

## **Commissioners' Board Meeting Thursday, February 22, 2007**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, February 22, 2007, 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 Mark C. Scott in attendance. Also present were the Chief Clerk Terry L. Styer, Assistant County Solicitor Heidi Masano, Esq., and County Administrator William E. Dennis. Commissioner Thomas W. Gajewski, and Solicitor Alan Miller were not in attendance.

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

### **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Scott made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Schwank to approve the February 13, 2007 Commissioner workshop minutes and the February 15, 2007 Commissioners meeting minutes, all voted yes to approve.

### **Consent Agenda Items**

- I. A motion was made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Schwank and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below, with the exception of Resolution 48.07, which will be held for a future meeting.
  - 47.07 A. Human Resource Recommendations per list dated February 16, 2007.
  - 48.07 B. Adopt Resolution authorizing the execution of the Assurance of Compliance Certificate with respect to the Homeless Assistance Program (HAP), and further authorizing Mary Henry-Moss, Human Service Grants Coordinator, the ability to distribute \$6,000 of HAP Funds to Easy Does It, Inc. for their Bridge Housing program in the Reading facility for the fiscal year 2006/2007. **Held for future meeting. Commissioner Scott commented that he is concerned with the amount of funds being granted to Easy Does It, Inc., and felt that the funds would be better used as rental assistance as proposed by the County Human Service Coordinator, Mary Henry Moss.**
  - 49.07 C. Adopt Resolution authorizing the exoneration of local Tax Collectors for unpaid 2006 Berks County Property Taxes in the total amount of \$3,242,192.50 representing 6761 unpaid accounts per listing dated February 15, 2007 and forward to Tax Claim Bureau for collection of same.

2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated February 16, 2007.

**Reports**

1. County Treasurer – Nelson Long, CPA, read report.
2. County Controller – Pam Santos, Senior Governmental Auditor, Controller's Office, read report.

County Administrator Bill Dennis brought to the board's attention an article in today's Reading Eagle, entitled "Abuse Alleged at detention center in Bern Twp" which compared the Berks Immigration Family Program (known as ICE – Immigration and Customs Enforcement) with the only other facility of this type in the nation. That facility they said is located in Texas and is privately run and far different from the Berks Facility. The Administrator along with Ken Borkey, Youth Center Executive Director, noted that the article was largely out of context and that the Berks facility is not only within compliance but exceeds all Federal regulations.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk