

**Commissioners' Workshop Meeting  
Tuesday, May 16, 2006**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 16, 2006 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 C. Scott in attendance. Also present were County Administrator, William E. Dennis, Solicitor, Alan Miller Esq., and Chief Clerk Terry Styer.

**II. STAFF RECOGNITION:**

**CCAP Insurance Program -PELICAN Loss Control Award for 2006** was recently awarded to the Berks Heim Safety Committee - Ed Ratajczak, Director of Safety Security and Services and Jerry Fudeman, Administrator of Berks Heim were present to discuss.

**III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:**

**Budget Department:**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing in 2005 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$114,374,002.00 and 2005 Appropriations in the amount \$4,244,291.00 and 2006 Appropriations in the amount \$20,184.00 per attached listing dated May 5, 2006. Robert Patrizio, Director of Budget & Finance presented budget report.

**Council on Chemical Abuse:**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing execution of Amendment # 2 to a grant agreement, between the Berks SCA (Single County Authority) and the Department of Health, Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Programs (BDAP) requesting a reduction of 2006 federal funds in the Substance Abuse and Treatment (SAPT) of \$27,840 to be bringing a new total of the HIV Early Intervention Program to \$1,291,705 for the period July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006 thereby reducing the entire 5 year funding grant agreement (2005 – 2010) to \$16,703,070. George Vogel, Executive Director of Council on Chemical Abuse was present to discuss.

**Contract Submissions:**

- A. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per attached listing dated May 15, 2006. Candace Noll presented the list of contracts and amendments.

**Mental Health / Mental Retardation:**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing the execution of the Fiscal year 2006/2007 Administrative Entity Operating Agreement between the Berks County MH/MR Program and the Office of Mental Retardation for administration of the Consolidated and Person/Family Directed Support Waivers. Dr. Edward Michalik, MH/MR Administrator III was present to discuss this agreement

**Solicitor:**

- A. Resolution authorizing execution of the Addendum to Lease Agreement between Susan L. Scholl and the County of Berks for office space situate at 26 Scholl Drive, Oley, Pennsylvania for Magisterial District Court 23-3-03, for a one year period ending May 31, 2007. Solicitor, Alan Miller Esq., presented the lease for approval.

**Berks County Solid Waste Authority:**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing the execution of a Planning Grant to the PA DEP on behalf of the Berks County Solid Waste Authority for partial reimbursement of costs associated with the update of the Berks County Solid Waste Management Plan Revision. Jane Meeks, Executive Director of the Berks County Solid Waste Authority was present to request approval of this application.

**IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS:**

- A. Shannon Rossman, Planner from Berks County Planning Commission and Open Space and Recreation Advisory Committee requested the board to provide some additional comments regarding the draft application format for this "Open Space and Recreation Landfill Grant" associated with the \$100,000 per year settlement from the Conestoga Landfill. The board agreed that funds should be provided only to the municipalities that are directly impacted by the landfill and that they will not be required to provide a local municipal match. The resolution was postponed to the May 23 meeting to allow additional time to provide comments to Shannon on the specific requirements for this new grant program.

**Commissioner Gajewski**

- A. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the conveyance of the Garden of Memories Cemetery plots to certified veterans living in Berks County and their current spouses, if applicable, subject to the terms contained in the attachments to this resolution. Commissioner Gajewski presented the draft letter to inform County Veterans of this opportunity and he thanked Controller Graffius and First Assistant Christine Sadler, Esq. for their assistance.

**Commissioner Gajewski continued:**

Commissioner Schwank and Scott made a few suggestions for changes in the draft letter. In particular Commissioner Schwank felt it was important to provide a disclaimer of sorts to the letter making sure that all veterans taking advantage of these free plots were completely informed of the other associated costs with this particular cemetery and informing them that even with the free burial plot, the overall cost of burial and maintenance fees could end up costing the family more than with other cemeteries.

**V. PROCLAMATIONS / CERTIFICATES**

- Commissioner Gajewski presented Proclamations for Police Week to Officer Joseph M. Brown of the W. Reading Police Dept., Vice President of FOP Lodge 71, Chief Lawrence Mauger, Colebrookdale Police Dept., President of the Berks County Police Chiefs, Chief William Heim, Reading Chief of Police and Captain Huascar Rivera of the Pennsylvania State Police who thanked the Commissioners for the recognition.

**VI. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:**

- Commissioner Scott read a letter from the New Morgan Landfill Company Inc. (owners of the Conestoga Landfill) that expressed objection to comments submitted to the PADEP (PA Department of Environmental Protection) by Tetrahedron Consultants on behalf of the County of Berks. The letter suggests a violation of an existing settlement agreement between the County and Conestoga Landfill.
- Commissioner Gajewski reminded everyone of the Crime Forums Task Force meeting scheduled on September 21, 2006 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Wilson High School.
- Commissioner Gajewski read a letter from PA Senator Michael O'Pake to the PHMC (PA Historical Museum Commission) and an e-mail from the PHMC two letters regarding a grant program available for the rehabilitation of the Gruber Wagon Works.
- Commissioner Gajewski also read a letter from U.S. Senator Rick Santorum regarding the Schuylkill Valley Metro project.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

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Terry L Styer, Chief Clerk