

**Commissioners' Workshop Meeting  
Tuesday, November 1, 2011**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, November 1 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 in 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. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:**

**Budget Department**

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2011 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$345,177.00 and 2011 Appropriations in the amount \$19,257.00 per listing dated October 28, 2011. Commissioner Scott commented on the Budget Transfers and Appropriations listed this week.

**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 October 31, 2011. Commissioner Scott briefly explained the contracts listed for approval this week.

**Facilities**

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing the Agility Agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Department of Transportation and the County of Berks which will allow the County of Berks to partner with PennDOT in the exchange of equipment, goods and services allowing for greater flexibility for the County bridge crew in accomplishing certain in-house repairs without having to contract out for labor or equipment. Ryan Hunter commented this is basically a Mutual Aid Agreement with PennDot and gives the County access to a significant amount of equipment and also entitles staff to free training sessions.

**Berks Heim**

- A. **No. 335.11** Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Disbursement Request No. 1 dated October 20, 2011 for the CCAP Electronic Health Records grant program in the amount of

\$120,361.18 of the available grant amount of \$218,000.00 for reimbursement of personal computers, flat screen monitors, laptops, wireless assessment, wireless access equipment, printers and a 15 month prepaid subscription to Point Click Care, for the Berks Heim, and further authorizing execution of supplemental Disbursement Requests under the Grant Agreement not to exceed the grant amount of \$218,000.00. A motion was made by Commissioner Leinbach to approve, seconded by Commissioner Barnhardt and all voted unanimously to approve this resolution.

### **Community Development**

- A Adopt a resolution authorizing execution by Mark C. Scott, Esq., Chair, of the County of Berks Joint Consolidated Plan FFY2012 Action Plan and indicating approval by the Board of Commissioners; and further providing such assurances, certifications, contract, agreement and supplemental or revised data which the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development may request in conjunction with the Plan. Ken Pick, Director of Community Development commented this is a routine submission to the Federal government. The 2012 Federal Budget has not been passed yet and he is not sure of the grant amount at this time, and as a result the numbers will have to be adjusted. Commissioner Leinbach commented that this is the third year without a federal budget and it can be difficult to project numbers.

## **III. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS**

### **Commissioner Barnhardt**

Commissioner Barnhardt commented that he will be meeting with BARTA officials, the Warden and Berks County Pre-Trial staff to find a way to expand bus service and extended hours of operation to the CRC (Community Reentry Center), which will provide needed transportation to CRC clients looking for jobs.

### **Commissioner Leinbach**

Commissioner Leinbach reminded the public of the very important forum taking place this evening at the RACC Miller Center focusing on the report of Poverty in the City of Reading being sponsored in part by the Reading Eagle and PCN. This will be a very important meeting and encouraged anyone who has access to the PCN television station to tune in. Commissioner Leinbach also mentioned the public is invited.

### **Commissioner Scott**

Commissioner Scott commented on the poverty issue in Reading and reminded the public of a report former Commissioner Timothy Riever had prepared about

10 years ago, forecasting the statistics and facts of the poverty situation in Reading. Commissioner Scott further commented that Commissioner Riever was very concerned about the poverty issue in the City and forecast the situation would become worse.

Commissioner Scott also reminded everyone next Tuesday, November 8, 2011 is Election Day and encouraged the public to exercise their right to vote.

**Citizen Comment from the Floor**

Nevin Hallacher asked the Commissioners if any progress has been made of the department review. Commissioner Leinbach responded no, due to the fact the County is still without a COO, who will be handling that project.

Donna Morganti commented to the Commissioners of new disturbing issues she is seeing in Children Services regarding complaints CYs are taking some of the children in a home but not all.

Lori Barr commented on the Michelle Schaeffer case and provided reports to the Commissioners for their review. Ms. Barr introduced her daughter, Dream, who had a few questions for the Commissioners. Dream presented her questions to the Commissioners. The Commissioners answered Dream's questions to the best of their knowledge.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:16 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk