

**Pre-Commissioners' Meeting**  
**Tuesday, March 16, 2004**

***I.     CALL TO ORDER:***

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, March 26, 2004, at 6:00 P.M., at the Hook and Ladder Fire Company, Boyertown, pursuant to due notice to Board members and the public. Commissioner Chair Judith L. Schwank called the meeting to order with Commissioners Tom Gajewski and Mark C. Scott in attendance. Also present were Acting Chief Clerk William E. Dennis and Solicitor Alan Miller.

Commissioner Schwank followed with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Commissioner Schwank introduced Boyertown Borough Council President Barton Feroe who welcomed the Commissioners to Boyertown. He advised that the Mayor could not be present due to illness, and on behalf of the Mayor and Council thanked the Commissioners for their continued interest in the Borough and surroundings.

Commissioner Gajewski introduced Judge Albert A. Stallone and presented him with a Certificate of Recognition for his work in establishing the Domestic Violence Coordinating Policy Group. The Commissioners emphasized the importance and value of this undertaking and congratulated Judge Stallone on this effort as well as his many endeavors that have benefited the citizens of Berks County.

Tom McKeon, Director of Community and Economic Development, made a presentation on County Community and Economic Development efforts within the County. Mr. McKeon discussed the broad range of projects underway and opportunities available.

The Board of Commissioners discussed and approved the following items for listing at the March 18, 2004 Meeting:

***II.     REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS:***

- A.     Adopt Proclamation regarding *Berks County Conservancy's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*.
  
- B.     Presentation by Tom McKeon, Director of Community and Economic Development, on County Community and Economic Development.

***Commissioner Schwank***

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing execution of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency Radiation Emergency Response Fund in the amount of \$20,732.00, for period July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005.
- B. Adopt Resolution authorizing the appointment of DiAnn Black, 192 Shartlesville Road, Mohrsville, Pennsylvania, 19541, to the Berks County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Advisory Board, for a three-year term to expire 12/31/06.

***Commissioner Gajewski***

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing the reappointment of Frank Schnee, 31 North Elm Street, Robesonia, Pennsylvania, 19551, to the Reading Public Library Board, said term to expire December 31, 2008.

***Commissioner Scott***

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing subsidized adoption of a female child born 02/02/97 on request of BCCYS and in accordance with applicable federal regulations, at the rate of \$11.00 per day Maintenance, including physical and mental health care, and \$500.00 legal cost plus filing fees (Case Number 17187).
- B. Adopt Resolution authorizing Continuation of Maintenance for a female child born 04/02/86, on request of BCCYS and in accordance with applicable federal regulations, effective 04/02/04 through 06/30/05 in the form of Foster Care from Berks County Children and Youth Foster Home at the per diem rate of \$40.50 to allow for completion of high school.
- C. Adopt Resolution authorizing Continuation of Maintenance for a male child born 04/06/86, on request of BCCYS and in accordance with applicable federal regulations, effective 04/06/04 through 06/30/05 in the form of Purchased Care from Bethany Children's Home – Group Home at the per diem rate of \$115.00 to allow for completion of high school.
- D. Adopt Resolution authorizing resolution 59-04 adopted 01/29/04 be rescinded.
- E. Adopt Resolution authorizing subsidized adoption of a female child born 08/03/95 on request of BCCYS and in accordance with applicable federal regulations, at the rate of \$16.00 per day Maintenance, including physical

- and mental health care, and \$500.00 legal cost plus filing fees (Case Number 4200).
- F. Adopt Resolution authorizing subsidized adoption of a female child born 12/02/01 on request of BCCYS and in accordance with applicable federal regulations, at the rate of \$10.00 per day Maintenance, including physical and mental health care, and \$500.00 legal cost plus filing fees (Case Number 13143).
- G. Adopt Resolution authorizing subsidized adoption of a female child born 02/06/01 on request of BCCYS and in accordance with applicable federal regulations, at the rate of \$10.00 per day Maintenance, including physical and mental health care, and \$500.00 legal cost plus filing fees (Case Number 22151).
- H. Adopt Resolution authorizing Judith L. Schwank, as Chairman of the Board, to execute Continuation of Subgrant No. 01/02/03-IP-ST-011040 by and between the County of Berks (Adult Probation) and the Pennsylvania Commission of Crime and Delinquency, with respect to funding in the amount of \$371,920.00 for "Phase I – RIP – Level 2 & 3 Offenders," covering the period 7/1/04 – 06/30/06.

### ***III. OTHER REQUESTS:***

#### ***Budget Director:***

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing 2004 Budget Transfers in the total aggregate amount of \$55,200.00 per listing dated March 12, 2004.

#### ***Contract Coordinator:***

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per attached listing dated 03/12/04.

#### ***Purchasing Director:***

- B. Award of Invitation to Bid #04-02-RC, for the furnishing of asphalt paving services to EJB Paving & Materials Co. with an office at 1119 Snyder Road, West Lawn, PA 19609 at their bid price of \$182,673.65. The work includes paving the lower and upper lots of Stonecliffe Recreation Area, the driveway and parking area of Camp Joy, the parking lot of the Youth Recreation Facility, and the parking lot of Red Bridge Recreation Area.

**Facilities:**

Mr. Dennis, Brian Gottshall, Deputy EMA Coordinator, and Scott Adams, Director of Facilities and Operations provided information regarding the construction of the Fire Training Burn Building. The bid award requested of the Commissioners was consistent with the overall budget for the project, amounting to \$4,285,000. The estimated completion of the project is January 2005. Commissioner Scott stated that if one compares this facility statewide, we will have a facility that is comparable to the best and with enormous regional capabilities.

- A. Award Bid Package #1 for General Construction – Berks County Live Fire Training Prop to R.S. Mowery & Sons, Inc., 1000 Bent Creek Boulevard, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050 including base bid and alternates totaling \$3,270,313.25.
- B. Award Bid Package #3 for Electrical Construction – Berks County Live Fire Training Prop to The Warko Group, 18 Morgan Drive, Sinking Spring, PA 19608 including base bid and alternates totaling \$139,035.40.

The County Treasurer and the County Controller presented their weekly reports. As part of her report, Controller Sandy Graffius introduced Tax Claim Director Sue Miller. Ms. Miller read from a statement regarding efforts of the Tax Claim office to improve the timeliness of getting tax claim payments to municipalities and other taxing entities. She advised that recent questions regarding a payment to New Morgan Borough was an attempt to get multi-year large amount delinquent taxes to the Borough and did not come from a request from the Borough. She also advised that neighboring townships would receive a payment at the same time as New Morgan.

**CITIZEN COMMENT/BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Several citizens questioned the Commissioners on the landfill issues. The Commissioners advised those present of the current status of the Pottstown Landfill and other issues.

The Commissioners thanked those who attended the meeting, especially the emergency response personnel. They encouraged those present to contact the Commissioners regarding any issues or concerns and advised the viewing audience to do the same. They also asked everyone to look for upcoming Commissioners' night meetings to be held at different locations throughout the county.

Commissioner Schwank also advised of the availability of the Berks County Government Directory, which has recently been completed.

Commissioner Gajewski stressed the importance of collaborative regionalization efforts, citing Cabelas as an example of one county bearing the cost of economic development while other counties share the benefits.

Commissioner Scott discussed the importance in staying involved in eastern Berks issues. The purchase of the rail line, block grants, the transportation authority and parks and recreation were examples given as to the benefits of being involved. Commissioner Scott added that one should think long and hard about Section 8 housing, which has caused a tremendous problem.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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William E. Dennis, Acting Chief Clerk