

Commissioners' Board Meeting
Thursday, June 23, 2005

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, June 23, 2005 at 7:00 P.M. in the Colebrookdale Township Municipal Office, pursuant to due notice to Board members and the public.

Commissioner Chair Judith L. Schwank called the meeting to order with Commissioner Thomas Gajewski and Commissioner Mark L. Scott in attendance. Also present were the Chief Clerk Terry L. Styer, Assistant Solicitor Heidi Masano, Esq., and County Administrator William E. Dennis. Attending the meeting from Colebrookdale Township Board of Commissioners included Board President Todd Gamler, Vice President Thomas Herb, Jr., Commissioner Troy Hartman, Commissioner Samuel Schonely, Commissioner William Spade, Township Secretary Jacqueline LaBudie, Treasurer: Joan L. Herb and Township Manager, Cynthia B. Clemmer. Also present was their Police Chief Barry Leatherman. The County Commissioners thanked the Township Commissioners for their hospitality and especially the Township Manger, Cynthia Clemmer, for making the arrangements for our attendance in the Colebrookdale Township meeting room. Commissioner Schwank then opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A motion was made by Commissioner Scott seconded by Commissioner Schwank to approve the June 14, 2005 Workshop Meeting minutes and the minutes of the June 16, 2005 Commissioner's Meeting. Commissioner Gajewski did not vote as he was not in attendance at those two meetings. The motion carried.

Presentation

Scott Wails GIS Analyst, Berks County Planning Commission, presented an update of the [Boyertown Borough, Colebrookdale Township and Pike Township Joint Comprehensive Plan](#). Mr. Wails said the three involved municipalities have now adopted the regional plan. The Commissioners commended the municipal officials for this accomplishment and discussed the many benefits for regional planning efforts in addition to the comprehensive planning such as regional policing. Commissioner Scott reflected on the benefits that could be gained such as the MPC (Municipality Planning Code) requirement to provide for all types of land use in each community. He explained that by adopting regional comprehensive plans and regional zoning ordinances the MPC will allow the whole region to share this land use responsibility.

Next, Mr. Wails presented the [Berks County Greenway, Park and Recreation Plan](#). He discussed the results of the citizen needs survey as well as the preliminary results of the municipal survey for parks and open space needs. Commissioner Scott expressed his desire to see more open space acquisition by the County in the eastern Berks County area especially along Rt. 100. He reminded everyone that open space preservation is a key factor to attracting economic growth to an area. He said that it is also a successful method to controlling growth impacts to the area schools thereby keeping school district taxes down. He encouraged the municipal officials to "champion your own interests and get your fair share of county funds."

Consent Agenda Items

1. A motion made by Commissioner Gajewski, seconded by Commissioner Scott and all voted yes to approve the following consent agenda
 - 216.05 A. Resolution authorizing 2005 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$12,150.00 per listing dated June 17, 2005.
 - 217.05 B. Resolution authorizing the execution of the Human Services Development Fund (HSDF) Assurance of Compliance Certificate and approving the allocation of the HSDF program funds for the fiscal year 2005/2006.
 - 218.05 C. Resolution authorizing Judith Schwank, as Chairman of the Board, to execute a grant application and agreement by and between the County of Berks (Emergency Management) and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) for the Hazardous Material Response Fund Grant covering the period July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006 in the amount of \$170,600.
 - 219.05 D. Resolution authorizing the execution of the County of Berks Hazardous Material Emergency Response Preparedness Assessment Update for 2004.
 - 220.05 E. Resolution approving the submission of an application to the PA Fish and Boat Commission for a Tulpehocken & Quittapahilla Creek Watershed Enhancement Grant for 50% cost of improvements at the Stonecliffe Recreation Area. Total project cost is estimated at \$21,692 (50% County match funds will originate from CDBG funds)
 - 221.05 F. Resolution authorizing the Facilities Department to raze the County owned house and garage at the intersection of County Road and Hilltop Road.
 - 222.05 G. Resolution to appoint Brian G. Wlazelek to a three-year term ending 12/31/06 on the MH/MR Advisory Board.
 - 223.05 H. Resolution authorizing execution of Application for County Aid MS-339 (Liquid Fuels) in the allocated amount not to exceed \$150,000 to for Washington Township to replace the bridge on Heydts Schoolhouse Road.
 - 224.05 I. Resolution authorizing payment of invoices under the following Community Development Disbursement Vouchers:
 1. No. 1251-Property Rehabilitation Program-\$7,808.00
 2. No. 501-Home Grant Program-\$3,691.00
 3. No. 2143-Community Development Block Grant Program-\$13,600.25

- 225.05 J. Resolution authorizing Aging Block Grant revision for 2004-2005 and the 2005-2006 Block Grant application.
- 226.05 K. Resolution authorizing the Human Resource recommendations as per list dated June 23, 2005.

Reports

County Treasurer – County Administrator Dennis read Treasurer Nelson Long's weekly report

County Controller – Sandy Graffius read the weekly Controller's report.

Citizen Comment/Business From The Floor

Todd Gamler and other Colebrookdale Township Commissioners discussed a bridge project which is planned to replace a bridge on Township Line Road (now closed to traffic.) Mr. Gamler explained that due to some new software and bridge design requirements by Penn Dot, the costs to replace this small bridge have risen dramatically. Following a long discussion, the township was encouraged to contact both Alan Piper, Berks County Transportation Planner for information and requirements of the State 12 year plan and Bill Westcott, County Engineer for details on applying for County Aid Funds (Liquid Fuels dollars.)

Marge Yanalavage asked the board when the County would approve the rate for pay for election poll workers. She was informed that the County Election Board passed a Resolution this year to allow for an increase in 2006 (which the first year that the increase is permitted by state law for Counties to implement)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk