

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, January 17, 2006

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 17, 2006, 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, Solicitor, Alan Miller Esq., and Chief Clerk Terry Styer.

II. PRESENTATIONS:

Gavin Biebuyck Principal, Liberty Environmental and Craig Hafer Berks Environmental Advisory Committee were present to request the county commissioners to commit funding a program designed to address Berks County's non-attainment status and other air quality issues. Commissioner Schwank stated that she understood that it would cost \$20,000.00 for the planning phase of this project and that does not include the money needed for the air quality monitors. Gavin Biebuyck stated that Berks County is currently at a non-attainment status and in order to get out of that status he believes we need to relocate the current air quality monitor into a new location and newer monitors need to be installed that will tell us what is contributing to our air pollution. He suggested that the data utilized to determine that Non-attainment label might be dated and even suggested that it might be flawed. He said that the state is only mandated to install one monitor for Berks County and that is why it is important for the County to take a leadership role in this matter. Craig Hafer emphasized that if the county does nothing, the state will mandate a plan for our county.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Department:

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing 2005 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$215,523.00 and 2006 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$98,879.00. Also 2005 Appropriations in the amount \$194, 008.00 and 2006 Appropriations in the amount \$533,765.00 per listing dated January 13, 2006. Bob Patrizio Budget Director presented the report

Contract Submissions:

- A. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per attached listing dated January 12, 2006. Candace Noll presented the contracts for approval.

Human Resource Director:

- A. Human Resource Recommendations as list dated January 17, 2006. Beth Schiepan Human Resource Director presented the list of recommendations to the board.

Solicitor's Office

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing the execution of Lease Agreement between the County of Berks and Nextel Communications of the Mid-Atlantic, Inc. for certain space and land adjacent to the Water Tank located at the Berks County Fire Training Center to install, maintain and operate communication facilities for a five (5) year term. Christine M. Sadler, Esq., was present to discuss lease and indicated that after the five (5) year term the County and the City of Reading will be splitting revenue. The first five (5) years of funding will be used for the Planning stage of this project.

IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS:

- A. Adopt Resolution certifying the Historical Society of Berks County as the official County Historical Society and further, awarding a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from the 2006 General Fund budget. Commissioner Judy Schwank indicated that this funding is used by the Historical Society of Berks County to leverage additional funds.
- B. Adopt Resolution authorizing the Berks County Family Court Administrator to apply for an implementation grant with respect to "Safe Havens: Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program." Lisa Siciliano, Deputy Family Court Administrator discussed that this funding does not require any County match. Also that the main purpose of this Program is to give children and guardians a safe place to visit and or drop off family member for visitation or drop offs that the Courts feel need to be monitored.
- C. Amend Resolution 217.05 authorizing the execution of the Human Services Development Fund (HSDF) to include the expenditures of additional revenue including a new line item for Children and Youth protective services.

Commissioner Schwank

Commissioner Gajewski

- A. Adopt Resolution appointing Bradley Weisman to a three-year term ending 12/31/2009 to the MH/MR Advisory Board.

Commissioner Scott

Discussion from the Floor

Commissioner Gajewski indicated that he would like to vote on putting 2 million bond funds dollars aside for space plan implementation and Berks Heim Annex expansions, and would like the Board to discuss at January 24, 2006 Commissioners work session.

Commissioner Scott discussed that he is looking for support form the board to help Union Township with their legal fees. To help assist them on their efforts to protect their Ag. Land Preservation Zone from having a Race Track and new homes in that zone. He would like to give them 25,000.00 for litigation purposes.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L Styer, Chief Clerk