

Commissioners' Board Meeting August 2, 2007

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, August 2, 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 July 24, 2007 Commissioner workshop minutes and the July 26, 2007 Commissioners meeting minutes, all voted yes to approve as amended.

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 as amended and with the exception of Resolution 227.07 which has been held for a future meeting:
 - 225.07 A. Adopt Resolution authorizing 2007 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$160,000 and 2007 Appropriations in the amount \$584,627 per listing dated July 27, 2007.
 - 226.07 B. Human Resource Recommendations per list dated July 31, 2007. ****Item 4 is being held from this list for approval at a future meeting. Further clarification of the position has been requested of the Human Resource Department.**
 - 227.07 C. Adopt a resolution approving a financing project by the Maxatawny Township Municipal Authority for a project for the benefit of Kutztown University Foundation, Inc. and Kutztown University to refinance outstanding debt of the University used for the various capital improvements at the University. ****Held for future meeting.**
2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated July 30, 2007.

Reports

1. County Treasurer –Bill Dennis, County Administrator, read report for Nelson Long, CPA.
2. County Controller – Sandy Graffius, Controller, read report.

Commissioner Schwank discussed the proposed changes to federal voting regulations as noted in House Bill 811, for which there seems to be agreement in the House. She stated that new changes to the previously defeated bill have made it worse than originally proposed. She has drafted a letter to the Legislature to encourage them to vote against this bill. Elections Director Debbie Olivieri reported that there is currently no machine certified in PA that will satisfy the proposed regulation to have a voter verifiable paper ballot, and that the certification time takes longer than the Federal Government is allowing by pushing for this new process to be in place by the Presidential Election next year. She said that this would mean that all 67 counties in PA would need to locate and lease machines that use this technology, at great cost to each county.

Commissioner Schwank reported that she attended a Municipal Partnership meeting during which Fred Levering gave an update on the Schuylkill Valley Metro. She said that a proposed a “scaled down version” of the original plan seems to have a much better future as a public/private venture. She reported that Montgomery County has advertised for an RFP to hire a consultant to study the new plan. Commissioner Schwank offered to send a letter of thanks to Montgomery County, and will also ask that Berks County be included in any public meetings and hearings. She advised that the next board of Commissioners will need to be vigilant about following the progress of this project.

Commissioner Gajewski reported that he was invited to a meeting in Mohnton about regional policing in that area.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:08 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk