

## **Commissioners' Workshop Meeting Tuesday, July 21, 2009**

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

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, 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 Mark C. Scott, Esq. called the meeting to order with Commissioner Christian Leinbach, and Commissioner Kevin Barnhardt in attendance. Also present were Solicitor Alan Miller Esq., and Chief Clerk Terry Styer.

Commissioner Scott opened the meeting with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The Commissioner also reported that an Executive Session was held on Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup> for personnel purposes.

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

#### **Budget Department:**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing 2009 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$505,871 per listing dated July 17, 2009.
- B. Motion authorizing Mark C. Scott as Chairman of the Board, to execute Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per attached listing dated July 17, 2009.
- C. Recommendation to award and Purchasing Manager to execute as a result of ITB #09-04-KL, for general concrete construction at the Berks County Prison Compost Facility as follows: F.A. Rohrbach, Inc. ,1302 N. 18th Street, Allentown, PA 18104. Total Base Bid Price: \$175,785.00 (not to exceed). Option: For any potential work required as part of utility trenching the rates shall be as follows: \$125.00 SY Bituminous Patching, \$ 25.00 CY 2A Modified Stone in Place.

#### **Community Development**

- A. Motion to approve payments set forth on disbursement voucher list # 2361 for the Community Development Block Grant Program, DV #620 for the HOME Grant Program and DV #1368 for the Property Rehabilitation Program as administered by the Berks County Community Development Office.

**Emergency Management**

- A. Authorize execution of the Tower and Antenna License Agreement between the County of Berks and C.R. Garber Enterprises for use by Berks County Emergency Services of the Fancy Hill building, tower and related appurtenances. Emergency Management Coordinator Brian Gottschall presented this lease agreement and discussed the two changes and remarked that Mr. Garber is offering this lease to the county at ½ the cost for similar tower sites.

**Human Resources**

- A. Shane Keller, HR Deputy Director, presented the Human Resource Recommendation per list dated July 21, 2009.

**Human Services**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing Mark C. Scott, Esq., Chair of the Board, to execute TEFAP Inventory – Reimbursement Request Form for the period (April, May, June) 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FFY 2008-2009, in the amount of \$16,983.76 for distributing 141,531.30 pounds of food at \$.12 per pound and to authorize Margaret Bianca, Executive Director, Greater Berks Food Bank to apply for the funds on behalf of Berks County.

**Solicitor**

- A. Authorized execution of Amendment "B" to Sublease Agreement between Burgoe Wyomissing Partners and the County of Berks for space occupied by the Berks County Library System at the Reading Regional Airport Industrial Park, Bern Township.

**III. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS****Commissioner Leinbach**

- A. Adopt a Resolution to appoint William R. Blumer, Esquire, to the Berks County Office of Aging Advisory Council to the two year term which will expire on December 31, 2009 and the subsequent two year term which will expire on December 31, 2011.
- B. Commissioner Leinbach then read the following memo sent to County Department heads this week asking that it be placed into the record:

“As you may be aware, bumping has been occurring across several departments within the County as a result of the recent elimination of several AFSCME positions. This bumping, coupled with the recent announcement regarding the Conservation District, and the rumblings regarding the elimination of 100 positions, has created a hotbed for rumor and speculation.

In order to quell the rumblings, we, the Board of Commissioners, wish to clarify our position on the 100 positions. It is our desire to eliminate (where feasible) 100 VACANT positions in an effort to further reduce our headcount, and the associated costs therein. We have no plans to begin the systematic layoff of County employees. That is not to say that layoffs will not occur - we do not have a crystal ball enabling us to forecast funding. As you know, the State budget is still undecided, and it is currently unknown what impact the State budget situation will have on reimbursements we currently receive. Should these streams run dry, we will be forced to examine the positions and/or departments that are affected, and this examination and analysis may lead to the elimination of occupied positions. We will address these matters publicly, and will consider your input. Please know that before these difficult decisions are made, all of the pertinent information and factors will be considered before rendering our final decision. We know that you and your employees are concerned and we want to assure you that we are taking your concerns very seriously. It is our hope and intent to continue to serve the citizens of Berks County without raising County property tax. We are all facing this adversity together, and together we will search for solutions.

**Commissioner Barnhardt**

**Commissioner Scott**

Commissioner Scott indicated that he would be submitting a name for appointment for the Berks Municipal Authority to replace Atty. David Sabotka who recently resigned.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk