

## **Commissioners' Board Meeting August 7, 2008**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, August 7, 2008, 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 Mark C. Scott called the meeting to order with Commissioner Christian Leinbach and Commissioner Kevin Barnhardt in attendance. Also present were the Chief Clerk Terry L. Styer, County Solicitor Alan Miller, Esq., and County Administrator William E. Dennis.

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

Commissioner Scott announced that due to the cancellation of the Tuesday August 5 Salary Board meeting and the need for action on certain items, the Commissioners unanimously approved the items proposed on the Salary Board agenda noting that the Salary board will need to ratify and confirm those approvals at the next Salary Board meeting.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Barnhardt made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Leinbach to approve the July 29, 2008 Commissioner workshop minutes and the July 31, 2008 Commissioners meeting minutes, all voted yes to approve.

### **Consent Agenda Items**

- I. A motion was made by Commissioner Leinbach, seconded by Commissioner Barnhardt, and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
  - 210.08 A. Resolution authorizing Assurance of Compliance for FY2009-10 Children and Youth Needs Based Plan and Budget Estimate and the FY2008-09 Children and Youth Implementation Plan. George Kovarie, Director of Berks Children and Youth Agency reported that this document compiles the reimbursement requests for child welfare costs related to Children and Youth Agency, Juvenile Probation and Youth Detention Placement services. He then reported that the state continues to come up with new initiatives and no budget dollars to pay for them. He told the Commissioners that Berks County could at any time have as much as 5 to 6 million dollars of expenses in child welfare waiting for reimbursement from the state.
  - 211.08 B. Human Resource Recommendations per list dated August 5, 2008.

- 212.08 C. Resolution authorizing execution of a Child Safety Day Property Use Agreement between the County of Berks and State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company concerning a car seat check-up event to be held on September 20, 2008.
  - 213.08 D. Resolution authorizing execution of a Condemnation Settlement Agreement between the County of Berks and the City of Reading et al. concerning the Antietam Lake eminent domain action. The board acknowledged that a Resolution to establish an advisory committee as described in the resolution will follow at a future meeting.
  - 214.08 E. Resolution approving the execution of The Mental Retardation Stage 1 Plan for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.
  - 215.08 F. Resolution authorizing the execution of the State Food Purchase Program Plan of Operation for Berks County for State Fiscal Year 2008 – 2009; the State Purchase Option Request for Waiver, for FY2008 – 2009.
2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated August 4, 2008.

### **Reports**

1. County Treasurer Nelson Long, CPA presented the weekly Treasurer's report.
2. Deputy Controller Mark Hanson presented the weekly Controller's report for County Controller Sandy Graffius.

### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

Mr. Dennis presented his weekly report.

### **REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS**

#### **Commissioner Leinbach**

Commissioner Leinbach suggested that the incident regarding the escape of two county work release prisoners will need to be examined including the attire and the supervision of the prisoners while serving in this capacity. Commissioner Barnhardt agreed and said the incident will be discussed at the next Prison Board meeting.

Commissioner Leinbach then reported that one of the resolutions approved at the annual State Convention of County Commissioners was proposed to support the overturn of the Governor's veto of SB 1247 and HB 1438 both of which were unanimously approved by the House and Senate and would prohibit taxing entities from picking individual properties for "spot assessment" based on their resale value alone.

**Commissioner Barnhardt**

Commissioner Barnhardt reported on a recent tour that took place at a Montgomery County Maryland Prison re-entry facility. He said that details of the related budgetary impacts will be the topic of a future budget meeting in relation to the Berks County Community Re-entry Center. He said he was surprised to learn that the Maryland facility staff had not conducted any type of recidivism study to determine any reduction of the prison population. Commissioner Leinbach, who also took part in the tour, noted that the population of Montgomery County is 1.2 million yet the population in their Re-Entry center is only 170; while the population projected for the Berks Re-Entry Center is 375 with a Berks County population of only 375,000.

Commissioner Barnhardt also reported that the parks department put in over 300 hours of cleanup at the Antietam Lake Property to date.

**Commissioner Scott**

Commissioner Scott announced that the EPA (US Environmental Protection Agency) will be holding a meeting next Wednesday, August 13, 2008 and they requested attendance of the Commissioners to discuss a remediation plan for the Crossley Farm Superfund Site.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:27 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk