

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, April 26, 2005

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 26, 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 Chair Judith L. Schwank with Commissioner Thomas W. Gajewski in attendance. Commissioner Mark C. Scott was not present. Also present were County Administrator William E. Dennis, Solicitor Alan Miller, Esq. and Chief Clerk Terry Styer.

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

II. PRESENTATIONS/ PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES

- Commissioner Schwank, presented a proclamation to the Volunteers at Berks Heim, **Volunteers – Weaving Love & Care at Berks Heim**, recognizing the hard work and dedication of the Volunteers at Berks Heim during the week of April 24. Accepting the proclamation were Doris Evans, Director of Volunteer Services at the Heim along with Marietta Capece, Chair of the Volunteer Service Board and Denice Fulmer, a retired Wilson School District teacher and Volunteer at Berks Heim thanked the Commissioners for the acknowledgment. They announced that the Volunteer Board raised enough funds this year to purchase a Baby Grand Player Piano for the residents of the Heim to enjoy for many years to come.

For More Information about Volunteering at Berks Heim Please Contact: [Doris Evans, Director of Volunteers](#) or call 610-320-7424 or [apply on-line](#) to volunteer!

- Commissioner Schwank presented a Certificate of Recognition to Katheryn Underwood on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, for creating the **Stand Together and Raise Support (STARS)** program at Daniel Boone High School in support of our troops in Iraq. When Katheryn's sister Kara was deployed to serve in Iraq in September 2004, Katheryn developed this program in her school as a demonstration of support of our troops. She thanked the board for the certificate but quickly pointed to the overwhelming help and support received at her school. She said that a team of three hundred students and fifty teachers are working together to send hope (by way of letters, personal items and food that cannot be purchased in Iraq) to our troops. For more information, the STARS Organization web page can be found on the Daniel Boone Schools web site at http://www.dboone.k12.pa.us/HS_Student_Work/stars/index.htm

PRESENTATIONS continued:

- Lawrence E. Lloyd, Conservation Specialist, from the Berks County Conservancy presented an outline and requested support for the following:
 1. Overview of Berks County forest initiatives
 2. Highlands Conservation Act
 3. Oley Hills Project
 4. Request for letters of support for Oley Hills Project
 5. Request for serious consideration for Berks County matching funds for forest initiatives and for a Berks County Forest Easement Program

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Director:

- A. Adopt Resolution to approve 2004 Transfers totaling to \$46,277,933.00 per list dated April 22, 2005.

Human Resources Director:

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing the Human Resource recommendation as per list dated April 26, 2005.

Purchasing Department

Contract Coordinator

- A. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated April 25, 2005.

Solicitor:

- A. Resolution approving the project that created the need for the issuance of tax-exempt refunding bonds by the Delaware County Industrial Development Authority for the benefit of Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. Mike Setley Esq., Solicitor for the IDA attending the meeting to explain this transaction and asked for a vote approving **Resolution 135.05** at today's meeting. Commissioner Gajewski made the motion that was seconded and both voted yes to approve this resolution and related documents.

IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Schwank

- A. Consider 45-day extension to the City of Reading for offer to purchase Antietam Lake Property.

Commissioner Schwank continued:

- B. Adopt Resolution authorizing Judith L. Schwank, Chair, to execute Annual Supplemental Agreement No. 520651-F between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and the County of Berks for reimbursement up to \$329,606.00 for transportation planning activities to be performed by the Berks County Planning Commission staff in accordance with the FY 2005-2006 Unified Planning Work Program.
- C. Authorizing Judith L. Schwank, Chair of the Board, to execute The Emergency Food Assistance Program –TEFAP Inventory – Reimbursement Request Form for the Second Quarter (January, February, March), FFY 2004-2005, in the amount of \$8,487.67 for distributing 84,876.73 pounds of food and to authorize Margaret Bianca, Executive Director, Greater Berks Food Bank to apply for the funds on behalf of Berks County.

Commissioner Gajewski

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing the execution of MS-339, Application for County Aid, for allocation of County Liquid Fuels Tax Funds in the amount of \$132,019.00 to Union Township for replacement of the bridge on Hallman Road, Penn Dot project number #00-06240-02CA.
- B. Adopt a Resolution authorizing a contract with the Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Programs, Pennsylvania Department of Health for the provision of prevention services in Berks County for the period July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2010. George Vogel, Jr., Executive Director of Council on Chemical Abuse was in attendance to discuss the program.
- C. Adopt Resolution under the Federal CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Program declaring that the Penn Avenue Redevelopment Area will qualify as a slum, blighted, deteriorated or deteriorating area as defined by State law and therefore, declared a blighted area meeting the criteria for funding under the qualifications defined by the Pennsylvania Urban Redevelopment Law Act No. 385 of 1945, as amended.
- D. Adopt Resolution authorizing payment of invoices under the following Community Development Disbursement Vouchers:
 - 1. No. 2133-S–Emergency Shelter Program -\$14,500.00
 - 2. No. 2134–Community Development Block Grant Program \$33,995.72
 - 3. No. 1243-Property Rehabilitation Program- \$40,393.00
 - 4. No. 494-Home Grant Program - \$4,623.50

Commissioner Scott

In his absence the commissioner faxed a memo and requested the following statement read into the record by the Chief Clerk:

I will miss today's Commissioners' meeting in order that I may attend a file examination at DEP in Norristown. Specifically I am researching the status of a one million dollar fine imposed on the Pottstown Landfill which, if upheld, may result in a million dollar matching payment to Berks County due to a settlement provision I drafted for the County in 1998.

On the subject of Antietam Lake, I support an extension of time for the city to consider the County's purchase offer. However, I continue to urge my colleagues to consider condemnation as an alternative to the frustrating four-year process of attempting to convince the City to accept our very reasonable overtures to preserve Antietam for the benefit of all Berks Countians.

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing execution of Title IV-E Independent Living Program Certification of Executive Officers, for submission to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare-Independent Living Coordinator. Susan Kiscadden, Caseworker Supervisor from Children & Youth described this important program that currently serves the needs of 95 clients. Commissioner Gajewski commended Susan as the program helps to provide a stable environment for our youth in need and therefore serves as an investment into the future.
- B. Adopt Contract Amendments between the County of Berks and Community Care Behavioral Health Organization. Edward B. Michalik, MH/MR Administrator was present to discuss the purpose of this contract amendment.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:35 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L Styer, Chief Clerk