

Commissioners' Board Meeting September 27, 2007

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, September 27, 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 Gajewski made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Scott to approve the September 18, 2007 Commissioner workshop minutes and the September 20, 2007 Commissioners meeting minutes, all voted yes to approve.

Consent Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Gajewski, seconded by Commissioner Scott and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
 - 276.07 A. Resolution approving the Human Resource Recommendations dated September 25, 2007.
 - 277.07 B. Resolution appointing Jeanne C. Hey, Leesport, PA, to a six year term on the Reading Area Community College Board of Trustees, replacing Joseph Vacarro, whose term expired. Ms. Hey's term will expire on 6/30/2013.
 - 278.07 C. Resolution authorizing a reimbursement agreement between the County and the participating municipalities and further authorizing the bulk purchase of the necessary number of Minitor V-Alert pagers on behalf the participating Municipalities and their respective Emergency Services Departments who have agreed to reimburse the County over a period of four (4) years according to the terms of the Alert-Pager Purchase Agreement.
2. Motion authorizing Judith L. Schwank, as Chairman of the Board to execute Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated September 21, 2007.

Reports

1. County Treasurer – Nelson Long, CPA submitted his report that was read by Administrator Dennis.
2. County Controller – Sandy Graffius, Controller. The Controller's report was presented by Mark Hanson, Deputy Controller.

Proclamation

Commissioner Schwank presented a Proclamation celebrating Union Fire Company's 175th Anniversary in Hamburg Borough to Jarrod Emes Lieutenant. and Secretary with the Union Fire Company.

Commissioner Gajewski announced that he would be presenting a proclamation to Mohnton Borough for the 100th anniversary of the Borough.

Business from the Floor

Commissioner Schwank presented a draft resolution to authorize the Hay Creek Trail property acquisition project to move ahead and asked the board to consider adoption of the resolution at next week's Commissioners' meeting. She said that since the County has already committed funds for the survey and appraisal of this property and since the \$1.75 million Growing Greener II Funds has a deadline of December 31, 2007 she wanted to see this project move along before any funds acquired for this project will have to be returned. Commissioner Gajewski expressed reservation over the cost of the project and suggested that the consultant estimate the cost to consider a redesign of the trail with a narrower width. Commissioner Scott stated that this discussion took place at the budget meeting where the consultant informed the board that any savings due to changes in the trail width would not be significant and that the existing width of the rail right of way was by design for the best ability of the former owner of the railway to maintain the property. He said that this project has been in the wings for 15 years and he is supportive of moving forward with the project design as it stands today. Asst. Solicitor Christine Sadler indicated that the survey cost to date are \$140,000 and any changes in the width would require additional survey and appraisal costs not to mention a re-review by PennDot which may delay the project into next year. Commissioner Scott requested that the consultant provide a written evaluation of Commissioner Gajewski's proposed changes for next week's meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:07 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk