

Commissioners' Board Meeting March 5, 2009

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, March 5, 2009, 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 County Solicitor Alan Miller, Esq., and County Administrator William E. Dennis. Chief Clerk Terry L. Styer did not attend the meeting.

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

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Leinbach made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Barnhardt to approve the February 17 and 24, 2009 Commissioner workshop minutes and the February 19, 2009 Commissioners meeting minutes, all voted yes to approve.

Consent Agenda Items

- I. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
 - 46.09 A. Resolution authorizing 2008 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$134,500., 2009 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$13,503., and 2009 Appropriations in the amount \$38,000 per listing dated February 27, 2009.
 - 47.09 B. Resolution approving the Berks County E9-1-1 Wireless Certification and further authorizing Wanda Keener, 9-1-1 Coordinator to submit an application to the PA Emergency Management Agency for funding.
 - 48.09 C. Human Resource Recommendations per list dated March 3, 2009.
 - 49.09 D. Resolution to approve the Green Procurement and Sustainable Practices Guidelines dated March 5, 2009.
 - 50.09 E. Resolution to approve Veterans Affairs Office Policies and Procedures.
 - 51.09 F. Resolution to reappoint Gloria Seifrit from Reading, PA, to the Council on Chemical Abuse Board of Directors for a 3 year term ending February 1, 2012.

- 52.09 G. Resolution to appoint Ryan A. Breisch from Temple, PA, to the Reading Public Library Board for a 5 year term ending on December 31, 2013. Mr. Breisch is replacing Frank Schnee, whose term expired.
- 53.09 H. Resolution to reappoint Betty J. McDonough from Bernville, PA, to the Council on Chemical Abuse Board of Directors for a 3 year term ending February 1, 2012.
- 54.09 I. Resolution to reappoint Joan M. Lewis from Sinking Spring, PA, to the Council on Chemical Abuse Board of Directors for a 3 year term ending February 1, 2012.
2. Motion to ratify and confirm payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers listing dated March 5, 2009, as previously authorized by instructions issued March 5, 2009.
3. Motion to approve payments set forth on disbursement voucher list # 608 dated March 3, 2009 for the Community Development Block Grant Program, and voucher # 2341 for the HOME Grant Program as administered by the Berks County Community Development Office.

Reports

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

Commissioner Leinbach reported on the Chamber of Commerce breakfast that he and Commissioner Barnhardt attended earlier this week. A proposal for a trolley service to connect Reading and West Reading was announced. Commissioner Leinbach felt that the consultant hired for the study of this service did not do proper homework, as neither Reading Area Community College, nor the County was contacted, even though both stand to be affected by the route of the proposed Trolley.

Commissioner Barnhardt once again announced the two public meetings that have been scheduled to gather input from the public regarding the County policing study with PERF (Police Executive Research Forum). He said that they will be held on March 10th at 6:30 PM in the Fleetwood High School auditorium and on March 12th at 6:30 PM in the County Services Center auditorium. He also noted that a focus group luncheon will be held on Thursday, March 12th at noon. This will be for those agencies who deal with police on a regular basis.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported that the first meeting of the Berks County Association of Environmental Advisory Councils was held last night. Seven municipal EAC's were represented as well as several county agencies. The Commissioner felt that it was a very good first meeting and announced that the next meeting will be held on June 4th, focusing on building the BCAEAC website.

Commissioner Barnhardt noted that Park Rangers have reported that many deer stands have been found in Antietam Park. Hunting is prohibited in all County parks. The Parks Ordinance needs to be amended to reflect the right to carry firearms, but not to discharge them. It was also reported that a neighbor has been timbering in the Park. The Solicitor for the Parks Department will be sending a letter to the neighbor letting him know that timbering is illegal in the County Park System.

Phila Back from Working Families Win, and Aaron Thomas, citizen of Reading, attended the meeting to ask the Commissioners to aid in bringing as much Stimulus money to Reading and Berks County as possible.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:17 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally O'Reilly, Assistant to Chief Clerk