

**Commissioners' Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 3, 2005**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, November 3, 2005 at 7:00 P.M. in the Robeson Borough 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, Solicitor Alan Miller, Esq., and County Administrator William E. Dennis. Attending the meeting from Robeson Borough Council were : Randy Gartner, Council President, Barbara Breininger, Joyce Phillips and David Rohrbach, Robeson Council Members and Frank Schnee, Mayor.

The County Commissioners thanked the Township Commissioners for their hospitality in providing refreshments and making the arrangements for our attendance at the Borough Office. Commissioner Schwank then opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gajewski seconded by Commissioner Scott to approve the October 25, 2005 Workshop Meeting minutes and the minutes of the October 13<sup>th</sup> and October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005 Commissioner's Meeting and all voted yes to approve.

**Consent Agenda Items**

1. A motion made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Gajewski and all voted yes to approve the following consent agenda:
  - 372.05 A. Resolution authorizing 2005 Budget Transfers in the total amount of \$12,339.00 and Budget Appropriations in the total amount of \$253,500.00 per list dated October 28, 2005.
  - 373.05 B. Resolution authorizing Judith L. Schwank, Chair of the Board, to execute The Emergency Food Assistance Program –TEFAP (Inventory – Reimbursement Request Form for the Fourth Quarter FFY 2004-2005, in the amount of \$12,350.73 for distributing 123,507.30 pounds of food at \$.10 per pound and to authorize Margaret Bianca, Executive Director, Greater Berks Food Bank for apply for the funds on behalf of Berks County.
  - 374.05 C. Resolution authorizing the execution of the Medical Assistance Transportation Program Grant Allocation Agreement/Expenditure Plan by and between the County of Berks and the Department of Public Welfare in the adjusted amount of \$1,052,591.00.
  - 375.05 D. Resolution authorizing payment of invoice under the following Community Development Disbursement Voucher:
    - 1.No. 2169- Community Development Block Grant Program- \$61,535.84

- 376.05 E. Resolution authorizing Commissioner Schwank, as Chair 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. 01504101 for funding to cover the Department of Public Welfare's share of costs for operating the Career-Link totaling \$31,835.00.
- 377.05 F. Resolution authorizing Commissioner Schwank to execute the Action Plan for FFY2006 for the Berks County's HUD funded Community Development Program Grants.
- 378.05 G. Resolution reappointing Joseph M. Eways II, to the Berks County Industrial Development Authority for a five-year term to 12/31/2010.
- 379.05 H. Resolution authorizing appointment of John A. Goldstan, Esquire, as special counsel to the Berks County Office of Aging, and further authorize the County Solicitor to petition the Berks County Court of Common Pleas to approve the appointment.
- 380.05 I. Resolution authorizing execution of the Lease Amendment between the County of Berks and the Farm Service Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture, for office space located in the Berks County Agricultural Center for a one-year term beginning January 1, 2006 and ending December 31, 2006. There was a brief discussion regarding the need to investigate security issues at the Ag. Center.
- 381.05 J. Resolution authorizing the Human Resource recommendation as per list dated November 3, 2005
2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated October 28, 2005.

### **Reports**

1. County Treasurer – Nelson Long, CPA presented his weekly report.
2. County Controller – Sandy Graffius presented her weekly Controller's report and provided the board with an update on the PRG accounts payable analysis that has now concluded; a recent cost containment committees approval for laminate (safety glass) window installation in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor Courthouse and the status of the Landfill host fee audit.

Commissioner Schwank reported on a recent State Energy Summit she attended representing CCAP (County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania.) She indicated that increased fuel prices not only affect the state, county and municipal budgets, but those on fixed income such as the elderly may need assistance getting through this winter. She indicated that along with information from the Office of Aging other services and contact lists are available. \*note [The county web site](#) at a link called "energy conservation" will provide helpful links for the 2005 – 2006 winter months.

Commissioner Gajewski provided an update on an energy study for the County Courthouse and Services Center and on the NACO discount prescription card program.

**Citizen Comment/Business From The Floor**

Randy Gartner asked if the County was required to provide the Polling Place locations listing in both English and Spanish. He was told that it is a requirement.

Commissioner Scott discussed the cost of county government and the impact the union contracts have had over the years on that cost. He indicated that 90% of all County Employees belong to a union whose contracts continue to be the driving factor in wage compression issues between rank and file and management.

Mayor Schnee asked about the status of the Reading Airport. In response the board discussed several other airport related economic development proposals currently planned for the area around the airport adjacent to Rt. #183.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk