

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting Tuesday, July 10, 2007

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, July 10, 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. County Administrator, William E. Dennis, Solicitor Alan Miller Esq., and Chief Clerk Terry Styer did not attend the meeting as they were enrolled in Supervisory Academy.

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

II. PRESENTATION

- A. Controller Sandy Graffius presented T-shirts to all County Financial staff as a thank you for all the help they have been providing with the planning and the procurement of a new county-wide financial package (software).

- B. Bob Hopkins, Conservation District Entomological Suppression Technician spoke about the county's Gypsy Moth Program. He reported that at this time, they are trying to determine the moth population and are looking to act in Spring 2008, the most active stage for the moths. He said that Robeson, Bethel and Tilden Townships and St. Lawrence Borough seem to be the most heavily affected at this time, and acknowledging that it is not an eradication, spraying next spring will limit defoliation to about 30% or less. He said that the spraying will mostly be targeted to residential areas and estimated that costs to homeowners could be approximately \$25 per acre. He requested approval for a letter of intent which needs to be received by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) by July 15.

Commissioner Scott made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gajewski and all voted in favor of the following resolution:

- 200.07 Resolution to send a letter of intent to DCNR to participate in the 2008 Gypsy Moth Suppression Program.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS:

Administrator:

- A. Bill Dennis' weekly report is attached.

Adult Probation:

- A. Adopt Resolution approving execution of a Contract Agreement, by and between the County of Berks (Adult Probation) and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, Grant In Aid Continuing Program for the Improvement of County Adult Probation Services, FY 2007-2008, in the amount of \$2,905,382. Brendan Harker, Assistant Chief Adult Probation Officer attended the meeting to present the grant request.

Budget Department:

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2007 Appropriations in the amount \$4,095 per listing dated July 9, 2007. Bob Patrizio, Budget Director, presented the report.

Human Resource Director:

- A. Human Resource Recommendations per list dated July 10, 2007.
- B. Adopt a resolution approving a new supervisor schedule (with a six month trial period) in the Coroner's office based on recommendations from the Human Resources department. Jennifer Biehn, Assistant Director of Human Resources, and Dennis Hess, Coroner, explained that currently the Chief Deputy and 1st and 2nd Assistant Chiefs work 3-24 hour shifts per week. This plan will be change to 4-10 hour shifts per week; and when they are on call, they will be paid an additional \$2.50 per hour. It was explained that when they are called out, they will receive overtime pay which was compared to the practice of other County departments.

Human Services

- A. Adopt a resolution to approve the execution of the Human Services Development Fund (HSDF) Assurance of Compliance, and further authorizes Mary Henry-Moss, Human Services Grants Coordinator, the ability to distribute remaining HSDF Funds as needed for the fiscal year 2007/2008. Total amount of allocation is \$835,042.
- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing the allocation of the Homeless Assistance Program funding; and further authorizes the execution of the Assurance of Compliance Certificate with respect to the Homeless Assistance Program (HAP), and further authorizes Mary Henry-Moss, Human Service Grants Coordinator, the ability to distribute the remaining HAP Funds to the prior approved agencies as needed for the fiscal year 2007/2008. Total amount of allocation is \$660,945.

Mental Health/Mental Retardation

- A. Adopt Resolution approving Supplemental Grant Agreement Provider Service Authorizations/Operating Agreement Authorization for MH/MR Administrator to Approve Provider Agreements.

IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Schwank

- 199.07 A. Resolution to approve Addendum A-5 to contract CA 2539-05 with Liberty Environmental Inc, for the review and comment on an Air Permit application filed by PPL for wood waste power plant to be located in Evansville, Berks County. Amount not to exceed \$3,000, paid from Environmental Defense Fund.
Commissioners will vote on this resolution at the next meeting.
- A. Adopt a resolution to execute grant in the amount of \$21,500 by the Berks County Community Foundation from the William Penn Foundation Fund to assist with the hiring of an Agricultural Coordinator. Grant will be paid when position is filled.
- B. Commissioner Schwank noted that a meeting was held with the Commissioners and emergency personnel for Pandemic Planning. The meeting was to discuss how to coordinate planning between schools, local, city and county governments for emergencies, most notably pandemics.

Commissioner Gajewski

- A. Commissioner Gajewski noted that, as stated in the Reading Eagle, Shillington, Mohnton, and Kenhorst boroughs have formed a commission to study the possibility of regional policing.
- B. Eleven municipalities have passed resolutions supporting Crime Alerts efforts to stop illegal trash dumping. Reading City Council has it on their agenda for the next meeting.
- C. Commissioner Gajewski invited all to attend the Community Corrections "Wall Breaking" Ceremony on July 23rd at 10 AM at the Berks Heim Annex which will "kick off" the construction project for the new center.

Commissioner Scott

- A. Commissioner Scott noted that he has received phone calls from employees concerned about losing their jobs at ICI-Glidden. Commissioner Schwank reported that she attended a meeting with Mayor McMahon regarding possible relocation of the ICI facility. Greater Berks Development Fund is also working with the Mayor on this. ICI is interested in remaining in the area if a suitable location can be found. Commissioner Scott requested that the union officials at ICI-Glidden be kept in the information loop.

V. PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES

Commissioner Schwank presented a Proclamation for the 60th Anniversary of the Leesport Market; Woody Weist, Manager of the Market accepted the proclamation and invited the audience to the anniversary celebration on July 21st at the market.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:48 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally O'Reilly, Assistant to Chief Clerk