

**Commissioners' Workshop Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 18, 2005**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, October 18, 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 called the meeting to order with Commissioner Thomas Gajewski and Commissioner Mark L. Scott in attendance. Also present were County Administrator William E. Dennis, County Solicitor Alan Miller, Esq., and Chief Clerk Terry Styer. The Commissioner opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**II. PRESENTATIONS:**

Roger Luckenbill, Director Berks County Adult Probation, presented a check for \$250,000 reimbursing the county general fund for Adult Probation Supervision fees collected from clients under PA Act.35.

Barbara Coffin, Executive Director of Aging and Cynthia Brink, Administrative Assistant in the office of Aging presented information on Energy Assistance for Senior Citizens.

**III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:**

**Budget Director:**

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2005 Budget Transfers in the total amount of \$155,478.00 per list dated October 14, 2005. Kim Grinage, Deputy Budget Director presented the budget report.

**Human Resources Director:**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing the Human Resource recommendation as per list dated October 18, 2005.

**Purchasing Department**

**Contract Coordinator:**

- A. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated October 14, 2005. Jennifer Biehn, Deputy Human Services Director presented the HR recommendation list.

**Solicitor:**

- A. Resolution authorizing execution of the Lease Agreement between Robert J. Marrella and John M. Reshetar and the County of Berks for office space for Magisterial District Court 23-2-01, 441 Morgantown Road, Reading, for a five (5) year term commencing January 1, 2006 and ending December 31, 2010.

**IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS:**

**Commissioner Schwank**

**Commissioner Gajewski**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing payment of invoices under the following Community Development Disbursement Vouchers:
1. No. 513-Home Grant Program-\$7,879.00
  2. No. 2165- Community Development Block Grant Program-\$217,934.23
  3. No. 2166-S-Emergency Shelter Program-\$3,054.00
- B. Adopt Resolution appointing Nicholas Lopata to fill the unexpired term ending 06/11/2007 of Thomas J. Gombar for Berks County Environmental Advisory Council.
- C. Commissioner Gajewski read a prepared statement regarding the majority decision of the board to place future Certificate and Proclamations at the end of the agenda

**Commissioner Scott**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing the execution of Amendment #3 between the Department of Public Welfare and the County of Berks as it pertains to the Health Choices Program.

**V. PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES:**

- Commissioner Schwank will present a Proclamation for the Sesquicentennial celebration of Albright College to be held October 21st.
- Commissioner Gajewski will present a Certificate of Recognition to the Executive Director of the Berks Aids Network at their October 20th meeting.

**VI. MISCELLANEOUS BUISNESS**

Commissioner Schwank responded to Commissioner Gajewski's remarks on the subject of Proclamations. She expressed her desire to allow for time at the end of the meeting to recognize worthy organizations but wished to see that staff was able to conduct their business and return to their jobs in a timely manner. Commissioner Scott indicated that he concurred with Commissioner Schwank's position and stated further that the number of proclamations has grown. He felt that the county needs to scale back the number given at each meeting and conduct business first. He felt that the desire of the citizens and taxpayers to see more business being conducted and less ceremony.

***VII. CITIZEN COMMENT/BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR***

"Big John" Ulrich requested an update on Buttonwood bridge resurfacing project and requested information on the responsible party for the street lighting on highways such as #Rte 422 and Rte. #12. County Engineer Bill Westcott indicated that the county may be responsible for some of the roadways mentioned. Commissioner Gajewski reported that contractor; E.J. Breneman is responsible for the delay in the resurfacing project on the bridge.

John Morgan requested information on the budget impacts that the current rise in the price fuel has created. He was informed that all aspects of heating, fuel for vehicles and the IRS mileage allowance has increased the County's expenses. Commissioner Gajewski indicated that the county will be looking at a contract to help evaluate and possibly improve the County's energy usage.

Commissioner Scott then presented a draft proposal to contract with professional Auditors to perform an evaluation the host fee payments paid to the county of Berks from Browning Ferris, Inc. from 2003 to 2005 as per the terms of an agreement dated October 12, 1989.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:12 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk