He then stated his support for a conceptual plan that would allow two funds, one representing the existing environmental-defense fund specifically reserved for environmental litigation and one to provide specific funds for other environmental purposes such as open space land acquisition. Commissioner Scott indicated that he would continue to refine the language in the resolution.

**V. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS****VI. CITIZEN COMMENT/BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Joan Falcone and Kathy Duffy (Dressed as a Giant Tea Bag) were present to remind the board of a bus rally on October 24, 2005 to go to Harrisburg for what they have termed the "**Harrisburg Tea Party**" which is intending show support for the Commonwealth Caucucus plan (HB 116 – 119 and HB 1920) intended to abolish School property taxes replacing with a 5% sales tax.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

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Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk