

Commissioners' Board Meeting December 3, 2009

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, December 3, 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 Chief Operations Officer Carl Staples, Chief Clerk Terry L. Styer, and County Solicitor Alan Miller, Esq.

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

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the November 17, 2009 Commissioners' Workshop and November 19, 2009 Commissioners' meetings were approved as presented.

Consent Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
 - 355.09 A. Resolution authorizing 2009 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$61,265 and 2009 Appropriations in the amount \$10,320 per listing dated November 25, 2009.
 - 356.09 B. Recommendation to award and authorize the Director of Contracts & Procurement to execute as a result of ITB #09-10-MB, a one year contract for Railway Vegetation Control & Removal Services for Colebrookdale Railroad, to be paid from the Environmental Defense Fund, as follows: Green Start, Inc., 145 Swamp Creek Road, Gilbertsville, PA 19525. Vegetation Removal Services - \$65,000.00, Vegetation Control Services - \$4,000.00 and additional options for years two and three.
 - 357.09 C. Human Resource Recommendations per list dated December 1, 2009.
 - 358.09 D. Resolution (rescinding Resolution No. 288-09) authorizing the reimbursement of not more than \$697,500 to the Natural Lands Trust to assist in the purchase of two properties (Sheeder and Yelenoc) in Union Township.
 - 359.09 E. Resolution appointing members to the Berks County Local Emergency Planning Committee.

2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated November 25, 2009.
3. Motion to approve payments set forth on disbursement voucher list # 2383 for the Community Development Block Grant Program, DV #2382-R for the CDBG-R (ARRA) program, DV #628 for the HOME Grant Program and DV # 2384-S for the Emergency Shelter Program as administered by the Berks County Community Development Office.

Non Consent Agenda

1. Commissioner Barnhardt made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach to discuss the following resolution. Following a discussion regarding the relocation of the on-site air testing monitors by the DEP at the East Penn facility, Commissioners Barnhardt and Scott voted yes and Commissioner Leinbach voted no to support this resolution (suggesting that the County wait for the new testing results following the relocation of the equipment.) The motion carried and the Resolution was approved.
 - 360.09 F. Resolution to ratify, confirm and endorse the content of certain correspondence from Liberty Environmental respecting the non-attainment areas in the vicinity of Exide Technologies, Laureldale, Pennsylvania, and East Penn Manufacturing Co., Lyons, Pennsylvania.
2. Commissioner Barnhardt made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Leinbach to discuss the following Resolution. Clerk of Courts Jim Troutman requested additional information and asked the board to delay the vote. Following a long discussion by the board, COO Carl Staples, and HR Director Jennifer Biehn regarding the County's merit based performance review program, as well as the issues that created the need for this resolution, all voted yes to approve.
 - 361.09 G. Resolution to authorize approval of 2.75% budgetary allotment for 2010 Management/Confidential annual salary increases for the all Court Appointed Departments, including Judges' Personal Staff, Treasurer's Office, Register of Wills, District Attorney, Clerk of Courts, Controller, and Prothonotary.

Reports

Commissioner Barnhardt made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, and all voted yes to accept the following reports as presented.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:37 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk