

Commissioners' Board Meeting July 31, 2008

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, July 31, 2008, at 10:30 A.M. in the Board meeting room on the thirteenth floor 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 Solicitor Alan Miller, Esq., and County Administrator William E. Dennis. Chief Clerk Terry L. Styer did not attend the meeting.

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

Commissioner Leinbach introduced his guests, Pastor Jean Admettre, Baptist Church of Camp Perrine in Camp Perrine, Haiti, Dan Shoemaker, President of Reciprocal Ministries International, and Pastor Steve Buerer of Schuylkill Valley Bible Chapel, Mohrsville, PA and sister church to Baptist Church of Camp Perrine.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Barnhardt made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Leinbach to approve the July 22, 2008 Commissioner workshop minutes and the July 24, 2008 Commissioners meeting minutes, all voted yes to approve.

Consent Agenda Items

- I. A motion was made by Commissioner Leinbach, seconded by Commissioner Barnhardt, and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
 - 203.08 A. Resolution supporting "Blueprint for Local Tax Fairness: A Plan for Pennsylvania's Communities" as the right proposal to achieve effective tax reform in Pennsylvania.
 - 204.08 B. Resolution authorizing 2008 Appropriations in the amount **(\$108,050)** per listing dated July 25, 2008.
 - 205.08 C. Resolution authorizing the execution of an \$840,562 grant agreement between the County of Berks and the PA Department of Environmental Protection for the Antietam Lake Dam Repair Project.
 - 206.08 D. Human Resource Recommendations per list dated July 29, 2008.
 - 207.08 E. Resolution to approve application for Grant-In-Aid funds from the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission for fiscal year 2008-2009. The grant amount is \$462,209.

- 208.08 F. Resolution to reappoint Barry Rohrbach and Glenn Yeager, both of Reading, to an additional five (5) year term, that will expire on 12/31/12, on the Berks County Redevelopment Authority.
- 209.08 G. Resolution authorizing the termination of the 1998 CMS Swap agreement; the 1998 Swaption agreement and the 2002 variable-to-fixed Swap agreement.
2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/ Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated July 28, 2008.

Reports

1. County Treasurer Nelson Long, CPA presented the weekly Treasurer's report.
2. County Controller Sandy Graffius presented the weekly Controller's report.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported that he attended the closing on two farm preservations this morning, bringing the total preserved acres in Berks to 54,105. He noted that neither farmer is native to Berks County; one moved here from Chester County and the other is originally from Long Island, NY. Controller Graffius thanked both Commissioner Barnhardt and Commissioner Leinbach for their assistance in attending the closings.

Commissioner Leinbach asked Alan Shuman of Shuman Development Group to speak about energy savings processes that he has used in buildings that he has owned. Mr. Shuman mentioned electrical upgrades, to light especially, that can save thousands of dollars annually, with a 3-5 year return on investment. Commissioner Leinbach noted that the County will be reissuing letters of interest to all of the Energy Savings Companies (ESCO) in PA, and narrow the proposals to three. At that time, they will look at it with a consultant, making sure that the private sector approach is not more economical.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:58 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally O'Reilly, Assistant to Chief Clerk