

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting Tuesday, April 4, 2006

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 4, 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 Mark C. Scott in attendance. Commissioner Thomas W. Gajewski, Sr. was not able to attend. Also present were Solicitor Alan Miller Esq., and Chief Clerk Terry Styer and Administrator William Dennis.

II. STAFF RECOGNITION / PRESENTATIONS:

Commissioner Schwank will introduce Larry Forbes, Project Manager for Quandel Construction Co. who presented a plaque to Jim Strohecker, Project Engineer, Berks County Facilities Department a for his work on the Berks Heim.

Commissioner Schwank presented Berks County Let's Pick it up PA Day to generate support for a County Sponsored clean up day. For more information please log on to their web site at <http://www.greatpacleanup.org>

Commissioner then introduced Jane Meeks as the new Executive Director of Berks County Solid Waste Authority. Ms. Meeks presented each Commissioner with a copy of the Berks County Municipal Waste Management Plan Revision dated September 2005, which she indicated is complete and approved by the PADEP (Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection). She described the Authority's goal of improving the County's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program as well a goal to improve the tons of reported Recyclables from County and Municipal Recycling Programs.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Department:

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing 2006 Appropriations in the amount \$21,701.00 per listing March 31, 2006. Robert Patrizio, Budget Director presented the budget report to the Commissioners.

Mental Health / Mental Retardation:

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing execution of a contract renewal letter of intent for the Health Choices program. Edward Michalik, MH/MR Administrator and Pamela D'Antonio, Health Choices Program Administrator were present to discuss this program designed to provide services to approximately 8,000 of those eligible. They indicated that Berks County has the 3rd largest eligibility listing for the MH program

services, which began in 2001. A discussion followed with the Commissioners regarding the increases (funding and services) reported in this program.

IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS

- A. The Commissioners discussed their support of request from U.S. Board on Geographic Names to name a previously unnamed tributary of the Mill Creek to Wolf Run. A letter from Wyomissing Resident, Jeremy Freymoyer to the U.S. Board of Geographic Names describes his desire to have this tributary be named Wolfe Run in honor of his great-grandfather, Raymond Wolfe. The Chief Clerk indicated that name conflicts were researched in the County's GIS system with none found.
- B. Authorize the execution of a DCED grant agreement by and between the County of Berks (Office of Aging) and the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for funding in the amount of \$100,000 for the Community Revitalization Assistance Program.

Commissioner Schwank

- A. Commissioner Schwank proposed to list a resolution on Thursday's agenda approving an amendment to the contract with Liberty Environmental Services for their review of the Granger Energy project at the Conestoga Landfill. She explained that Liberty submitted a proposal in December of 2005 for an additional \$3,500 increase above the original \$9,000 to cover the additional reviews, meetings and comments to the DEP prior to their permit being issued.
- B. The Commissioner then provided information to the board regarding a "Military Service/Community Conference" in Atlanta scheduled by the Department of Defense requesting representation by the County to participate in the Base Realignment and Closure actions. She stated that in reference to the County's application to transfer ownership of the Naval and Marine base along Kenhorst Boulevard to the County, she felt County representation at this meeting was important to the future of this project.

Commissioner Scott

- A. Commissioner Scott proposed to list on the Thursday's Commissioners' Agenda approving the filing of an appeal to the Environmental Hearing Board of the PADEP's permit issuance of the Granger Energy permit. The Commissioner suggested using Rhodes and Sinon as they are currently appointed as the county's Environmental Counsel.

IV. **PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES**

Commissioner Gajewski prepared a Proclamation that was presented by Commissioner Schwank on behalf of the board proclaiming April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Mary Kay Bernosky, Executive Director of Berks Women in Crisis was present to receive the Proclamation.

Commissioner Gajewski prepared a Proclamation that was presented by Commissioner Scott on behalf of the board for Child Abuse Prevention Month. George Kovarie, Executive Director of Berks County Children and Youth Services was present to receive the Proclamation.

The Berks Camerata Singers will discuss their 2006 Festival of Berks Choral Concert commemorating Compositions of Berks County Composers on Sunday April 30, 2006 at 3:00 PM in the Immanuel United Church of Christ, Waverly & Brobst Streets Shillington, PA. Attending the meeting will be:

Elizabeth Hinkle, Director

Norie Rado, soprano & Chairman of Fund Raising

Debra Nydegger, soprano & Chairman of Program Printing

Dr. Roy Hinkle, tenor & Composer of A Pear Like a Potato -poem by John Updike

Erwin Chandler, Composer of The Constitution

Regina Sanders, Secretary-treasurer of The Berks Camerata Singers

There being no further business and following some general comments of the Commissioners, the meeting adjourned at 12:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L Styer, Chief Clerk