

## COMMISSIONERS' WORKSHOP MEETING

May 24, 2012

The Cumberland County Board of Commissioners met on Thursday, May 24, 2012, 10:00 am, Commissioners' Hearing Room, Courthouse, Carlisle, PA. Present were Commissioners Barbara Cross, Jim Hertzler and Gary Eichelberger (via telephone); Ed Schorpp, Solicitor; Al Whitcomb, Controller; Joanne Burkhart, Deputy Chief Clerk; Janet Walter, Paralegal; Bill Fulton, Controller's Office; Heather Ilgenfritz, Commissioners' Office; Bill Finnerty, Alex Smyser, IMTO; John Gross, Treasurer; Mick Burkett, Human Resources; Wendy Hoverter, Lisa Reider, Children & Youth Services; Rose Cook, Transportation; Ted Wise, Michele Parsons, Public Safety; Earl Reitz, Prison; Pat Slattery, Capital Projects Manager; Silvia Herman, MH/IDD; Evelyn Reese, Cumberland-Perry Drug & Alcohol; Jeff Kelly, Planning; MDJ Elizabeth Beckley, Robin Eckert, District Court; David Miller, Christine Johnson, Aging; Dan Robinson, Puglisi Associates; Erin Genest, Lower Allen Township Economic Development Coordinator; Mary Jane Zeigler; and Matt Barcaro, WGAL News 8.

Joanne Burkhart, Deputy Chief Clerk, called the Workshop Meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Deputy Chief Clerk Burkhart asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

The Commissioners and Judge Beckley presented an award to Robin Eckert for 30 years of service.

The Commissioners and Ted Wise, Public Safety, recognized Michele Parsons, DPS Emergency Services Training Coordinator, for receiving the Bronze Level Trainer Award by the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Center for Domestic Preparedness (see attached press release). Mr. Wise explained that the Bronze Award is given to those trainers who have performed ten or more training sessions or trained 100 or more students who meet Indirect Authorized Trainers (IAT) training criteria within the Federal fiscal year. This is the third year Ms. Parsons has received the award.

David Miller, Office of Aging, stated that as a result of increasing costs and flat funding from the State, the Office of Aging and Community Services is planning to reduce both staff and programs over the next six months. The Home Chore program has already been impacted with the elimination of two of the four staff positions during the current fiscal year. He stated that he is asking the Board to approve the elimination of some Home Support Services to those seniors who do not receive Personal Care. The proposed services being eliminated are primarily grocery shopping and laundry services. It is estimated that 75 to 80 consumers currently receiving the service will be affected, but consumers will be given at least two months' notice before service is terminated. There was discussion on the possibility of any agencies, community-based supports, or other alternatives that could fill the void for the potential eliminated Home Services. A recommendation to end the Home Support Services to some residents with a 60 day notice will be on the May 29<sup>th</sup> Board of Commissioners' Meeting Agenda. The anticipated savings to the County is approximately \$100,000.

Wendy Hoverter, Children & Youth Services, stated that they were notified by a letter dated May 15, 2012, of a mid-year additional cut to their Fiscal Year 2011-12 budget (see attached). She noted that the prior years did not negatively impact them because they were sufficiently understaffed in those years, but now the years of under-spending meant reductions in the 2011-12 budget. Ms. Hoverter stated that now with more budget cuts, this will definitely increase the County share and as soon as the report is finalized, they will provide the Board with an update.

Dan Robinson, Puglisi Associates, stated that he represents a potential company looking to locate a business at a site in Lower Allen Township. Mr. Robinson stated that his purpose today was to

request consideration of a LERTA (Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance) for their project and get some feedback from the Commissioners (see attached). The site is 38 acres of industrial-zoned land adjacent to the State Correctional Institution in Camp Hill and if the project comes to fruition, it would produce up to 850 jobs. He stated that he had presented this proposal to Lower Allen Township on Monday and introduced Erin Genest, Economic Development Coordinator for Lower Allen Township. Ms. Genest stated that the Development Authority did informally agree that they would consider a four or five-year LERTA. Solicitor Schorpp stated that if the proposal were to move forward, it would require a Public Hearing and an Ordinance.

Silvia Herman, MH/IDD, reviewed the Five Year County Mental Health Plan.

Rose Cook, Transportation Department, requested consideration from the Board to apply to the State for a fare increase of \$1.00 per trip for the Share Ride Program due to cuts in the budget and the increased cost of fuel. She further explained that the proposed fare increase would be \$1.00 this year, \$1.00 next year and .50 cents the following year; however, after the first year, each subsequent year would be reassessed to see what the needs would be before adding an increase. The request for approval will be on the agenda for the May 29th Meeting.

Heather Ilgenfritz, Commissioners' Office, presented the following contracts/grants with proposed action scheduled for the May 29<sup>th</sup> Meeting as follows:

Deputy Chief Clerk Burkhardt reported for Karen DeWoody on the renewal of an Agreement between Victoria Weiksner Roadcap and Claremont Nursing & Rehabilitation Center to provide Beautician/Barber Services to residents. There is no increase in cost from last year's agreement.

Mick Burkett, Human Resources, presented two agreements for the employee picnic: Country Corner Rental Center, Inc. – rental of tables, \$177; and Bill Bayman, - Kettle Corn Popcorn Vendor - \$350. The two agreements are paid with the funds from the County's vending machines, not out of the General Fund.

Warden Reitz stated that the Prison is seeking authorization to enter into an agreement with the Health and Safety Institute to certify Prison staff in first-aid and CPR. He stated that by migrating from Red Cross, which was previously used, to the Health and Safety Institute, a cost savings will be realized from \$27 to \$8 per staff member.

Ms. Ilgenfritz presented an agreement for the Commissioners and Comfort Suites for a working lunch for the Board of Commissioners and the Judges.

Wendy Hoverter discussed an agreement between Children & Youth Services and Bethany Home, Inc. Two of the service areas have no increase, but there is an increase in the shelter. It is kept as part of the contract in case they need additional shelter beds; no charge unless it is used.

Bill Finnerty, IMTO, stated the Agreement between IMTO and SHI for Nessus Network Scanner Professional Feed Renewal is for \$1,200, the same cost as last year.

Evelyn Reese, Drug & Alcohol, stated that they would like to enter into the 2012-13 Drug & Alcohol Agreements for Inpatient Non-Hospital Treatment and Partial Providers for the period of

July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013. The rates are established by a State-wide rate setting process. All the rates remain unchanged except where noted:

- Alternative Counseling Associates – **Increased by \$3.00 per day**
- Bowling Green Inn, Brandywine - **\$4.00 increase in their detox rate and \$3.00 decrease in their long-term rehab rate**

- Catholic Charities-Evergreen House
- Clear Brook
- Clem-Mar House
- Daystar Center
- Firetree, Ltd.
- H.E.A.R., Inc.
- Penn Foundation for Mental Health, Inc.
- Gaudenzia, Inc.
- Libertae, Inc.
- Nuestra Clinica
- Pyramid Healthcare
- Samara House of the CYWA - **\$3.00 increase in their rehab rate per day**
- UHS of PA (Roxbury Treatment Center)
- White Deer Run
- Eagleville Hospital

Jeff Kelly, Planning, stated the agreement for the Commonwealth of PA for Federal-Aid Bridge Project Reimbursement is with PennDOT for work to be done on Wolf's Bridge for preliminary engineering and final design in preparation for its replacement. The total cost for preliminary engineering and final design is \$612,767 and the County share is \$30,633. When it is broken down, 80% is federal, 15% is State and 5% is the local match.

Rose Cook discussed the submission of the Shared Ride Grant Application to PennDOT. The shared ride is \$513,000 and Persons with Disabilities is \$138,000 for a total grant request of \$651,000. Commissioner Cross asked if it was competitive by County Class or by ridership. Ms. Cook stated that it was by ridership and counties are paid per trip.

Pat Slattery, Capital Projects Manager, reviewed Change Order DE-2 for the Prison Renovation & Expansion Project with United Prison Company for \$14,830.30.

There was discussion on the streaming of Commissioners' Public Meetings. A recommendation was made that the videos of the Commissioners' Meetings be kept on the website until the formal minutes are approved or no later than two weeks. There was discussion on which meetings should be streamed and the costs associated with staff time and video storage of the streamed meetings. It was proposed that a motion be made at the May 29th meeting to include the streaming of the update meetings and any other meetings with the consent of at least two members of the Board.

#### Commissioners' Liaison Reports

Commissioner Cross reported that the Army Heritage Center Foundation met last week and AHEC had a very successful Army Heritage Day with almost 10,000 visitors. Stop Violence Task Force also met last week and PCCD now has stated that grant applications are going to be due in 20 days; VOCA funds are expected to see a 9% reduction even though there are significant federal funds that have yet to be released out of Washington. There was a conference call on the pending State budget with CCAP, the Governor's office and a variety of individuals. Conservation District met on Tuesday, with a full agenda regarding environmental issues. The good news was the Envirothon had eight out of our nine school districts participating. A presentation was made by Salzmann Hughes on a possible nutrient credit exchange program between Franklin and Cumberland counties. Commissioner Cross stated that she would like to see that group come in to discuss the agreement at a Board of Commissioners' Meeting. It is an opportunity that would be the first of an inter-basin agreement with Franklin and Cumberland counties looking at Chambersburg exchange to share credits. She reported that she attended the LEPC Meeting as an alternate. A planning meeting for Land Partnerships held a very successful

presentation and open house at New Kingstown with about 40 in attendance. She attended the Open House for the Turnpike Commission and suggested residents look at their website to view the plans over the next two years for the expansion of the Turnpike.

Commissioner Eichelberger reported the Land Partnership Committee is having a follow-up meeting tonight in Southampton Township and it is an opportunity for public engagement. The Planning Department is undertaking long range transportation planning. They also will be working in conjunction with a development corporation on Brownfields Site inventory, and the schedule for beginning and completing that is still pending (minutes available).

Commissioner Hertzler stated that he attended Tuesday's Municipal Advisory Board meeting and mentioned that he would like to have Economic Development Corporation's Director attend the next meeting. He also brought up the issue about looking into establishing inventory, not just for Brownfields sites, but for all the vacant storefronts and commercial properties that are either for lease for sale throughout the County. He mentioned that Kirk Stoner did an outstanding job on the presentation on the importance for our municipal partners to weigh in on transportation project needs so hopefully, when and if there is action taken on Transportation funding at the State and Federal level, our County projects are lined up for consideration at HATS.

Commissioner Hertzler reported there was discussion at the MAB Meeting regarding the County's classification as a third class county and no longer being permitted to levy the Per Capita Tax. The date to end Per Capita has not yet been determined (minutes available).

Commissioner Hertzler reported that the Aging Advisory Board met last Friday. He reported the Capital Region Council of Governments met Monday night and stated that he shared a copy of the County's Resolution on the impact of the Governor's proposed State budget cuts on services to those who suffer from severe and persistent mental illness and intellectual and developmental disabilities. Skip Memmi, who represented Dauphin County at the meeting, shared Dauphin County's concerns on this issue as well. He stated that the Council of Governments unanimously approved the County's request to piggyback on Capital COG's road salt bid, which should save the County several hundreds of dollars. John Kuntzelman, a long-time volunteer firefighter from East Pennsboro Township, who now serves as East Pennsboro's delegate to the COG, volunteered to fill the vacant Capital COG's seat on the County's Emergency Service Action Panel.

Commissioner Cross reported that the Link Helpline is up and running in 67 counties. She stated that 2-1-1 is the help line as opposed to an emergency line.

Commissioner Hertzler questioned the computer life cycle process. Bill Finnerty, IMTO stated that the computers are replaced on a five year life cycle because keeping them longer involves increased costs in repairs. He noted that the old computers are recycled through other departments and the parts are also used for repairs. The cost comparison between keeping computers longer vs. new computers will be explored.

Commissioner Eichelberger further reported that the Capital Council of Governments (COG) is looking to do a new round of strategic planning sessions slated for August. He stated that Hampden Township has approached the County Library System for the possible expansion of the system in the future to include a Hampden Township-based library. Knowing the cost challenges the libraries are currently facing, there will be a considerable amount of dialog before moving in any expansion direction and he will keep everyone apprised of any developments.

Deputy Chief Clerk Burkhart reported that Chief Clerk Marion started a process when he receives a Capital Project Request over \$20,000 to bring it before the Board. There is one

Capital Project Request pending in the amount of \$356,750 for the Archives Center. These are funds that have been approved by the Records Improvement Committee and the funds will all come from the Records Improvement Fund.

Chairman Cross reported Executive Sessions were held on May 14, 2012, 2:25 pm for Personnel Issues and May 17, 2012, 2:15 pm for Personnel Issues.

Other Business:

Commissioner Hertzler stated that in consideration of the serious budget challenges the County is facing, he was prepared to make a motion at the May 29<sup>th</sup> meeting to propose a hiring freeze to eliminate any vacant General Fund budgeted County positions that have remained vacant for more than six months. He also requested department heads justify filling all other vacancies that impact the General Fund. Solicitor Schorpp stated it would be premature, without having Labor Counsel review the collective bargaining agreements to see if there are any restraints. He suggested that a review of those types of matters be made before this is brought forward. Commissioner Cross stated that she would like to take a hard look at overtime and would not support the proposal without knowing the impacts. Commissioner Eichelberger stated that he would like a well-thought analysis from senior management on what the downstream impacts might be on a proposed hiring freeze.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Ann Ciecierski  
Administrative Assistant