

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, June 22, 2004

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, June 22, 2004, at 10:30 AM, in the thirteenth floor Board Room of the Berks County Services Center, pursuant to due notice to Board members and the public.

Commissioner Chair Judith L. Schwank called the meeting to order with Commissioner Mark C. Scott in attendance. Commissioner Thomas Gajewski was on vacation. Also present were Chief Clerk, Terry L. Styer, County Administrator, William E. Dennis and Solicitor Alan Miller.

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

II. PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES/PRESENTATIONS:

Proclamation to establish June 2004 as Dairy Month.

Commissioner Schwank presented a Proclamation to the Berks County Dairy Princess, Gwen Switzer and Berks County Little Dairy Miss Taylor Pool and their court on behalf of the Commissioners. She noted that there are 305 dairy farms in the County of Berks with a total of 21,000 milking cows producing an average 19,800 lbs of milk annually.

Kurt D. Zwinkl, Executive Director and Wayne Bowen Assistant Executive Director, Schuylkill River Greenway Association provided an update of The Schuylkill River National and State Heritage Area which includes the counties of Schuylkill, Berks, Montgomery, Chester and Philadelphia and is one of 24 Congressionally designated national heritage areas in the nation and one of 11 Pennsylvania Heritage Parks. The mission of the heritage area is to conserve, interpret and develop the historical, cultural, natural and recreational resources related to the industrial and cultural heritage of the Schuylkill River Watershed. He explained that in support of this mission their goals and strategies include resource conservation and enhancement, education and interpretation, recreation, community revitalization and heritage tourism. The non-profit Schuylkill River Greenway Association manages the Heritage Area.

The Board of Commissioners then discussed and approved the following items for listing at the June 24, 2004 Commissioners Meeting:

III. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Schwank

- A. Adopt Resolution appointing Glenn W. Godshall to the Reading Area Transportation Study Coordinating Committee.

- B. Authorize payment of invoices under the following Community Development Disbursement Vouchers:
 - a. No. 2082 – Community Development Block Grant Program
 - b. No. 2083-PS – State Emergency Shelter Program
 - c. No. 2084- S – Emergency Shelter Program
 - d. No. 2085 – Community Development Block Grant Program
 - e. No. 1219 – Property Rehabilitation Program
 - f. No. 1220 –Property Rehabilitation Program
 - g. No. 464 – Home Grant Program

Commissioner Scott

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing Mary Henry-Moss, Human Service Grants Coordinator, the ability to distribute the remaining Human Service Development Fund (HSDF) and the Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) to the prior approved agencies as needed for the fiscal year 2004/2005, per attached listing dated June 16, 2004. Commissioner Scott gave a special recognition to the Berks Advocates Against Violence and Commissioner Schwank noted that two programs were added to the funding list for this program year; The Teen Challenge and Seniors assisting Seniors.

IV. OTHER REQUESTS:

Budget Director:

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing 2004 Budget transfers in the amount of \$30,000 per listing dated June 18, 2004.

Contract Coordinator:

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per attached listing dated June 16, 2004.

Facilities & Operations:

- A. Change Order Requests for the renovation of the INS facilities, in the total amount of \$672.88 were presented by County Engineer, Bill Westcott.

Change Order Request No. E-9 Electrical Contractor; amount - \$672.88. Provide a 50 amp circuit for food steamer of Food Service Room.

V. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Commissioner Schwank made an announcement to correct the information recently published in the Reading Eagle regarding a presentation to discuss the County's Pension Plan. She stated that a meeting with Norman Pickering of The Hay Group (the County's pension plan actuary) and not Mark Lundquist of Financial S & Lutions (the County's financial advisor) will be held next Tuesday at the Commissioner's Work Session meeting to hear and receive information regarding the actuarial study of the County Pension Plan. She indicated that a meeting at some date in the future (possible July 6, 2004) will be held to discuss funding options for the unfunded liability of the current Berks County employees pension plan and that discussion will be lead by the County's financial advisor, Mark Lundquist.

VI. CITIZEN COMMENT/BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:35AM.