

**Commissioners' Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, January 29, 2008**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 29, 2008, 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 Mark C. Scott called the meeting to order with Commissioner Christian Leinbach, and Commissioner Kevin Barnhardt in attendance. Also present were County Administrator, William E. Dennis, Solicitor Alan Miller Esq., and Chief Clerk Terry Styer.

Commissioner Scott opened the meeting with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

II. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Department:

- A. Adopt Resolution authorizing 2007 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$64,353 and 2007 Appropriations in the amount \$5,450 per listing dated January 25, 2008. Bob Patrizio, Budget Director, presented the report.
- B. Motion authorizing Mark C. Scott, Esq. as Chairman of the Board, to execute Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator Candace Noll, per attached listing dated January 28, 2008.

Human Resource Director:

- A. Beth Schiepan, Human Resource Director, presented the January 29, 2008 list of Human Resource recommendations.

Solicitor

- A. Resolution authorizing execution of Addendum A-4 to Blanket Consulting Agreement No. CA-3033-07 between the County of Berks and Keystone E-Sciences Group, Inc. for the review of Exide Corporation environmental permits in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.

III. REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

- A. Craig Breneiser, Director of 9-1-1 Communications, and Dr. Kenneth A. Ballard, Vice President - Technology Manager of CTA Communications presented the results of the Berks County Public Safety Communication Assessment & Strategic Interoperability Plan, which encompasses several different options available to the commissioners for the improvement of the existing and outdated County Wide Radio System estimated to be in the range of \$44 to \$52 million.
- B. Mr. Dennis reported that he has been negotiating with Security Guards Inc. (SGI) regarding their annual contract renewal. He said that adjustments have been made to staffing at the Ag Center and the Reading Museum and that the final Security Agreement, will be presented to the Commissioners for approval in the near future.

IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS:**Commissioner Leinbach**

- A. Commissioner Leinbach introduced Reverend Calvin Kurtz, Executive Director of the Reading Berks Conference of Churches, who along with Ken Borkey, Executive Director of the Berks County Youth Center, discussed a need for a Chaplaincy program at the Berks County Youth Detention Center. Rev. Kurtz suggested that since the Reading Berks Conference of Churches has programs in place at the Prison and Berks Heim, that perhaps the same could be considered for the Youth Center. He said that he sees this program as a way to help to connect the youth and their families with programs that are already available in their communities. He also noted that there are more youth programs happening at this time in the county than have ever been in the past.
- B. Adopt a resolution re-appointing Charles S. Mowbray, Wyomissing, PA to the Berks County Solid Waste Authority for a four year term ending 12/31/2011.
- C. Commissioner Leinbach noted that he has received correspondence from several veterans' organizations with questions on transportation. He wanted to let any veterans in the viewing audience know that he has been in contact with Berks VA Director Janice Kinginger and that it is being looked into.

Commissioner Barnhardt

- A. Adopt a resolution re-appointing James Gilmartin, Hamburg, PA, to the Berks County Office of Aging Advisory Council for a two year term ending 12/31/2009.
- B. Adopt a resolution re-appointing Joan M. Kohl, Reading, PA, to the Berks County Office of Aging Advisory Council for a two year term ending 12/31/2009.
- C. Adopt a resolution appointing Mark Pinkasavage, Temple, PA, to the Berks County Housing Authority for the balance of the five year term left vacant by Ms. Jean Schwenger, who resigned. Mr. Pinkasavage's term will end 12/20/2010.
- D. Adopt a resolution appointing Leslie Rebman, Douglassville, PA, to the Berks County Environmental Advisory Council for a two year term, ending 06/11/2009. This appointment has been vacant since 03/07/2007, when Ms. Kathleen Shellington resigned.

Commissioner Scott

- A. Adopt a resolution appointing Robert C. Bagenstose, Reading, PA to the Berks County Office of Council on Chemical Abuse to complete the term of Joseph "Bud" Haines who resigned January 14, 2008. The three (3) year term will end on 2/1/2010.
- B. Commissioner Scott reported on an email he received from Gavin Biebuyck of Liberty Environmental Consultants, regarding Cabot Supermetals facility and his concerns with the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) intent to issue a Plant-wide Applicability Limit "PAL" permit. Mr. Biebuyck noted that the permit will allow twice the previously approved amounts of certain Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). Commissioner Scott suggested that his colleagues review the information in preparation for amending the existing consulting contract with Liberty Environmental.

V. CITIZEN COMMENT/BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. John Zerr of Geigertown returned to this week's meeting reiterating his dispute with the County Mapping Department. Bill Kochan, Director of Mapping, attended the meeting to explain that the County's tax mapping responsibility has no direct impact on Mr. Zerr's dispute over property boundaries and that he really should take his dispute over property boundaries to the Court of Common Pleas. Mr Kochan's position was also supported by the Commissioners and Commissioner Scott explained to Mr. Zerr that while the board was sympathetic to his issue, the Board of Commissioners cannot serve as a fact finding body, nor are they in a position to provide him with legal relief, he needs to seek legal counsel to present this issue before the Court of Common Pleas.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L Styer, Chief Clerk