

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting Minutes Tuesday, February 8, 2011

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 8, 2011 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 Kevin S. Barnhardt and Commissioner Christian Y. Leinbach in attendance. Also present were County Solicitor Alan S. Miller, Esq., and Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk. Interim Chief Operations Officer Kenneth C. Borkey, Jr. was not in attendance.

Commissioner Scott opened the meeting with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Commissioner Scott announced that the Board met in executive session on Monday, February 7, 2011 to discuss personnel matters. A request was made by Larry Cohen, a citizen in attendance, to address the Board regarding the personnel matters. Request was granted.

Citizen comment:

Larry Cohen commented about the discussions held at last weeks Commissioners' meetings concerning the Human Resources recommendations. He thanked the Commissioners for allowing citizens to express their concerns at the weekly Commissioners meetings. He questioned why the Commissioners don't use the same hiring practices for every hire. He remarked that he would like to see better, more efficient County government. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Cohen for his concerns and comments. Mr. Cohen asked for copies of certain County documents. Solicitor Miller advised Mr. Cohen that he would need to complete a Right-To-Know request. A Right-To-Know request form was given to Mr. Cohen after the meeting.

II. PRESENTATION

Jane Meeks, Executive Director of Berks County Solid Waste Authority, made a presentation regarding a \$2,500.00 grant from Pennsylvania American Water Company to the Berks County Solid Waste Authority for the 2011 Spring pharmaceutical collection. Mr. Terry Maenza of Pennsylvania American Water Company, also gave a brief overview of the collection process and the impact it has on our water system. Michelle Kircher offered comments on the positive impact of this recycling program and thanked Pennsylvania American Water Company for keeping harmful pharmaceuticals out of our waterways. The Commissioners thanked Pennsylvania American Water Company for the grant.

Steven Sharp of STV Engineers gave a power point presentation on the Traffic Congestion Relief Plan for Sinking Spring Borough. The Plan offers recommendations to the traffic congestion in Sinking Spring and surrounding municipalities. The Commissioners offered comments and entered a discussion with Mr. Sharp, Robert Ludgate, Sr., Borough Engineer, and other members of the audience concerning the Plan, the advantages and disadvantages, and the costs it would have on the Borough and County.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Department

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2010 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$12,500.00, 2010 Budget Appropriations in the amount of \$830.00, 2011 Budget Transfers in the amount \$163,850.00 and 2011 Budget Appropriations in the amount of \$306,833.00 per listing dated February 3, 2011.

Community Development

- A. Motion to approve payments set forth on disbursement voucher lists dated February 8, 2011 for the Community Development Programs as administered by the Berks County Community Development Office:

Disbursement Voucher #2503	\$87,938.98
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Human Resources

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing **revised** Human Resource Recommendations per list dated February 8, 2011. The Commissioners reported as a result of the Executive Session held yesterday, a compromise was reached. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach to adopt this Resolution today. All voted aye. Motion approved.

- 48.11** A. Adopt a resolution authorizing **revised** Human Resource Recommendations per list dated February 8, 2011.

Larry Cohen again commented that he is happy with the compromise and again thanked the Board for allowing him a chance to exercise his freedom of speech at a public meeting.

Purchasing

- 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 February 7, 2011. Ryan Hunter commented that the SSM agreement is a routine matter done on an annual basis to prepare a report to DEP.

Berks County Employment and Training Office

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution by Mark C. Scott as Chairman of the Board, of the Grant Summary Information and Signatory Authorization Form (Grant No. 015-11) for the period June 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013, as required by Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry and the Workforce Development Grant Agreement.

Berks County Children and Youth Services

- A. Adopt a resolution authoring execution of a Certification Statement to the Office of Children, Youth & Families of the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare as part of the quarterly invoice to receive reimbursement for expenditures for FY 2010/2011, 2nd quarter.

Facilities

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing Ryan Hunter, Director of Facilities & Operations, to execute Capital Project Change Orders per attached listing dated February 4, 2011.
- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing a Partial Project Completion payment to Muhlenberg Township, 5401 Leesport Avenue, Temple, Pennsylvania, 19560 in the amount of \$20,485.43 as a reimbursement from the County Liquid Fuels Allocation for the Hain Avenue Bridge project. Ryan Hunter commented that this item predates the moratorium issued by the Board for bridge projects.

Human Services

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution by Mark C. Scott as Chairman of the Board Commissioners, of TEFAP Inventory – Reimbursement Request Form for the period (October, November, December) 1st Quarter FFY 2010/2011 and ARRA-TEFAP) Report in the amount of \$30,987.31 for distributing 258,152.59 pounds of food at \$.12 per pound, and further authorizes Margaret Bianca, Executive Director, Greater Berks Food Bank, to apply for the funds on behalf of Berks County.

IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS**Commissioner Barnhardt**

Commissioner Barnhardt announced that the report of the Berks County Libraries Task Force, which was established by the Berks County Community Foundation, was released Friday, February 4, 2011 and can be viewed at bctv.org.

Commissioner Leinbach

None.

Commissioner Scott

Commissioner Scott commented on information he received regarding a development issue in Hereford Township which could result in litigation. This area is part of the Joint Comprehensive Plan and if need be, the County would support the Township.

VI. ELECTED OFFICIAL COMMENT/BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

CITIZEN COMMENT FROM THE FLOOR

Lori Barr, Judy Vaughn, Donna Morganti and Verna Vaughn attended the meeting. Lori Barr spoke of a letter she received from BCCYS regarding an appeal and the Kinship adoption process. Judy Vaughn submitted copies of medical records. After inappropriate and explicit comments were made to the Board by Verna Vaughn, Commissioner Scott issued a warning to Ms. Vaughn, that that sort of language would not be tolerated again.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk