

**Commissioners' Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, December 2, 2008**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, December 2, 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 noted that the board held an executive session to discuss personnel matters on Monday, December 1, 2008.

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

III. PRESENTATION

Peter Edelman, Esq. presented two financing projects for the Reading Hospital as well as The Highlands at Wyomissing explaining that they each represent debt restructuring projects for the two facilities. Commissioner Scott explained that these projects receive the approval of the Commissioners but do not in any way pledge or obligate the credit or taxing power of the County, nor will the County be liable for the payment of the principal of, premium, if any, or interest on the Bonds to be issued by the Berks Municipal Authority to finance the Project. A motion was then made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach and all voted yes to approve the following two resolutions.

316.08 A.. Resolution authorizing the financing by the Berks County Municipal Authority of a project for the benefit of the Highlands at Wyomissing and the refunding of certain outstanding debt of the Highlands at Wyomissing.

317.08 B. Resolution authorizing the financing by the Berks County Municipal Authority of a project for the benefit of the Reading Hospital and the refunding of certain outstanding debt of the Reading Hospital.

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Department:

A. Budget Director Bob Patrizio requested approval of a Resolution to authorize 2008 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$348,066 and 2008 Appropriations in the amount \$427,240 per listing dated November 26, 2008.

Budget Department continued:

- B. Motion authorizing Mark C. Scott as Chairman of the Board, to execute Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per attached listing dated November 26, 2008. Candace Noll, Contract Coordinator reviewed the list of contracts.

Human Resources:

- A. Human Resource Director Jennifer Biehn presented the December 2, 2008 list of HR recommendations and a request for approval at today's meeting for the proposed salary compression adjustments for 2008 as well as the schedule for 2009 Management Confidential annual salary increases. Following a discussion of the Board regarding the future changes to the County compensation and evaluation process, Commissioner Leinbach made a motion to approve all HR Recommendations presented at this meeting; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Barnhardt and all voted yes.
- 318.08 C. Resolution approving the December 2, 2008 HR Recommendations, the 2008 compression adjustments as per schedule dated and the 2009 Management Confidential Annual Increases.

Planning Commission:

- A. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the execution of a grant agreement amendment for a 2008 Open Space and Recreation Advisory Council Grant in the amount of \$25,000 to allow the Schuylkill River Greenway Association (SRGA) to modify their scope of work and extend the contract for six months. Matt McGough of the Berks County Planning Commission presented this request.

Solid Waste Authority

- A. Jane Meeks, Executive Director, Berks County Solid Waste Authority, and Brian Potts, Bern Township Manager, presented a request for approval of the Leaf & Yard Waste Drop Off Center Management Plan to be located at the Berks County Recycling Center

V. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

- A. Weekly Report – attached. Election Services Director Debbie Olivieri was asked to provide an update from the November Election results and she reported that 71% of the registered voters actually voted on Election Day which was noted as the largest turnout recorded for Berks County.

VI. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

- A. Adopt a resolution to change the designation of James Coker from Township Supervisor member to Farmer member, and to change the designation of Dennis Essig from Farmer Member to Township Supervisor Member of the Agricultural Land Preservation Board.
- B. Adopt a resolution re-appointing James Gilmartin, Hamburg, PA, to the Berks County Municipal Authority. This is a five-year appointment effective January 3, 2009 and ending January 2, 2014.

Commissioner Leinbach**Commissioner Barnhardt**

- A. Adopt a resolution to appoint Dale-Ann H. Farina, Reading, PA, to the Berks County Solid Waste Authority to replace Jan Krafczek whose term expires on December 31, 2008. This is a five-year appointment effective January 1, 2009 and ending December 31, 2013.
- B. Adopt a resolution re-appointing James R. Coker, Oley, PA, to the Berks County Agricultural Land Preservation Board. This is a three-year appointment effective January 1, 2009 and ending December 31, 2011.

Commissioner Scott**VI. CITIZEN COMMENT/BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Recorder of Deeds Fred Sheeler reported that his department has converted all property files to a new system where all county staff will be better able to access necessary electronic data at their desktops. He said future plans will enable all citizens to do the same at home by accessing the County Web site. He thanked Todd Simpson, Director and his Information Systems Staff for all their services in implementing this project.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:27 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk