

Commissioners' Meeting Thursday, April 27, 2006

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, April 27, 2006 at 10:30 A.M. 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 Chair Judith L. Schwank called the meeting to order with Commissioner Thomas Gajewski and Commissioner Mark C. Scott in attendance. Also present were the County Solicitor Alan Miller, Esq., County Administrator William E. Dennis, and Chief Clerk Terry Styer.

Commissioner Schwank opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Gajewski made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Scott to approve the April 18, 2006 Commissioners' workshop meeting minutes and the April 20, 2006 meeting minutes and the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

Consent Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Scott, and seconded by Commissioner Schwank and all voted yes to approve the items listed below.
 - 131.06 A. Resolution authorizing execution of a collective bargaining agreement by and between the County of Berks and District 1199P/SEIU representing the Berks County Home – Berks Heim Nurses for the period of January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2009.
 - 132.06 B. Resolution approving Human Resource Recommendation as list dated April 25, 2006.
 - 133.06 C. Resolution authorizing execution of Title IV-E Independent Living Program Certification of Executive Officers, for submission to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare-Independent Living Coordinator. George Kovarie, Executive Director of Children and Youth Services was present to discuss this program. He explained that this is a program for young adults who have been involved in the Children and Youth Services to prepare them for adulthood.

- 134.06 D. Resolution awarding a three year contract as a result of Request for Proposal #05-12-KL to provide local dial tone, toll and long distance services and the services needed to provide voice network to the Courthouse, Services Center, the facilities located throughout the County to include Parks & Recreation areas and Magisterial District Justice Offices. (This contract will not include 911/emergency services, ISDN or data requirements.)

The award shall be made to the following vendor:

D&E Communications

24 E. Main Street

Ephrata, PA 17522-0458

\$390,924

County Administrator Bill Dennis explained that this contract will combine all "land line" phones used by the county to D&E Communications providing an estimated savings of \$300,000 annually.

- 135.06 E. Resolution authorizing the execution of a Supplemental Grant Agreement with the Department of Public Welfare (DPW), approving the allocation and expenditure of federal monies under various waiver agreements through contracts between SAM, Inc., and providers of mental retardation services for the period 01/01/2006-03/31/2006, with allocation of funds and resulting contracts reviewed and approved by the MH/MR Administrator, ensuring appropriate oversight as recommended by legal counsel.
- 136.06 F. Resolution authorizing the execution of the Cooperative Grant Agreement between the Department of Aging and Berks County Office of Aging for Federal and State funding for the period July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2011.
- 138.06 G. Resolution authorizing an increase in the hourly rate of ReedSmith LLP to provide labor and employment legal services from \$230.00 to \$250.00 effective April 1st, 2006.
- 138.06 H. Resolution appointing John Masciotti, Lower Heidelberg Township Police Department as the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Lodge 71 alternate representative to the Berks County 9-1-1 Advisory Board.
- 139.06 I. Resolution appointing Charles Jones of Reading to the Berks County Solid Waste Authority filling a vacated term ending 12/31/06 for Jane Meeks who has resigned to become the Executive Director of the Authority.

Commissioner's Comments:

Commissioner Schwank stated that she and her husband, a professional building contractor, inspected the damage to the Gruber Wagon Works over the weekend. She indicated that damage to this old structure began in the late 1990's due to the building being pressure washed to remove the old layers of paint but the water forced its way into the wood causing the damage. Bill Semmel, Parks Director indicated that they will be able to get 100% funding from Penn Dot but they might need the Commissioners to front them the funds since the project needs to be done by this winter. Since the property is on the National Historic Register, Commissioner Schwank suggested that this should be re-visited in the Capital budget plan.

Commissioner Scott gave retirement advice to the parents of the children who attend the National Take your Daughters and Sons to Work Day.

Reports:

1. County Treasurer – Nelson Long, CPA presented the weekly Treasurer's Report
2. County Controller – Sandy Graffius, presented the weekly Controller's report.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:24 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk