

**Commissioners' Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, May 11, 2010**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 11, 2010 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 W. Staples, and Chief Clerk Terry Styer.

Commissioner Scott opened the meeting with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and announced that an Executive Session was held for personnel matters on Monday May 10, 2010 that he was unable to attend.

II. PRESENTATION

Diane Price U.S. Army/U.S. Army Reserve Veteran and Chair of the Armed Forces Advisory Committee will provide information regarding the 62nd Armed Forces Day Parade on May 15, 2010. Commissioner Barnhardt commended Ms. Price for the extraordinary time and effort she has committed to assuring that this parade tradition continues.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Department

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2010 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$500 and 2010 Appropriations in the amount \$89,834 per listing dated May 7, 2010.

Purchasing Department

- A. Motion authorizing Mark C. Scott as Chairman of the Board, to execute Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated May 10, 2010.

Purchasing Department continued

- B. Adopt a resolution approving the Purchasing Department's recommendation to award and execute, as a result of Invitation to Bid #10-06-17433-AO, a one (1) year contract for Washable Incontinent Briefs for the Berks Heim as identified herein to M.D. Brown, Co., 418 Union Street, Luzerne, PA 18709 for **\$51,282.50**. *

Item Description	Estimated Annual Qty (dozens)	Unit Cost	Estended Cost
Medium Incontinent Brief - 27 dz.	28	\$ 120.00	\$ 3,360.00
Large Incontinent Brief - 160 dz.	190	\$ 134.50	\$ 25,555.00
X-Large Incontinent Brief - 120 dz.	100	\$ 162.80	\$ 16,280.00
xx-Large Incontinent Brief - 17 dz.	25	\$ 243.50	\$ 6,087.50

- C. Adopt a resolution approving the Purchasing Department's recommendation to award and execute as a result of Invitation to Bid #10-07-17439-AF a contract for nine (9) Stenograph Machines for the Court Reporters as identified herein. Stenograph LLC, 896 W Lamont Road, Elmhurst, IL 60126 for **\$35,730.00**. *

Items	Qty	Unit Price	Ext Price
Stenograph Machines	9	\$4,470.00	\$40,230.00
Trade In Machines	9	(\$500.00)	(\$4,500.00)

*As per the Invitations to Bid, the County may extend the contract for two (2) additional one-year terms provided the respective vendor agrees to hold the bid pricing fixed and firm.

V. **REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS**

- A. Adopt a resolution approving the April 27, 2010 Volunteer Fire Services Management Guidelines as proposed by Chief Operations Officer Staples. Mr. Staples described these guidelines for department heads as a document that encourages the support and where possible, compensation for our employees who are called to assist at local emergencies during their normally scheduled workday. He indicated that this volunteer service includes the local Fire, Ambulance and Rescue companies.

Commissioner Leinbach

- A. Commissioner Leinbach reported on the status of Senate Bill 918 which is proposed to consolidate and or codify the existing legislation on Property Assessment Laws in the Commonwealth.

- B. The Commissioner then asked Ryan Hunter as Interim Facilities Coordinator, to provide an update on the Berne Station Bridge project. Mr. Hunter reported that the bridge construction engineering plans for this bridge that has been closed since 2006 will be delayed further due to what is believed to be the discovery of a protected species of turtle. Commissioner Leinbach suggested that if the replacement of this bridge is delayed beyond this year, then legal action should be considered by the County. Commissioner Leinbach then commended Mr. Hunter for his recent performance in the position as Interim Facilities Coordinator.

Commissioner Barnhardt

- A. Commissioner Barnhardt reported that he along with John Kramer and Fred Levering reviewed the municipal responses to a survey of municipalities regarding the continued dialogue for shared Police Services. The Commissioner suggested that the County consider a plan to reimburse communities for costs related to successful regional policing initiatives.

Commissioner Scott

- A. Commissioner Scott reported on a meeting he attended yesterday with Community Development Director Ken Pick and John Howell of US Rail Partners LLC regarding the Colebrookdale Railroad. He reported that John Heffner, a Railroad consultant from Washington DC would be hired to prepare an Operators Agreement with the successful bidder that he expects to present for approval at the Thursday Commissioners' meeting.
- B. Commissioner Scott then discussed a recent request from Washington Township's Solicitor, who explained that since Washington Township has recently completed a Joint Comprehensive Plan with Hereford Township, they have filed a notice to intervene in a zoning decision regarding a request to develop a Retirement Community in an Agricultural Zone of Hereford Township. The Solicitor, Daniel Becker, Esq. requested the County to consider intervening to prevent this development from undermining the Joint planning efforts of these two townships. Solicitor Miller indicated that he would need more time to look into the merits of the issue before he makes a recommendation.

VI. CITIZEN COMMENT/BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:18 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L. Styer, Chief Clerk