

## **Commissioners' Workshop Meeting Tuesday, July 24, 2007**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, July 24, 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. Chief Clerk Terry Styer did not attend the meeting.

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

### **II. PRESENTATION**

Don Ziegler of Abilities in Motion made presentation noting the 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Clyde Myers, representing the Andulhea Heritage Society in Rehrersburg, is interested in moving an historic barn from Bethel Township to the Berks County Heritage Area for a future Agriculture Museum. Sandy Kauffman, member of the Society, reported that she has offers from 2 companies to dismantle the barn at a cost of approximately \$25,000, and a place to store it until it can be rebuilt. Until they know where the barn can be rebuilt, they will not know the total dollar amount needed to fund this project. Retired State Representative Sheila Miller noted her support and the importance of preserving this historic barn. The group is asking the County to form a committee to evaluate the proposal to develop a Berks County Farm Museum using this barn. The Commissioners indicated that they are amenable to forming this committee and asked the Heritage Society members to suggest some names, including their own.

### **III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:**

#### **Administrator:**

- A. Bill Dennis' weekly report is attached.
- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing the execution of an agreement with EHD Insurance to provide the County's Comprehensive Insurance coverage for July 1, 2007 through July 1, 2008.

- C. Adopt resolution authorizing an agreement with the Berks County Police Chiefs Association for Berks County Emergency Response Team (BCERT) equipment. Chief Neidert, Exeter Township, and Chief Fabriziani, West Reading Borough, noted that the requested funding of \$100,000 would be for purchase of personal protective equipment and weapons for the BCERT.

**Budget Department:**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing 2007 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$65,000. Bob Patrizio, 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 23, 2007. Candy Noll, Contract Coordinator presented the list of contracts.

**Engineering**

- A. Adopt Resolution to execute Application to Encumber Liquid Fuels Tax Funds for the rehabilitation of County owned Weidner's Bridge. This project has been completed and it is necessary to submit this form so that the total project costs match the exact amount that is encumbered for the project. This form increases the encumbrance by \$55,113.12 to a total of \$305,113.12.
- B. Resolution authorizing the execution of an Application for County Aid MS-339 (Liquid Fuels) in an amount not to exceed \$27,472.53 for paving of Reider Road in North Heidelberg Twp.
- C. Resolution authorizing the execution of an Application for County Aid MS-339 (Liquid Fuels) in an amount not to exceed \$38,461.54 for culvert replacement on Douglass Road in Douglass Twp.
- D. Resolution authorizing the execution of an Application for County Aid MS-339 (Liquid Fuels) in an amount not to exceed \$80,219.78 for paving various roads in Richmond Twp.
- E. Resolution authorizing the execution of an Application for County Aid MS-339 (Liquid Fuels) in an amount not to exceed \$34,340.66 for paving of West Vine Street in Fleetwood Borough.

**Human Resource Director:**

- A. Human Resource Recommendations per list dated July 24, 2007. Beth Schiepan, HR Director, presented the recommendations.

*Human Services*

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing Judith L. Schwank, Chair of the Board, to execute **TEFAP Inventory – Reimbursement Request** Form for the period (April, May, and June) FFY 2006-2007, in the amount of \$5,381.78 for distributing 48,925.25 pounds of food at \$.11 per pound and to authorize Margaret Bianca, Executive Director, Greater Berks Food Bank for apply for the funds on behalf of Berks County.

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

Commissioner Schwank presented a Certificate of Recognition to Louise Brown of Wood to Wonderful—Reading is Toyriffic. Liz Sterner, Sr. Director, Government & Community Affairs of Comcast spoke about the “Cable Leaders in Learning Award”, a national award for which our local Comcast nominated Wood to Wonderful for their work with city schools. Wood to Wonderful was one of only 3 winners nationally. Next school year, 800 children will receive 1 hardcover book each month for the entire school year, thanks to Louise and her hard work.

*Commissioner Gajewski*

Commissioner Gajewski read a letter from Tulpehocken Township to Senator Folmer asking for his support of BARTA funding. He also read a letter from Senator O’Pake noting that the funding for BARTA has been approved and that they will be receiving 50% more than last year.

*Commissioner Scott*

Commissioner Scott asked County Solicitor Miller to contact the Special Solicitor for Union Township to see is there is any help that the county can offer in their legal battle to stop the Motorsports Park from being built. He noted his dismay that a recommendation for approval was handed down.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:53 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Sally O’Reilly, Assistant to Chief Clerk