

**Commissioners' Workshop Meeting  
Tuesday, March 15, 2011**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, March 15, 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 Barnhardt in attendance. Also present were Assistant County Solicitor Heidi B. Masano, Esq., Interim Chief Operations Officer Kenneth C. Borkey, Jr., and Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk. Commissioner Christian Leinbach was not present.

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 a resolution authorizing 2010 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$169,692.00, 2010 Budget Appropriations in the amount of \$4,778.00, 2011 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$25,200.00 and 2011 Budget Appropriations in the amount \$5,900.00 per listing dated March 11, 2011.

**Facilities**

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing Ryan Hunter, Director of Facilities and Operations, to execute all change orders of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) or less concerning County Capital Construction projects. Any change orders in excess of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) shall be presented to and subject to approval of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Scott commented this action is taken for administrative convenience.
- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Consent Assessment between the County of Berks and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Environmental Protection regarding the County boiler plant operations. The agreement is a result of negotiations between the State and Solicitor's Office regarding a permit lapse.

**Planning**

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Signature Page for the Grant Agreement for the Seidel Road Trailhead-Hinnershitz Basin Trail grant application to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

**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 March 14, 2011. Commissioner Scott gave a brief overview of the listed contracts.

**III. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS****Commissioners**

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of Kaitlin Daley, Executive Assistant, as Deputy Chief Clerk, effective immediately.

**Commissioner Barnhardt**

Commissioner Barnhardt announced today is a Special Election to fill the seat of the late Senator O'Pake. There have been few election issues.

Commissioner Barnhardt also announced that repairs to Antietam Lake Dam and the Valve House are scheduled to begin Monday, March 28, 2011 through June 28, 2011. A portion of Angora Road will be closed and it will be posted. Commissioner Barnhardt also announced this is Sunshine Law Week.

Commissioner Barnhardt expressed his disappointment in some of the Governor's budget cuts, especially elimination of funds for the Pennsylvania Agricultural Extension Service. Commissioner Barnhardt also commented on the City Council meeting last night where discussions were held regarding the collection of City taxes by the County. There were some questions concerning the payment of taxes on an installment plan. Nelson Long, County Treasurer, advised it cannot be set this year, but maybe next. Mr. Long will speak with his Solicitor regarding this request.

**Commissioner Leinbach****Commissioner Scott**

Commissioner Scott also commented on today being a Special Election to fill the seat of the late Senator O'Pake. Commissioner Scott also commented on the recent release of population statistics. More rural areas in the County are seeing a decrease in population.

*Citizen Comment*

Donna Morganti, Nevin Hallacher and Lori Barr attended the meeting. Ms. Morganti asked a few questions about how George Kovarie is appointed. Mr. Hallacher read an article on the Public Welfare System. Lori Barr provided the complete letter to Commissioner Barnhardt that he requested previously.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:10 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk