

## BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 18, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the Bucks County Board of Commissioners was held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2009, at the Washington Crossing Visitors Center Auditorium, 1112 River Road, Washington Crossing, PA. In attendance were Commissioner Charles H. Martin, Chairman, Commissioner James F. Cawley and Commissioner Diane M. Ellis-Marseglia. Commissioner Martin opened the meeting with a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, which was led by Revolutionary War re-enactors.

### PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Commissioner Martin announced that the meeting will be recorded to allow audio playback on the County's website.

### INTRODUCTIONS

Commissioner Martin thanked the Revolutionary War re-enactors for their assistance with the Pledge of Allegiance and attending the events prior to the meeting. He also recognized Hillary Krueger, Site Administrator at Washington Crossing Park, who welcomed everyone and thanked the Commissioners and members of the community for their support and advocacy.

Commissioner Cawley spoke about the importance of the rally held before the meeting and commented that it is a privilege to be part of the preservation effort, adding that he looks forward to working with citizens to protect and improve upon the historic landmark.

Commissioner Martin acknowledged County elected officials who were present: Patricia Bachtle, Prothonotary, Ray McHugh, Controller, Mary Smithson, Clerk of Courts and Bill Snyder, Treasurer.

Commissioner Martin also acknowledged the presence of Larry Glick on behalf of Congressman Murphy's office, Al Sutter on behalf of Senator Tomlinson's office and Langhorne Borough Mayor Chris Blaydon, who participated in today's events as a Revolutionary War re-enactor.

### PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda Items

None.

### PROCLAMATION

The Commissioners proclaimed March 25, 2009 as "RESILIENCY AWARENESS DAY" throughout Bucks County in support of resiliency efforts, which involve the human capacity to endure, overcome and be strengthened by adversity of life. This year's annual conference is themed "Springing Forward with Community Partnerships." Alyssa Snyder, Behavioral Health, Caren Plumber, Voice & Vision, and Barbara Miller, MH/MR, accepted on behalf of the Planning Committee, which is comprised of families, youth, child-serving and support agencies throughout Bucks County and invited everyone to next week's conference.

The Commissioners proclaimed March 28, 2009 as "PASSPORT DAY IN THE USA" throughout the County of Bucks. Passport Day coordinates with a nationwide effort that aims to ensure that all Americans traveling abroad this summer will have a passport by June 1, 2009, at which time the U.S. Government will implement the full requirements of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative. The Commissioners encouraged all Bucks Countians in need of passports to apply for one during special weekend office hours at one of the three Bucks County Prothonotary office locations. Patricia Bachtle, Prothonotary, thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity to be open on Passport Day and added that all information can be accessed on the county website.

### PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda Items

None.

### OLD BUSINESS

Upon motion of Mr. Cawley, seconded by Ms. Ellis-Marseglia, with the vote being 3-0, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 4, 2009 were approved.

DISCUSSION – Agenda Related Items

Rich Harvey, Agricultural Land Preservation, spoke on item 1a.

Joe Funk, Health & Human Services, spoke on item 2a and stressed the importance and high quality of services provided, to which Mr. Martin agreed, but Ms. Ellis-Marseglia voiced concerns regarding the hourly rate.

Joe Funk, Health & Human Services, spoke on items 3a – d and addressed questions posed by Ms. Ellis-Marseglia. Mr. Martin noted that although the Commissioners and Mr. Funk have not been directly notified, he is aware that an investigative hearing of the State Legislature has been scheduled for next week.

Frank Farmer, General Services, spoke on item 8a.

Bill Mitchell, Parks & Recreation, and Jay McQuaid, General Services, spoke on item 8d.

Joe Funk, Health & Human Services, spoke on item 9a. Mr. Martin and Mr. Cawley noted that although the individual is well-deserving of an increase, they expressed concerns regarding the amount due to the current difficult economic times.

Kris Kern, Open Space, spoke on items 12a – d.

Bill Mitchell, Parks & Recreation, spoke on item 13a.

NEW BUSINESS

Upon motion of Mr. Cawley, seconded by Ms. Ellis-Marseglia, with the vote being 3-0, item 9a was TABLED.

Upon motion of Mr. Cawley, seconded by Ms. Ellis-Marseglia, with the vote being 3-0, the following Resolution was approved with the exception of items 2a, 3b, 3d and 8a, which Ms. Ellis-Marseglia opposed but were approved with the vote being 2-1-0.

**RESOLVED**, that the Bucks County Board of Commissioners upon the recommendation of the BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, approve the following:

	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>WITH</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1.	AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION	a. John E. and Evelyn R. Ahlum Quakertown, PA	Approve county’s portion of 86.44 acre conservation easement on Ahlum Farm on Thatcher Rd. in Haycock Township. (TMP 14-001-001)	\$570,504. (+settlement charges and adjustments)
2.	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEMS	a. Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, PC Harrisburg, PA	Approve contract to provide legal services for managed care. 1/1/09 – Ongoing	\$25,000.**
3.	CHILDREN & YOUTH	a. Community Commitment, Inc. Doylestown, PA	Approve contract to provide counseling services. 7/1/08 – 6/30/09	\$520,000.**
		b. Community Services Group, Inc. Harrisburg, PA	Approve contract increase to provide foster care services for additional children. 7/1/08 – 6/30/09	\$25,510.**
		c. Cornell Abraxas Group, Inc. Pittsburgh, PA	Approve contract to provide long-term treatment and residential services. 7/1/08 – 6/30/09	\$1,020,550.**
		d. Families United Network, Inc. Muncy, PA	Approve contract to provide foster care, emergency shelter and residential services. 7/1/08 – 6/30/09	\$110,000.**
4.	CORRECTIONS	a. Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association Harrisburg, PA	Approve contract for Livescan fingerprint and Computer Photo Imaging Network Records Management systems interface and administration. 1/1/09 – 12/31/10	\$63,085.75**

5.	COURTS	a.	Director of Judicial Programs Philadelphia, PA	Approve application and authorize acceptance of Senior Judge's Reimbursable Costs. 1/1/08 – 12/31/08	\$3,020.04* Revenue
6.	EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES	a.	GeographIT Lancaster, PA	Approve contract increase and extension for custom software, testing, updates, installation and training. 6/18/09 – 8/18/09	\$48,260.
7.	FIRE MARSHAL	a.	Precision Sprinkler Service, Inc. Holmes, PA	Approve contract to provide fire suppression and protection system inspection and maintenance. 4/1/09 – 3/31/10	\$11,692.*
8.	GENERAL SERVICES	a.	GAI Consultants Inc. Berwyn, PA	Approve testing and inspection service agreement for the Bucks County Parking Garage.	\$116,353.
		b.	Guy M. Cooper, Inc. Willow Grove, PA	Approve contract increase to add sprinklers at Emergency Management Center as required by state inspection.	\$1,151.
		c.	John Altimari Doylestown, PA	Approve lease of 605 Louis Drive in Warminster Township for Health Department to implement WIC program. 4/1/09 – 3/31/12	\$30,938.04
		d.	Jurin Roofing Services, Inc. Quakertown, PA	Approve contract for emergency replacement of built up roof at Silver Lake Maintenance Building.	\$23,966.04
9.	HEALTH <b>TABLED</b>	a.	Doylestown Hospital Doylestown, PA	Approve contract increase for an Executive Director for the Bucks County Health Improvement Program (BCHIP). 10/1/08 – Indefinite	\$9,200.**/yr
10.	MH/MR	a.	Voice & Vision, Inc. Warminster, PA	Approve contract increase to adjust service allocations. 7/1/08 – 6/30/09	\$16,252.
11.	NESHAMINY MANOR	a.	Edith Rogers Miller Furlong, PA	Approve contract to provide hair salon services. 2/1/09 – 1/31/11	\$20,000.**
		b.	Genesis Rehabilitation Services Kennett Square, PA	Approve contract increase to pay final 2008 invoice for rehabilitation services. 1/1/08 – 12/31/08	\$105,000.**
		c.	Joerns Healthcare, Inc. Stevens Point, WI	Approve contract increase and extension for rental of low to the floor electric beds. 2/1/09 – 1/31/10	\$14,805.60**
		d.	Neshaminy Manor Warrington, PA	Approve authorization for J.C. Bailey to act as Bucks County's representative with legal authority relative to Medicare.	

12. OPEN SPACE	a. Natural Lands Trust Media, PA	Approve amendment to Natural Areas Grant for additional 1.081 acre area of conservation easement in West Rockhill Township. (TMP 52-009-045)	\$3,243.
	b. Nockamixon Township	Approve Natural Areas Program Grant to acquire 77-acre conservation easement on Kintner Hill Road in Nockamixon Township. (TMP 30-008-088)	\$375,375.00
	c. Springfield Township	Approve Natural Areas Program Grant to acquire 27.5-acre conservation easement on Durham Road in Springfield Township. (TMP 42-017-079)	\$151,573.
	d. The Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia, PA	Approve contract for Dr. Ann Rhoads for county-wide Natural Areas site survey. 1/1/09 – 12/31/10	\$15,000.**/yr (\$100./hr)** (\$800./day)**
13. PARKS & RECREATION	a. John Milner Architects, Inc. Chadds Ford, PA	Approve contract to provide plans, specifications and assistance with restoration Stover-Myers Mill. 1/09 – 12/10	\$60,365.
	b. PPL Electric Utilities – BucksMont SC Telford, PA	Approve Right of Way Agreement to place a pole at Lake Towhee.	
	c. Verizon of Pennsylvania, Inc. North Wales, PA	Approve Right of Way Agreement to install fiber optic network at Churchville Nature Center.	
	d. Verizon of Pennsylvania, Inc. North Wales, PA	Approve Right of Way Agreement to install fiber optic network at Core Creek Administration Office.	
14. OTHER CIVICS	a. Women’s Habitat for Humanity Y.W.C.A.	Approve Payment	\$3,500. \$1,500.

\*Unit Cost/Estimated for operational purposes only.  
\*\*Unit Cost/Not to exceed

AND the proper officers are authorized to execute all documents necessary to carry this Resolution into effect.

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENT**

Upon motion of Mr. Cawley, seconded by Ms. Ellis-Marseglia, with the vote as follows, 3-0, the following Resolution was adopted:

Adjustment #03-001-0      Area Agency on Aging  
Reallocation of funds for computer related equipment.

Adjustment #03-002 -0      Domestic Relations  
Vehicle purchase for Warrant Unit.

Adjustment # 03-003-0      Homeland Security  
Adjust Homeland Security / UASI budgets for remaining grant funds.

AND the proper officers are authorized to execute all documents necessary to carry this Resolution into effect.

Brian Hessenthaler, Finance, provided an explanation of the budget adjustments and addressed questions posed by Ms. Ellis-Marseglia.

PERSONNEL LIST

Upon motion of Mr. Cawley, seconded by Ms. Ellis-Marseglia, with the vote being 3-0, with the vote as follows, 3-0, the following Resolution was adopted:

**APPOINTMENTS**

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>DATE*</b>	<b>REMARKS</b>
1.	Michelle N. Bourne J.R.#14	Nursing Assistant - PT Unit 03	NM Nursing 24.0 hrs/wk	03/17/09	13.89 PH
2.	Briana C. Dunn J.R.#267	Seasonal Help Unit 00	Tax Claim 25.0 hrs/wk	02/19/09	9.00 PH
3.	Jeannie Etienne J.R.#17	Nursing Assistant - PT Unit 03	NM Nursing 24.0 hrs/wk	03/17/09	13.89 PH
4.	Valecia V. Horton J.R.#14	Nursing Assistant - PT Unit 03	NM Nursing 24.0 hrs/wk	03/17/09	13.89 PH
5.	Clare A. Martin J.R.#223	Clerk Typist II Unit 04	Area Agency on Aging 37.5 hrs/wk	03/30/09	15.45 PH
6.	John M. Page J.R.#236	County Caseworker II Unit 04	Children & Youth 37.5 hrs/wk	04/27/09	20.80 PH
7.	Sean W. Quinn J.R.#208	Custodian Unit 02	General Services 40.0 hrs/wk	03/28/09	18.33 PH
8.	William J. Reilly J.R.#76	Seasonal Help Unit 00	Parks & Recreation 20.0 hrs/wk	04/25/09	7.25 PH
9.	Jane Sowden J.R.#182	Activities Assistant Unit 03	NM Activities 12.0 hrs/wk	03/16/09	13.26 PH
10.	Phyllis C. Winterberg J.R.#24	Security Screener Unit 00	Security 7.5 hrs/wk	03/05/09	12.73 PH

**PROMOTION/DEMOTION**

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>DATE*</b>	<b>REMARKS</b>
11.	Ashley N. Downs J.R.#76	Seasonal Help Unit 00 To Seasonal Help Unit 00	Parks & Recreation 20.0 hrs/wk To Parks & Recreation 40.0 hrs/wk	02/19/09	8.65 PH To 10.26 PH
12.	Annette E. Stanton- Harkness	EPS I Unit 46 To EPS II Unit 46	Health 40.0 hrs/wk To Health 40.0 hrs/wk	03/17/09	20.80 PH To 22.67 PH

**POSITION CHANGE**

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>DATE*</b>	<b>REMARKS</b>
13.	Stacey A. Deans J.R.#13	Nursing Assistant - PT Unit 03 To Nursing Assistant Unit 03	NM Nursing 24.0 hrs/wk To NM Nursing 40.0 hrs/wk	02/28/09	13.89 PH To 13.89 PH
14.	Shawn P. Diamond J.R.#76	Seasonal Help Unit 00 To Seasonal Help Unit 00	Parks & Recreation 20.0 hrs/wk To Parks & Recreation 20.0 hrs/wk	05/02/09	8.47 PH To 8.47 PH+

15.	Kimberly P. Shmidheiser J.R.#17	Registered Nurse Unit 06 To Registered Nurse – PT Unit 06	NM Nursing 40.0 hrs/wk To Nm Nursing 24.0 hrs/wk	01/31/09	25.42 PH  To 25.42 PH
16.	David J. Strunk J.R.#76	Seasonal Help Unit 00 To Seasonal Help Unit 00	Parks & Recreation 20.0 hrs/wk To Parks & Recreation 20.0 hrs/wk	05/02/09	9.50 PH  To 9.50 PH

**TRANSFER**

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>DATE*</b>	<b>REMARKS</b>
17.	Gilberte Noel J.R.#14	Nursing Assistant - Pool Unit 30 To Nursing Assistant - PT Unit 03	NM Nursing 40.0 hrs/wk To NM Nursing 24.0 hrs/wk	03/28/09	15.02 PH  To 13.89 PH
18.	Deborah M. Williamson J.R.#233	Coordinator Staff Training – DC Unit 96 To Administrative Specialist Unit 00	Main Courts 40.0 hrs/wk To Corrections Admin 40.0 hrs/wk	04/11/09	42,206.53 PA  To 21.10 PH

**SEPARATIONS**

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>DATE*</b>	<b>REMARKS</b>
19.	Mark C. Baum	Corrections Officer	Corrections	02/21/09	Separation
20.	Alicia Eissler	Seasonal Help	Parks & Recreation	03/04/09	Separation
21.	Brandon C. Yorty	Seasonal Help	Parks & Recreation	03/03/09	Separation

AND the proper officers are authorized to execute all documents necessary to carry this Resolution into effect.

Meri Dolan, Human Resources, provided additional explanation upon the request of Ms. Ellis-Marseglia.

MISCELLANEOUS

David M. Sanko, Chief Operating Officer, reported on the following matter(s):

Earth Hour - The County will be collaborating with Doylestown Borough for “Earth Hour,” a program in which from 8:30 – 9:30 p.m. on March 28, unnecessary lighting surrounding the courthouse will be shut off. Earth Hour is part of a nationwide program that began in Australia to raise awareness about the threat of global warming.

Dan Fraley, Military Affairs, provided an update on the National Veterans Cemetery in Washington’s Crossing. He reported that the cemetery will open this year and that contracts are currently in Washington D.C. for approval. He added that 180 acres of land will be left as open space.

Bill Mitchell, Parks & Recreation, provided an update on the status of a Veterans Park. He reported that the county is currently working with the seller to satisfy all necessary requirements, and he hopes for a conclusion in the near future.

Commissioner Ellis-Marseglia asked for clarification regarding two agenda items that were “tabled” at the previous meeting. Mr. Hains and Mr. Sanko explained that the items will be sent out for RFP and that already-incurred expenses will be covered by a purchase order. Maureen McIlvaine, Purchasing, provided additional clarification regarding legal requirements and bidding procedures.

Commissioner Ellis-Marseglia thanked Gerry Anderson, Director of Operations, for providing a detailed change order, which she stated helped her to understand the situation at hand.

Ms. Ellis-Marseglia asked if/when the county’s new vehicle policies would be formally adopted by the Commissioners. Mr. Sanko reported they will be adopted at an upcoming meeting only as it relates to Human Resources policies and personnel policies and procedures. Mr. Martin responded that internal county policies are not traditionally adopted at public meetings, but will be available to the public once completed.

PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL

Paul Salvatore, a Newtown resident, asked for clarification regarding the Bucks County Stimulus Incentive proposal. Ms. Ellis-Marseglia responded, with additional input from Mr. Martin. Glenn Hains, Solicitor, provided his opinion on the proposal and advised that it is solely within the discretion of the Board of Assessment to act, and not within the power of the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Ellis-Marseglia recommended that a letter be sent to the Board of Assessment and also offered that additional attorneys’ opinions would be helpful. Mr. Hains agreed to contact the Board of Assessment’s Solicitor for further information and along with Mr. Cawley, expressed concerns stemming from the proposal’s constitutionality. David Sanko, Chief Operating Officer, brought to the attention of the Commissioners and the Solicitor, active litigation concerning reassessments.

Robert Gorring, a Washington Crossing resident, discussed his personal experience fighting for Washington Crossing Park and his opposition to the idea of incorporating the park into the National Parks system. He spoke of the Washington Crossing Taskforce created by Upper Makefield Supervisor Dan Rattigan and pursuant to his request, the Commissioners shared their individual opinion on the matter; all agreed that they prefer the state take action before pursuing any other options. Ms. Ellis-Marseglia also mentioned the possibility of moving the Bucks County Visitors Center to Washington Crossing.

Guy Polhemus, founder of the Crossing Legacy Foundation, spoke about his involvement in fighting for the park and about the possibility of acquiring funding from the federal government. He stated that although everyone wishes for the park’s best interest, he stressed the importance of input from local residents.

Madeline Rawley, a Doylestown resident, stated that she was glad to hear that a Board of Elections meeting has been scheduled and asked if the public may submit items for the agenda, to which Mr. Cawley explained that the public may raise any issue at the time of the meeting. He also stated that the meeting will be publicly advertised and in accordance with Mrs. Rawley’s request, a letter will be mailed to all Judges of Elections inviting them to attend.

Michael Etzrodt, President, Board of Directors, Bucks County Convention & Visitors Bureau, suggested the Commissioners take Washington Crossing Park into the county system to restore and protect the facility. He spoke of the late Ann Hawkes Hutton and her efforts to protect the park. Mr. Martin thanked Mr. Etzrodt for his comments and for his confidence in the county.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next public meeting of the Bucks County Board of Commissioners will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 1, 2009, at Habitat for Humanity, 31 Oak Lane, Chalfont, PA.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Mr. Cawley, seconded by Ms. Ellis-Marseglia, with the vote being 3-0, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved:

BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Charles H. Martin  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
James F. Cawley, Esq.  
Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Diane M. Ellis-Marseglia  
Commissioner

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David M. Sanko, County Chief Clerk