

Commissioners' Board Meeting
Thursday, September 29, 2005

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, September 29, 2005 at 7:00 P.M. in the Caernarvon 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 Scott in attendance. Also present were the Chief Clerk Terry L. Styer, Solicitor Alan Miller, Esq., County Administrator William E. Dennis and Controller Sandy Graffius. Attending the meeting from Caernarvon Township was their Board Chairman, Lewis Gable and the Township Secretary, John Burdy. The County Commissioners thanked the Township Officials for hosting this evening meeting and opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 20, 2005 Workshop Meeting and September 22, 2005 Commissioner's Meeting were approved with a motion made by Commissioner Gajewski, seconded by Commissioner Schwank and the motion carried. Commissioner Scott did not vote on the minutes, as he was not present for both meetings.

Consent Agenda Items

A motion was made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Gajewski to approve all consent agenda items with the exception of Resolution 330.05 on which Commissioner Scott asked to have a no voted registered for him. Noting that exception to the consent agenda, the approval was unanimous.

2. Authorizing:
 - 325.05 A. Resolution authorizing 2005 Budget Transfers in the total amount of \$7,500.00 and appropriations in the total amount of \$22,456.00 per list dated September 23, 2005.
 - 326.05 B. Resolution authorizing the Human Resource recommendation as per list dated September 27, 2005.
 - 327.05 C. Resolution authorizing a grant application to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for \$2 million (\$1.5 for acquisition and \$500,000 for repairs) for the purchase of the Antietam Dam property.
 - 328.05 D. Resolution authorizing execution of a grant application by and between the County of Berks (District Attorney) and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) for 100% State funding in the amount of \$15,370 for the Berks County Forensic Services Improvement Project.

- 329.05 E. Resolution appointing Pat Adamczyk, Operations Manager of Career Link representing the Department of Labor and Industry to a three-year term serving till 6/30/08 on the Berks County Workforce Investment Board.
- 330.05 F. Resolution appointing Ruth Dierolf of Boyertown PA filling a vacated four-year term to 3/20/06 on the Berks County Parks and Recreation Board.
- 331.05 G. Resolution re-appointing James Coker to an additional three-year term to 12/31/08 on the Agricultural Land Preservation Board.
- 332.05 H. Resolution appointing Robin Koch of Sinking Spring PA to the Berks County Planning Commission filling the unexpired term of 12/31/08 vacated by Ronald Ewing who recently resigned from the board.
- 333.05 I. Resolution approving the reorganization of the present "Berks County Communications Advisory Committee" to the "Berks County 9-1-1 Center Advisory Board, effective 1/1/2006
- 334.05 J. Resolution authorizing payment of invoices under the following Community Development Disbursement Vouchers:
1. No. 1262-Property Rehabilitation Program-\$5,263.83
 2. No. 2161- Community Development Block Grant Program- \$382,922.07
- 335.05 K. Resolution approving the Berks County Workforce Investment Board's recommendation to award a contract to operate an In-School training program to eligible WIA youth in partnership with the PA CareerLink~Berks County to Arbor E & T, LLC. The amount of the proposed contract budget is \$417,282.
- 336.05 L. Resolution authorizing Commissioner Schwank, as Chairman of the Board, to execute Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Labor and Industry, Grant Recipients Release, Assignment and Close-Out forms pursuant to the terms of Contract No. 015033361 providing services to TANF eligible youth, Contract No. 15034133 providing funding to train incumbent workers at Sovereign Bank and contract 015036131 for funding to provide entrepreneurial training totaling \$565,500.
- 337.05 M. Resolution appointing Robert Ludgate Sr. of Reading, PA to the Berks County Ag Land Preservation Board for a three-year term ending 12/31/07.

- 338.05 N. Resolution appointing Frederick Stubbs of Reading, PA to the Berks County Council on Chemical Abuse for a three-year term to 2/1/08.
2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated September 26, 2005.

Reports

1. County Treasurer Nelson Long, CPA prepared his weekly Treasurer's report that was presented by Administrator Dennis.
2. County Controller, Sandy Graffius, presented her weekly Controllers' report

Miscellaneous Business:

John Ravert, Manager of Berks County Conservation District discussed the many services provided by the Conservation District. He presented an update on the Erosion and Sedimentation Control regulations, the Conestoga Landfill Expansion project as well as the West Nile Virus program in which he said that there have been no reported positive readings in Berks County in 2005 thus far.

Michelle Kirchner, assistant to Commissioner Scott informed the public that Berks County is now ranked 4th in the nation for County Agricultural Land Preservation Programs by the Farmland Preservation Report.

Commissioner Scott then expressed his disappointment over a recent decision by the Exeter Township Board of Supervisors when they approved a zoning amending to allow schools to locate in the Agriculture Preservation Zone of the Township. He stated that this new provision is inconsistent with the County's Comprehensive Plan 20/20 and suggested that the Commissioners should consider some type of sanctions or refusal for funding of programs when municipal land use changes conflict with the County Comprehensive plan.

Commissioner Scott then spoke at length about the history of the court battles and the ultimate formation of New Morgan Borough, the establishment of the Conestoga Landfill and how it has affected Caernarvon Township. He also discussed the proposed 11,000 unit housing development by Arcadia Developers planned for the Borough and the impact this could have on the Caernarvon School districts and possible increase in Real Estate Taxes and traffic congestion in Caernarvon Township and the surrounding area. He also discussed the merits of regional zoning and the Environmental Defense Fund established by the county to aid municipalities in land use issues that may pose a negative impact on the environment.

Commissioner Gajewski updated everyone on the HB1248 which proposes to amend legislation to allow for County Real Estate Tax Reform.

Public Comment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk