

## **Commissioners' Workshop Meeting Tuesday, January 2, 2007**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 2, 2007 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 W. Gajewski, Sr., and Commissioner Mark C. Scott in attendance. Also present were County Administrator, William E. Dennis, Solicitor Alan Miller Esq., and Chief Clerk Terry Styer.

Commissioner Schwank opened the meeting by asking everyone to join in a moment of silence in recognition of the death and funeral of President Gerald R. Ford, our 38<sup>th</sup> President. She then led the room in a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Commissioner Scott proposed that the board consider a discussion on a possible reorganization of the Board of Commissioners for the Thursday Commissioners' meeting agenda.

### **II. PRESENTATION**

Carey Kaucher, Special Events Coordinator, recapped the expanded New Year's Eve Celebration, noting that over 3,500 people from all parts of the county and beyond attended. He thanked the board for the financial support and hopes to expand 2007's celebration.

### **IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:**

#### **Budget Department:**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing 2006 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$438,600, and 2006 Appropriations in the amount of \$456,083. Bob Patrizio, Budget Director, presented the report.
- B. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per attached listing dated December 28, 2006. Candy Noll, Contract Coordinator presented the list of contracts.

#### **Human Resource Director:**

- A. Human Resource Recommendations per list dated January 2, 2007 was discussed by Beth Schiepan, HR Director.

- B. Adopt Resolution authorizing the execution of the final draft of an HR Policy proposed to address the use of Interns that was submitted for review December 4, 2006.

**Solicitor**

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing tax forgiveness including any interest and penalty for all outstanding County taxes for the year 2006 in the amount of \$22.19 to the Berks County Conservancy for property situate on approximately .020 acre lot at 133 Schuylkill Avenue, in the City of Reading (Property ID# 06-5307-73-51-5401).
- B. Adopt Resolution authorizing tax forgiveness including any interest and penalty for all outstanding County taxes for the years 2006 in the amount of \$13.87 to the Berks County Conservancy for property situate .10 acres adjoining other Conservancy property in the City of Reading on Neversink Mountain (Property ID # 16-5316-39-36-3911).
- C. Adopt Resolution authorizing tax forgiveness including any interest and penalty for all outstanding County taxes for the year 2006 in the amount of \$59.64 to the Berks County Conservancy for 16.420 acre tract of land situate in Lower Heidelberg Township (Property ID # 49-4368-04-60-2221).
- D. Adopt Resolution authorizing tax forgiveness including any interest and penalty for all outstanding County taxes for the year 2006 in the amount of \$43.00 to the Berks County Conservancy for .31 acre adjoining other Conservancy property in the City of Reading on Neversink Mountain (Property ID #16-5316-39-37-4041).
- E. Adopt Resolution authorizing tax forgiveness including any interest and penalty for all outstanding County taxes for the year 2006 to New First Baptist Church of Birdsboro for property situate at 200 N. Mill Street, Birdsboro (Property ID # 31-5344-09-25-0365) and 216 N. Mill Street, Birdsboro (Property ID # 31-5344-09-25-0463).

**IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS:**

- A. Adopt Resolution appointing Noel Karasin of Birdsboro, PA to the Open Space and Recreation Advisory Council for a four year term to 8/31/2010.

**Commissioner Schwank**

- A. Adopt Resolution appointing Judith L. Schwank to the Mental Health/Mental Retardation Advisory Board for a three year term to 12/31/2009. She replaces Mark C. Scott as the Commissioner Chair on the Board.

- B. Commissioner Schwank noted that President Ford's children were personally greeting visitors to the Rotunda paying respects to their father. She noted that this shows the type of man and father that he was.

**Commissioner Gajewski**

- A. Commissioner Gajewski offered remembrances of President Ford, noting that he was a stabilizing, peaceful influence on our government during a turbulent time.
- B. Commissioner Gajewski also noted that there will be three sessions to announce the County's NACo Prescription Card on Monday, January 8, 2007. The meetings will be held at St. Paul's UCC, Amityville at 9AM, Grace Lutheran Church, Lancaster Avenue at 11 AM, and at the Senior Citizen Council West, Wernersville, at 2:30 PM. A representative from NACo will be attending the meetings to detail the program.

**Commissioner Scott**

- A. Commissioner Scott also noted the passing of President Ford; that he will be sorely missed and that he was a "decent guy" and made right decisions that were often to his political detriment.

**IV. PROCLAMATIONS/CERTIFICATES**

Commissioner Gajewski presented a Certificate of Recognition to Steven T. Moyer of Moyer Plumbing and Heating in Kutztown, PA for his work in the biofuel field. Mr. Moyer explained that his company has succeeded in producing a what he described as a new "green" fuel trademarked as "Purofuel" and described it as a clean burning fuel source capable of being used in home and business heating systems with no structural hearing system alterations required and he noted that they are the first in Pennsylvania to market this type of fuel.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Terry L Styer, Chief Clerk