

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, April 19, 2005

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 19, 2005 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 Thomas Gajewski called the meeting to order with and Commissioner Mark L. Scott in attendance. Commissioner Chair Judith L. Schwank was not present. Also present were County Administrator William E. Dennis, Solicitor Alan Miller, Esq. and Chief Clerk Terry Styer.

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

II. PRESENTATIONS/ PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES

- Commissioner Gajewski presented, on behalf of the board of Commissioners, a Certificate of Recognition for the Reading Public Library. Frank Kasprowicz, Director and Lynn Miller Coordinator of Youth Services for the Reading Public Library were present to accept the certificate.
- Commissioner Mark Scott, presented a proclamation to the Berks County Conservation District, proclaiming April 24-May 1,2005 as Soil & Water Stewardship Week Workshop. Larry Kehl, Chairman of the Conservation District accepted the Proclamation.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Director:

- A. Adopt Resolution to ratify and confirm 2005 Appropriations in the total amount of \$105,000.00 per list dated April 8, 2005 and approve 2005 Transfers totaling to \$40,494.00 per list dated April 15, 2005.

Human Resources Director:

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing the Human Resource recommendation as per list dated April 19, 2005.

Purchasing Department

Contract Coordinator

- A. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated April 14, 2005 and presented by Candace Noll.

Solicitor:

- A. Adopt resolution approving a \$195,000,000.00 financing project following a public hearing, undertaken by the Berks Municipal Authority on April 18, 2005 for the benefit of the Reading Hospital and Medical Center. Also requested in an Ordinance approving an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of the Berks County Municipal Authority extending the life of the Authority. Peter Edelman Esq., Solicitor for the Authority explained that the Municipal Authority held the required hearing for Federal Internal Revenue Code purposes for this Hospital financing project. He indicated that the hospital, with approval of this financing, plans numerous uses for these funds including, acquisition and construction for new facilities, as well as expansion and renovation of its existing facilities.

IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS:

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing a grant request between Berks County Adult Probation and Parole Department and PA Department of Transportation for the continuation of Funding of the Berks County Treatment Court Program for period 10/1/05 thorough 9/30/05. Steve Weber Berks Adult Probation explained that this \$38,000 in additional revenue will extend this program and requires no county match.

Commissioner Gajewski

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing a Contract Administration, G701 Change Order, by and between the County of Berks (Berks Heim), the Architect (L. Robert Kimball & Associates), and the Contractor (The Quandel Group), in the amount of \$27,500.00 to provide material and labor for the installation of structural steel floor and roof opening framing out of sequence from the original contract construction schedule. This change allowed the New Berks Heim Nursing Facility to proceed on schedule, prevented delays in construction and saved \$68,700.00 in additional general conditions cost.
- B. Adopt Resolution authorizing the re-appointment of Nicholas Camacho to the Berks County Council on Chemical Abuse Advisory Board for three-year term expiring February 1, 2007.
- C. Adopt Resolution authorizing the appointment of Douglas Didyoung to the Berks Municipal Authority filling the five-year term vacated by Peter L. Snyder ending January 1, 2007.
- D. Adopt Resolution approving On-the-job Training Contracts as per list dated 4/15/05.
- E. Adopt Resolution to urge legislators to restore TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) funding for the Youth Detention Center.

F. Adopt Resolution authorizing payment of invoices under the following Community Development Disbursement Vouchers:

1. No. 2132-Community Development Block Grant funds - \$47,412.44
2. No. 493-Home Grant Program - \$3,883.00
3. No. 1242-Property Rehabilitation Program - \$10,923.27

Commissioner Scott

V. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Commissioner Gajewski encouraged everyone to attend the Stakeholder and Public Forum meeting at the West Reading Fire Company on April 28, 2005 from 4:30 – 7:30 PM scheduled for the River Place Development Corporation. For more information on the Master Plan and related activities on the River Place on the Schuylkill please visit their web site at www.RiverPlacePA.com or phone (610) 685-4609.

The Commissioner also promoted the United Ways' Annual Day of Caring Projects which take place March through April, 2005 Saturday Day of Caring for more information please visit their web site at

<http://www.volunteersolutions.org/uwberks/volunteer/>

Or phone the united way for more information at (610) 685 - 4571

VI. CITIZEN COMMENT

Citizens from Longswamp Township and the Brandywine Heights School District expressed frustration to the Commissioners regarding the Longswamp Township public officials and Township Solicitor regarding what they described as disrespectful and threatening treatment of the citizens of the communities that attend the meetings and have filed a zoning appeal from their recent zoning decision. Yvonne and Elaine Falcone and Winnfield Lease described recent comments heard at the Township meetings regarding the zoning appeal procedure currently under way. Commissioner Scott responded by stating that the county had heard similar threats and intimidation tactics from those same officials who threatened to sue the County for providing financial assistance to citizens in their efforts to repeal decisions that stand in the way of advancing the County's Comprehensive Plan goals of Ag. Land Preservation and Industrial Development. He stated further that if the interest of any other group of county citizens is synonymous with the interest of the county he would be in favor of financial or any other type of support the or any other version of assistance that could be offered.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L Styer, Chief Clerk