

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting Tuesday, December 15, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, December 15, 2009, 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, Esq. called the meeting to order with Commissioner Christian Leinbach, and Commissioner Kevin Barnhardt in attendance. Also present were Solicitor Alan Miller Esq., Chief Operations Officer Carl Staples. Chief Clerk Terry Styer did not attend the meeting.

Commissioner Scott opened the meeting with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The Commissioner then announced that Executive Sessions were held on December 10th and 12th for personnel matters.

II. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Department

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2009 Appropriations in the amount \$572,379 per listing dated December 11, 2009. 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 listing dated December 11, 2009.
- C. Recommendation to award and Director of Contracts and Procurement to execute as a result of Invitation to Bid #09-14-AO one year contracts for Medical Supplies for the County as follows: **Bob Barker Company Inc.**, 134 N. Main Street, Fuquay Varina, NC 27526, Estimated Annual Expenditure: 938.70, Line Items: 8, and 31-A and 31-B. **Medline Holdings**, 6146 Tyler Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17112, Estimated Annual Expenditure: \$19,559.66. Line Items: 3, 40, 46, 54, 56, 66, 67, 79 and 80. **Manheim Medical Supply, Inc.**, 13 N. Main Street, Manheim, PA 17545, Estimated Annual Expenditure: \$107,035.92, Line Items: 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 33-A, 33-B, 33-C, 33-D, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42, 45, 47, 49, 50, 52, 53, 55, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 68, 70, 75, 76, 77 and 78. **Gulf South Medical Supply**, 4345 Southpoint Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32216, Estimated Annual Expenditure: \$11,766.610. Line Items: 1, 18, 20, 28, 32-A, 32-B, 32-C, 32-D, 43, 44, 48, 69, 72 and 73. **Centennial Products Inc.**, PO Box 23905, Jacksonville, FL 32241, Estimated Annual Expenditure: \$5,436.80. Line Items: 15-A, 15-B, 15-C, 16-A, 16-B and 17. As per the Invitation to Bid, the County may extend the contract for two additional one-year terms.

Community Development

- A. Motion to approve payments set forth on disbursement voucher list # 2391 for the Community Development Block Grant Program, DV #1378 for the Property Rehabilitation Program, DV 2390-HPRP for the Federal Homelessness Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program, DV #2389-S for the Emergency Shelter Grant Program, and DV #2392-PA-HPRP for the State Homelessness Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program as administered by the Berks County Community Development Office.

Human Resources

- A. Human Resource recommendations per list dated December 15, 2009.

Facilities:

- A. Recommendation to award and execute contracts with the following vendors for the Prison Kitchen Renovation project:

Contract 1: Architectural Services

David M. Kleckner Architects, PC
18 Catherine St.
Shillington, PA 19607

Amount: **\$124,000.00 plus expenses**

Contract 2: Construction Management

The Quandel Group, Inc
4755 Linglestown Road
Suite 201
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Amount: **\$204,056.00**

Contract 3: Indoor air quality

High Safety Consulting Services, Inc
1853 William Penn Way
P.O. Box 10008
Lancaster, PA 17605-0008

Amount: **\$14,675.00**

III. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing the Board to sign the Penn Dot form MS 340 Application to Encumber Liquid Fuels Funds, in the amount of \$375,000 for design and engineering costs to examine the options for the Anthony's Mill Bridge. Bill Westcott, PE will be attending the meeting to present this request.

- B. Adopt a resolution citing acknowledgement of, and compliance to, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania County Records Retention and Disposition Schedules, and establishing procedures for the authorization and disposal of County Records.

Commissioner Leinbach

- A. Adopt a resolution re-appointing Fred Stubbs of Reading, PA to a three year term on the MH/MR Advisory Board ending 12/31/12.

Commissioner Barnhardt

- A. Commissioner Barnhardt presented his Disclosure of Conflict Letter regarding annual merit increases in preparation for approval of the 2010 Budget. (copy attached to these minutes.)
- B. Commissioner Barnhardt noted in regards to the City Libraries, that the district center and inter-library delivery service cannot be allowed to flounder, as these functions are vital to not only the city, but county libraries as well. Once the hours and funding are set for the city libraries, he said that then there is a starting point for 2010 funding.

Commissioner Scott

- A. Commissioner Scott opened the floor for discussion about BARTA (Berks Area Reading Transportation Authority) and the newspaper accounts of the County's willingness to pick up the City's share of the funding, in the amount of \$126,000. Commissioner Barnhardt stated that he feels that the City Council is no longer interested in funding BARTA—it is now more of a regional asset as more people move out of the city. He noted that he supports taking over the city allocation and to have a County Authority. He said that the Authority must be more in tune with riders to make sure that those who need the service are receiving it.

Commissioner Leinbach said that he has a different perspective. The City feels that BARTA is not a core service for Reading. The Commissioner disagreed, stating that mass transit is always a core service to an urban area. He said he was not arguing the value of BARTA, but he is not aware of any concerted and organized effort on the City's part to come to the County with a plan for help. He also said that the BARTA funding is a symptom of larger problems at the City and that the Commissioners would like to sit down with City leadership to see what can be done and what will have a long term impact on city services. He stated that he is not prepared at this time to support the additional BARTA funding.

Commissioner Scott stated that he concurs with Commissioner Leinbach, saying that what is occurring is a shift of burden from city residents to all county residents. He noted that there should be consequences to a municipality when in financial difficulty.

Commissioner Scott continued:

He stated that based on past experiences with City leadership, he finds it difficult to approach the city with any degree of enthusiasm to offer assistance to them. He also said that this is a good opportunity for the City and County to rationalize their relationship in regards to several joint ventures.

IV. CITIZEN COMMENT/BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

- A. Kenneth Stein, citizen of Reading, noted that BARTA is a comprehensive and invaluable service within the city limits, but that service is essentially nonexistent in the County, especially after 5 PM. Mr. Stein also registered a complaint regarding the Prison.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally O'Reilly, Asst. to Chief Clerk