

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting Tuesday, July 3, 2007

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, July 3, 2007, 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 W. Gajewski, Sr., and Commissioner Mark C. Scott in attendance. Also present were County Administrator, William E. Dennis, Solicitor Alan Miller Esq., and Chief Clerk Terry Styer.

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

II. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Administrator:

- A. Bill Dennis presented his weekly report, attached.

- B. Adopt a Resolution to authorize Financial S&Lutions LLC, in its capacity as Bidding Agent for the County of Berks, to solicit bids on behalf of the County to obtain a repurchase agreement for the unspent proceeds of the County's General Obligation Variable Rate Demand Bonds, Series of 2002 Bonds, (2) to approve the payment of fees to (a) Financial S&Lutions LLC, as bidding agent, in amount equal to \$15,000 and (b) Stevens & Lee, as bond counsel to the County, in the amount of \$5,000, which fees shall be paid by the winning Provider (all legal and other expenses of the Provider and any Custodian Bank, if applicable, shall be paid by the Provider), (3) to approve the structure of the proposed repurchase agreement as summarized in the Request for Repurchase Agreement, previously delivered to the County and (4) to authorize the Chair or Vice Chair and Chief Clerk to execute and deliver the repurchase agreement after the review and approval of such repurchase agreement by Financial S&Lutions LLC, counsel to the County and bond counsel, the execution and delivery of such repurchase agreement to constitute conclusive evidence of such approval. Michael Vind, Esq., Stevens and Lee explained that the proceeds from 2002 bonds are invested with a variable rate currently at 2.3% and now that the bond market's interest rate has improved he is anticipating that the County will be able to obtain a fixed the rate at 5% until 7/30/09 which he said would significantly lower the gap between the anticipated earnings and the 5.4% on the debt service currently being paid by the county. He explained S&Lutions will market and competitively bid this agreement. In answer to Commissioner Scott's question, he state that no additional fees to S&Lutions or Stevens and Lee (other than described above) will be paid.

Budget Department:

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing 2007 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$96,120, per listing dated June 29, 2007. Kim Grinage, Deputy Budget Director, presented the report.
- B. Motion authorizing Judith L. Schwank, as Chairman of the Board, to execute Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per attached listing dated July 2, 2007. Candy Noll, Contract Coordinator presented the list of contracts.

Human Resource Director:

- A. Human Resource Recommendations per list dated July 3, 2007. Beth Schiepan, Human Resource Director presented the recommendations.

IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS:**Commissioner Schwank**

- A. Commissioner Schwank noted that the first weekend of the new Curfew Center ran well. She reported sending letters to all municipal police chiefs and mayors in the county to let them know that they are able and encouraged to make use of the downtown center as well.

Commissioner Gajewski

- A. Adopt Resolution to appoint Mary Ann Chelius Smith to a 6 year term on the Reading Area Community College Board of Trustees, replacing Jack Molets who resigned. Mrs. Smith's term ends 6/30/2013.
- B. Commissioner Gajewski reported that he will have an update on the number of municipalities participating in the Crime Alert Berks County tips for illegal dumping program at the August 7th Commissioner's workshop meeting.

Commissioner Scott

- A. Commissioner Scott read a letter that was attached to the 2007 Human Service Needs Assessment survey from a retired widow who expressed concern with real estate taxes and is fearful of losing her home.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:10 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L Styer, Chief Clerk