

**Commissioners' Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, October 9, 2007**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, October 9, 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 with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

II. CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Commissioner Gajewski presented a Proclamation for Fire Prevention Week to Todd Jaeger, City of Reading Fire Marshall.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Administrator:

- A. Weekly Report – County Administrator Bill Dennis (attached)

Budget Department:

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2007 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$12,000 and 2007 Budget Appropriations in the amount of \$724,900 per listing dated October 5, 2007. Bob Patrizio, Budget Director, presented the report.
- B. Motion authorizing Judith L. Schwank, as Chairman of the Board, to execute Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per attached listing dated October 5, 2007. Candy Noll, Contract Coordinator presented the list of contracts.

Human Resource Director:

- A. Human Resource Recommendations per list dated October 9, 2007.

Solicitor:

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing a matching payment from the County's Environmental Defense Fund to Richmond Township for attorney fees, expert witness fees and expenses in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 to assist the Township in the current Zoning Appeal concerning Lehigh Cement Richmond Quarry #5. Charles A. Bortz, environmental coordinator for Lehigh Quarry objected to this action and offered the Quarry's cooperation to address the concerns of the Commissioners. Commissioner Schwank responded by saying that the County sponsored hydro-geological study has indicated the expansion of this 8 acre quarry to a 200 acre operation could have serious quality of life impacts on the neighborhood and the ground water supply. Commissioner Gajewski also spoke of the concern potential for sink holes and the impact the pumping of the projected millions of gallons of water will have on existing wells in the area but ultimately it's a zoning issue. Commissioner Scott said that the County takes no joy in this kind of action that may affect jobs; however zoning laws that were created and enacted by a municipality to among other things, protect the environment. So the citizens of that municipality should expect them to be upheld for all citizens including large job creating corporations.

IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS:

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing Judith L. Schwank, Chair of the Berks County Board of Commissioners to sign the following Grant Recipient's Release, Assignment of Refunds, Rebates and Credits, Closeout Tax Certification" for the following WIA Grants for Berks County Employment and Training Office:
- 015044051- WIA Rapid Response funds to assist individuals affected by plant closings or downsizing
015056519- Incumbent Worker grant to train individuals for occupations in the medical field
015062101- To cover DPW's contribution to the CareerLink
015066519- Incumbent Worker grant to train individuals for occupations in the medical field.
015064131- WIA funds used to pay for renovations at the CareerLink
015063001- WIA Adult funds to pay for training and employment services to economically disadvantaged adults
015056131- State grant for entrepreneurial training.
015056233- Industry Partnership to address skill needs in the building trades.
015056239- Industry Partnership to address skill needs in the medical field
015056033- State Activity funds to provide upgrade training.
015053134- PA Career Education Partnership Program- to provide labor market info to school districts.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:12 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L Styer, Chief Clerk