

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting Minutes Tuesday, July 26, 2011

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, July 26, 2011 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 called the meeting to order with Commissioner Kevin S. Barnhardt and Commissioner Christian Leinbach attendance. Also present were County Solicitor Alan S. Miller and Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk.

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

II. PUBLIC COMMENT FROM THE FLOOR

Michael Malinowski of EH&D attended the Commissioners' Meeting and reported to the Commissioners that the water damage that occurred in June will now be covered by the insurance policy of the County's boiler system instead of the building policy because the leak was caused by a ruptured pipe in the hot water system, saving the County \$49,000.00. The deductible for the building is \$50,000.00 and the deductible for the boiler system is \$1,000.00. The Commissioners were very pleased and thanked Mr. Malinowski and EH&D for their persistence in resolving this issue.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Department

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2011 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$17,752.00 and 2011 Appropriations in the amount \$129,687.00 per listing dated July 22, 2011. Kimberly Grinage commented that the transfers are routine and the majority of appropriations deal with Grower Greener funds for Antietam Lake Park

Human Resources

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated July 26, 2011.

Purchasing

- A. Motion authorizing Mark C. Scott as Chairman of the Board, to execute Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated July 25, 2011.

Solicitor

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing tax forgiveness of 2009 County taxes including any penalty and interest for School Road (PIN No. 30-4401-00-46-9831) Bethel Township, owned by the Tulpehocken Area School District.

Emergency Management

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of a Lease between the City of Reading and the County of Berks for premises within Parcel No. 25-5317-02-76-2194 situate in Lower Alsace Township, Berks County for the development, erection and Operation of a Public Safety Radio System.
- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, State Fiscal Year 2011/2012 Hazardous Material Response Fund Grant Agreement with the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency in the amount of \$65,665.00 from the Hazardous Material Response Fund (HMRF) for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 to support the requirements of SARA, Title II and the Commonwealth's hazardous material safety program.

Facilities

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing Mark C. Scott, Esq., Chair, to execute the Supplemental General Reimbursement Agreement for Federal Aid Projects (No. 050350-D) between the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) and the County of Berks for the Berne Station Bridge Project in Perry and Tilden Townships. This supplement provides the terms and guidelines that govern reimbursement for funding for the Final Design, Right-of-Way, Utility and Services during Construction phases of the project.
- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing Mark C. Scott, Esq., Chair, to execute Supplemental Engineering Agreement 050349-E with Dewberry-Goodkind, Inc. of Carlisle, PA authorizing revisions to certain contract clauses and establishing Part II, Final Design, and Part III, Services during Construction for the Berne Station Bridge Project in Perry and Tilden Townships at the estimated cost of \$427,593.81.

Human Services

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution by Mark C. Scott as Chairman of the Board Commissioners, of TEFAP Inventory – Reimbursement Request Form for the period (April, May, June) 3rd Quarter FFY 2010/2011 and ARRA-TEFAP) Report in the amount of \$25,661.07 for distributing

213,842.20 pounds of food at \$.12 per pound, and further authorizes Margaret Bianca, Executive Director, Greater Berks Food Bank, to apply for the funds on behalf of Berks County.

IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Barnhardt

Commissioner Barnhardt passed on information regarding a project that BARTA is providing. BARTA is installing new bus stop signs in all municipalities it services. BARTA said all municipalities are able to provide labor for this project with the exception of the City and Wyomissing. Commissioner Barnhardt commented that he contacted the Warden and inquired whether Community Service inmates could be made available to perform the labor to complete this project for BARTA. The Warden confirmed that Community Services could do the work.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach had two items to discuss. Tomorrow, July 27, 2011 is a very historical day. It is the anniversary of the Forgotten War or the Korean War of 1953. Commissioner Leinbach continued there was no winner of this war and a truce between the countries still remains today. Two important events came out of this War; 1) a television show call M.A.S.H., and 2) the issue of slavery and integration. It was the first military conflict that U.S. troops were fully integrated under President Harry S. Truman.

The second matter Commissioner Leinbach commented on was another special event taking place this Friday, July 29, 2011 at the Kenhorst Dairy Queen. This event was to initially support local fire companies. The prime sponsor, Berks Fire and Water Restoration, will now shift primary sponsorship to include support for the family of the late Deputy Sheriff Kyle Pagerly. Commissioner Leinbach recognized and gave credit to the Reading Eagle for publishing the many events being held throughout the community for the Pagerly family. Commissioner Leinbach further mentioned that he and Commissioner Barnhardt will be in the dunk tank between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., and offered to give up some of their time for Commissioner Scott, who will check his calendar.

Commissioner Scott

Commissioner Scott commented that he visited Harrisburg yesterday and met with high ranking State and local officials regarding economic development issues regarding the long term impact of the Marcellus Shale project. Commissioner Scott spoke of the vast economic opportunities that exist for the municipalities.

Citizen Comment from the Floor

Pat Pieja of Exeter Township attended the meeting and asked to address the Commissioners. She rebutted Commissioner Scott's comments that the Marcellus Shale project can be a boom to the state and local communities, but at what cost to the quality of our water supply. Commissioner Leinbach commented that steps are being taken to keep our water supply safe.

Ms. Pieja also commented on the newspaper report of Mary Young concerning the 5 million dollars the County offered to the State for Route 222 North Project. Ms. Pieja questioned why the taxpayer must be burdened with this added expense. The Commissioners assured Ms. Pieja that in their letter to the Governor they asked for time constraints and certain construction schedules that must be adhered to.

Commissioner Barnhardt commented that this project goes back to Senator O'Pake who worked on the U.S. 222 Task Force Committee.

Commissioner Leinbach commented that the Board has been working on this for a better part of 3 years. The Commissioners assured Ms. Pieja that the investment of the 5 million dollars will eventually generate economic development and tax revenue and the taxpayers of Berks County will benefit many times over.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:10 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk