

## **Commissioners' Board Meeting April 19, 2007**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, April 19, 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 Thomas Gajewski and Commissioner Mark C. Scott in attendance. Also present were the Chief Clerk Terry L. Styer, County Solicitor Alan Miller, Esq., and County Administrator William E. Dennis.

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 Gajewski to approve the April 10, 2007 Commissioner workshop minutes and the April 12, 2007 Commissioners meeting minutes, all voted yes to approve.

### **Consent Agenda Items**

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Gajewski and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below, with the exception of Resolution 99.07, which is deferred to a future meeting:
  - 99.07 A. Amend Resolution 44-07 to comply with terms with DCED.  
**Commissioner Gajewski requested that this item be deferred to a future meeting, pending discussion on the allocation of funds between the two projects included in the grant.**
  - 100.07 B. Adopt Resolution authorizing changes to the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.
  - 101.07 C. Human Resource Recommendations per list dated April 17, 2007.
2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated April 16, 2007.

### **Reports**

1. County Treasurer – Nelson Long, CPA, read report.
2. County Controller – Sandy Graffius, Controller, read report.

Commissioner Gajewski read a letter from David Naugle, who is resigning from the Council on Chemical Abuse Advisory Board. Commissioner Gajewski noted that Mr. Naugle will be missed by the board.

Kurt Williams Esq. of Salzman Hughes, PC, and Mark Stillwagon, Director of Purchasing, North Region, Lehigh Cement, attended the meeting to discuss any concerns the County may have with their plans to expand their quarry located in Richmond Township. They began by describing the history of this property as being purchased in the 1950's but the actual quarrying operation didn't start until 1962 for material what is known as a very valuable mineral known as Jacksonburg Limestone. They explained that the permit to operate the quarry was then obtained from the State (DER -Department of Environmental Resources, at that time) around 1972 which was prior to the Township adopting a Zoning Ordinance. The quarry operated at a level that would permit them to maintain their permit (minimum of 500 Tons per year) to this date. They explained that while they were keeping this natural resource in reserve, the property was leased to area farmers. To address the concerns of the potential impact on the area water supply and home foundations, they discussed at length the oversight performed by the state regulatory agencies who require the quarry operator to establish a zone of influence surrounding the quarry that will ensure the health and safety of the residents and would require some kind of compensation for damage to those residents and certain structures. Mr. Stillwagon explained that a hydrogeologic study of the area aquifer is currently underway and they have offered to meet with area neighbors for pre-quarrying inspections of their homes. They also offered to meet with the Commissioners to provide any additional information they may need.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Williams and Stillwagon for the information and briefly discussed a proposal submitted by Tetrahedron Consultants proposing to perform a hydro-geologic study for the County.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:17 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk