

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, November 15, 2005

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, November 15, 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 Chair Judith L. Schwank called the meeting to order with Commissioner Thomas Gajewski and Commissioner Mark L. Scott in attendance. 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. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Director:

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2005 Budget Transfers in the total amount of \$156,396.00 and appropriations in the total amount of \$55,267.00 per list dated November 10, 2005. Bob Patrizio presented the budget appropriations.
- B. Adopt Resolution authorizing the Human Resource recommendation as per list dated November 15, 2005. Beth Schiepan Director of Human Resources discussed the position recommendation on today's agenda.

Purchasing:

Contract Coordinator

- A. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated November 10, 2005. Candace Noll presented the list of contracts.

III. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Gajewski

- A. Adopt resolution designating Conference Room 14-02 in the Berks county Services Center for use as a Temporary Press Room for the Reading Eagle.
- B. Adopt resolution designating the current Jury Assembly Room 6-19 in the Berks County Courthouse a Temporary Court Room 6 to be used primarily for Judge Scott Lash.

Commissioner Gajewski continues:

- C. Adopt Resolution authorizing the appropriation of \$125,000 in Liquid Fuels funds for replacement of the Trolley Road Bridge in Centre Township. The amount of \$125,000 is an estimate since the project has yet to be finally bid. This amount is to supplement \$250,000 in liquid fuels money previously approved by the Commissioners. The previous \$250k liquid fuels appropriation was designated as PENNDOT Project Number # 01-06-208-01CA).

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Commissioner Schwank read a letter from Reading Area Community College indicating that the Pennsylvania Railroad Bridge over the Schuylkill River is in need of underwater investigation of the bridge foundation. The cost to perform an underwater inspection was estimated to be \$9,800.00 and RACC is requesting to split the cost of this inspection with the County. The Commissioner indicated that this item would be included on the consent agenda for Thursday.

Bill Westcott, Engineer for the County was asked if Liquid Fuels funds could be used to cover the cost of this inspection and or future repairs. He indicated that those state funds are limited to roads and bridges serving vehicles and not pedestrian traffic.

Commissioner Schwank reminded everyone of the Holiday Lights festivities planned for the Gring's Mill Recreation Area from November 26 to December 30, 2005.

The Commissioner mentioned that she has received copies of Energy Savers booklets from the CCAP Energy Conference she recently attended. The booklet provided energy saving tips for consumers and will be available in the Commissioners' office.

Commissioner Schwank also mentioned that she drafted a letter to Robeson Township soliciting their suggestions for the use of the \$100,000 annual payment as a result of the settlement of litigation against Conestoga Landfill over landfill odors. Commissioner Scott suggested that an identical letter should be sent to Caernarvon Township as well.

Commissioner Schwank then mentioned that thanks to Senator O'Pake assistance with the County's Grant application to the DCNR (PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources) for the purchase of the Antietam Lake Property has been approved by the State. She explained that this grant would allow the County's offer to include an additional \$2 million towards the repairs of the dam and maintenance of the property, while maintaining the original offer for the appraised value of the property.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk