

BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

December 16, 2009

The Regular Meeting of the Bucks County Board of Commissioners was held on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 at 10:00 a.m., at the Bucks County Conference & Visitors Bureau, 3207 Street Road, Bensalem, 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.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

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

INTRODUCTIONS

Commissioner Martin welcomed everyone and thanked the Bucks County Conference & Visitors Bureau Executive Director, Jerry Lepping, and Chairman Bill Haas for their hospitality.

Mr. Haas thanked the Commissioners for selecting the Visitors Bureau for their meeting and thanked everyone for coming. He spoke about Washington’s Crossing Historic Park that was recently closed due to the State budget crisis, but announced that the re-enactment of the Christmas Day Crossing will go on.

Mr. Martin also acknowledged Bensalem Township Council Members Edward Kesselback and Joseph Knowles, Mayor of Bensalem Township, Joseph DiGirolamo, Council Member from Doylestown Borough, Det Ansinn and East Rockhill Township Supervisor, John Cressman.

Mayor DiGirolamo thanked the Commissioners and invited everyone to attend the new casino opening tonight and the grand opening on Friday.

Mr. Martin recognized county officials who were present: Bill Snyder, Treasurer, Ray McHugh, Controller, Mary Smithson, Clerk of Courts and Barbara Reilly, Register of Wills.

PROCLAMATIONS

The Commissioners proclaimed the TREE OF HOPE as the County of Bucks’ official symbol of support for recovery from the ravages of addiction. A dedication ceremony will be held tonight, December 16, 2009, at 6:30 p.m., at the Courthouse to promote the message that recovery is possible and benefits everyone. Fred Berkobin, Manager of the Bucks County Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency and Melanie Milke, PRO-ACT volunteer coordinator, thanked the Commissioners and invited everyone to the ceremony tonight.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda Items

Det Ansinn, Council Member from Doylestown Borough, asked the Commissioners if it is possible that specific items be listed on the agenda under “Miscellaneous Other Items”. Mr. Martin responded that if there is an issue that anyone wants to discuss, they should raise their hand and they will be recognized.

Marie Shively, Bristol Township resident, inquired regarding item 8c on the agenda. Ms. Shively lives next door to the Neighborhood First Program and requested that the Commissioners appoint a specific department or chain of command for her to go to if she has a problem to report. Mr. Martin stated that all of Ms. Shively’s concerns have been looked into and indicated that if Ms. Shively has a problem, she should first go to Mr. JT Wells, the Program Director and try to work it out. If necessary, Ms. Shively can then contact Jerry Anderson of General Services, the Bucks County Chief Operating Officer, when appointed, and lastly the Commissioners. Mr. Cawley indicated that he spoke with Mr. Wells about Ms. Shively’s concerns and Ms. Ellis-Marseglia stated that she spoke with both the Township and the Health Department and found no lease violations. Jerry Anderson stated that his Department conducted an inspection and were pleased with the condition of the property, but will be conducting inspections more frequently. Mr. Wells was present and indicated that he has no problem with that and will work with Mr. Anderson on any issues that come up.

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 December 2, 2009 were approved.

DISCUSSION – Agenda Items

Rich Harvey, Director of the Agricultural Land Preservation Program, described the McCurdy Farm in Springfield Township in item 1a. Mr. Martin congratulated Mr. Harvey on a successful year.

Vitor Vicente, Director of Community & Business Development, spoke on item 4a. Mr. Martin asked that Mr. Vicente request that Bucks County residents be given first preference.

Doug Praul, Court Administrator, explained that item 6f has to do with getting the Courts off the mainframe. Don Jacobs, Chief Information Officer, stated that there will be approximately 15 to 18% maintenance costs initially, but that maintenance should eventually be taken over by the Department.

Mr. Praul explained in item 6a there is a group of professionals assembled to provide this service. Ms. Ellis-Marseglia inquired as to how the Doctor providing the administrative services in this item was hired, to which Mr. Praul stated that this Doctor’s contract has been in place for over 25 years.

Jerry Anderson, Project Manager from General Services, explained how the vendor in item 8d was selected in response to Ms. Ellis-Marseglia’s inquiry. Mr. Anderson also explained why the ramp in item 8e is so expensive in response to Mr. Martin’s inquiry. Joe Bush, Director of Special Projects for General Services, provided further clarification. Ms. Ellis-Marseglia asked if CDBG funds are being used, to which Mr. Bush responded yes. Mr. Martin asked who applied for the CDBG funds, to which Mr. Bush stated it was the County.

Ms. Ellis-Marseglia inquired regarding the change order in item 8a and Mr. Anderson provided explanation. Ms. Ellis-Marseglia expressed concern regarding the per hour labor cost and asked if that is per man. Mr. Anderson stated that he will look into that. Ms. Ellis-Marseglia made a motion to table item 8a to look into the matter, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Cawley, and with a vote of 3-0 the item was tabled.

Brian Hessenthaler, Acting Chief Operating Officer and Director of Finance, spoke on item 9a and described a 10 ½ % increase from last year. Mr. Hessenthaler stated that the County does pre-pay in response to Mr. Martin’s inquiry. Mr. Cawley stated that while it is too late for this coming year, he would like the County to go out on RFP for brokerage services to negotiate for the County for next year. Mr. Martin suggested that additional research will have to be done before going out on RFP.

Kris Kern, Open Space Coordinator, explained why item 13a has been around so long and what the Township’s intentions are in response to Mr. Cawley’s inquiry.

Ms. Ellis-Marseglia asked Joe Funk, Director of Human Services if there is a new contract in item 11a. Mr. Funk responded that it is the same contract for the new fiscal year.

Ms. Ellis-Marseglia requested that the language under the purpose for item 5a be changed to read “until a future maintenance plan is determined”, to which Mr. Martin and Mr. Cawley had no objection.

NEW BUSINESS

Upon motion of Ms. Ellis-Marseglia, seconded by Mr. Cawley, with the vote being 3-0, item 8a was TABLED.

Upon motion of Mr. Cawley, seconded by Mr. Martin, with the vote being 3-0, the following Resolutions were approved with the exception of item 8e, from which Mr. Martin abstained, but was approved with the vote being 2-0-1.

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 PRESERVATION	a. Gerald L. and Cynthia McCurdy Coopersburg, PA	Approve purchase of the county’s portion of a 20.949 acre agricultural conservation easement on McCurdy farm on Richlandtown Pike in Springfield Township. (TMP 42-9-37)	\$26,331. (+ settlement charges and adjustments)
2.	AREA AGENCY ON AGING	a. Pennsylvania Department of Aging Harrisburg, PA	Approve amendment to the 5 year cooperative agreement to increase the AAA’s FY 09/10 allocation. 7/1/06-6/30/11	\$731,447. Revenue
3.	CHILDREN & YOUTH	a. Amudipe’s Residential & Day Treatment Facilities, Inc. Blue Bell, PA	Approve contract to provide community residential and day treatment care to dependent female adolescents. 7/1/09-6/30/10	\$124,000.**

4.	COMMUNITY & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	a.	Penn Villa Corp./Penn Foundation, Inc. Sellersville, PA	Approve contract to provide supportive housing for the chronically mentally ill. 12/1/09-12/1/11	\$780,000.
5.	CORRECTIONS	a.	Aramark Facilities Services Philadelphia, PA	Approve contract extension to provide materials, supplies and maintenance services until a future maintenance plan is determined. Month to month	\$76,993./month
		b.	Inmate Telephone, Inc. Altoona, PA	Approve contract extension to provide phone vending service for use by inmates. 11/21/09-11/20-12	\$950,000. Revenue
		c.	Inmate Telephone, Inc. Altoona, PA	Approve contract extension for maintenance of telephone system. 11/21/09-11/20/12	
6.	COURTS	a.	Court Conciliation & Evaluation Service Southampton, PA	Approve contract to provide professional psychological counseling and evaluation services in child custody and visitation matters. 1/1/10-12/31/10	\$67,500.**
		b.	Donna Snyder, Esquire Doylestown, PA	Approve contract for substitute Mental Health Review Officer in accordance with Mental Health and Retardation Act. 1/1/10 – 12/31/10	\$5,635.85**
		c.	Eleanor Fanning, Esquire Trevoose, PA	Approve contract for Mental Health Review Officer in accordance with Mental Health and Retardation Act. 1/1/10-12/31/10	\$54,694.**
		d.	Isaac S. Garb, Esquire Buckingham, PA	Approve contract for General Master for Court of Common Pleas. 1/1/10-12/31/10	\$20,000.**
		e.	Moore Wallace North America Inc. Mt. Laurel, NJ	Approve contract to provide Standby Juror Summons and other juror forms. 1/1/10-12/31/10	\$15,000.**
		f.	Susquehanna Software, Inc. Williamsport, PA	Approve contract to provide a Jury Management System. 11/1/09-6/30/10	\$54,990.
7.	FINANCE	a.	Fidelity & Deposit Company of Maryland Baltimore, MD	Approve bond renewal for 54 tax collectors. 1/4/10-1/6/14	\$76,577.
8.	GENERAL SERVICES	a.	Laurant Construction Co. Inc. Pennington, NJ	Approve contract increase to replace perimeter 2x6 wood nailers required to anchor both the roofing material and the fascia trim on the Court House roof.	\$19,520.
	TABLED	b.	Matthew R. Scott and Brittney Amtman Warrington, PA	Approve Lease Agreement for rental of property at 601 Creek Road, Doylestown, PA. 1/1/10-12/31/10	\$900./month Revenue

	c.	Neighborhood First Program Inc. Bristol, PA	Approve five year lease of County building for Neighborhood First Program. 1/1/10-12/31/14		
	d.	Pennoni Associates Inc. Doylestown, PA	Approve contract to provide mechanical, electrical, plumbing and structural engineering design services for the Bucks County Courthouse EECBG Projects plus reimbursable expenses.	\$65,790.	
	e.	The Midway Corporation Philadelphia, PA	Approve contract for the construction of ADA ramp at Chickenfoot Park in Middletown Township.	\$74,184.	
9.	HUMAN RESOURCES	a.	Independence Blue Cross Philadelphia, PA	Approve contract to provide health insurance for approximately 2500 employees. 1/1/10-12/31/10	\$31,205,987.**
10.	JUVENILE PROBATION	a.	Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (VOJO Grant) Harrisburg, PA	Approve change in funding from state PCCD funds to new Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Justice Assistance Grant funds. 1/1/09-6/30/09	(\$193,342.) Revenue
		b.	PCCD ARRA JAG VOJO Harrisburg, PA	Approve grant application and subsequent award documents for the 2009-2011 Victims of Juvenile Offenders (VOJO) Grant. 7/1/09-6/30/11	\$257,790. Revenue
11.	MH/MR	a.	Lenape Valley Foundation Doylestown, PA	Approve contract to provide case management, family support and rehabilitation services. 7/1/09 – 6/30/10	\$4,752,552.**
12.	NESHAMINY MANOR	a.	Bohdan Martynec, M.D. Doylestown, PA	Approve new attending physician contract. 1/1/10-12/31/10 with automatic renewal	
		b.	Cellerations Eden Prarie, MN	Approve contract to rent Mist Therapy System and purchase mist applicators. 1/1/10-12/31/10	\$20,188.80**
		c.	Deborah Fox, D.O. Doylestown, PA	Approve new attending physician contract. 1/1/10-12/31/10 with automatic renewal	
		d.	Edward Coverdale, M.D. Doylestown, PA	Approve new attending physician contract. 1/1/10-12/31/10 with automatic renewal	
		e.	Gulf South Medical Supply Jacksonville, FL	Approve contract extension and increase to purchase disposable incontinent products for residents. 1/1/10-12/31/10	\$8,481.36**

f.	Harry Borgersen, D.O. Blue Bell, PA	Approve new attending physician contract. 1/1/10-12/31/10 with automatic renewal	
g.	Jack L. Marcus, Inc. Institutional Sales Milwaukee, WI	Approve contract extension and increase to purchase nursing uniforms for staff. 10/1/09-12/31/09	\$2,200.**
h.	Manheim Medical Supply Manheim, PA	Approve contract extension and increase to purchase disposable incontinent products for residents. 1/1/10-12/31/10	\$26,496.**
i.	Manheim Medical Supply Manheim, PA	Approve contract to purchase patient hydration management products. 1/1/10-12/31/11	\$36,000.**
j.	Martin B. Getzow, M.D. Chalfont, PA	Approve new attending physician contract. 1/1/10-12/31/10 with automatic renewal	
k.	Martin B. Getzow, M.D. Chalfont, PA	Approve contract amendment for increase in hourly rate for Assistant Medical Director. 1/1/10-12/31/10 with automatic renewal	\$5,000.**
l.	Paul R. Moyer, M.D. Doylestown, PA	Approve new attending physician contract. 1/1/10-12/31/10 with automatic renewal	
m.	Paul R. Moyer, M.D. Doylestown, PA	Approve contract amendment for increase in hourly rate for Medical Director. 1/1/10 – 12/31/10 with automatic renewal	\$40,000.**
n.	Robert Cherrey, D.O. Warrington, PA	Approve new attending physician contract. 1/1/10-12/31/10 with automatic renewal	
o.	The Wood Company, an indirect subsidiary of Sodexo Operations, LLC (Sodexo) Gaithersburg, MD	Approve contract to provide dining services to residents. 1/1/10-12/31/13 with automatic renewal	\$6,074,923.**
p.	Wood Dining Services, Inc. Allentown, PA	Approve contract extension and increase to purchase food and food service. 12/1/09-12/31/09	\$175,000.**
q.	Xpedx Camp Hill, PA	Approve contract extension and increase to purchase disposable incontinent products for residents. 1/1/10-12/31/10	\$105,281.28**
13. OPEN SPACE	a. Bucks County Redevelopment Authority Bristol, PA Bristol Township School District Levittown, PA Township of Bristol Bristol, PA	Approve addendum to Cooperation Agreement to transfer approximately 2.5 acres of TMP 05-074-161 to Bristol Township and a 0.6302 acre portion of TMP 05-074-161 to Bernard Mazzochi to become part of adjacent TMP 05-074-159.	

BUDGET

Mr. Cawley commented on the 22% State Budget cut to library programs across the Commonwealth. He stated that the County Libraries are on a tight budget and the Director of the entire Library system is working at one of the Branches. As a result, he has had discussions with Brian Hessenthaler, Acting Chief Operating Officer and Finance Director, and Dave Boscola, Deputy Finance Director, on how to help the libraries. Mr. Cawley made a motion that \$150,000 in capital money currently reflected in the 2010 Budget be returned to the County for use in other capital projects throughout the County and that \$150,000 be taken out of our general fund balance for the purpose of increasing the County Library’s budget for this year on the general fund side by \$150,000. Ms. Ellis-Marseglia seconded the motion and asked Mr. Hessenthaler to send a message to the Library Board President that as they bring this \$150,000 into their general fund that they have a meeting, hopefully with public feedback, to reassess the library hours and the way in which they were closed, as some branches suffered more than others. In response to Mr. Martin’s inquiry, Mr. Hessenthaler indicated that this motion will not affect the bottom line millages, but it will increase the draw from the general fund of the County by \$150,000.

Upon motion of Mr. Cawley, seconded by Ms. Ellis-Marseglia, with the vote being 3-0, the motion that \$150,000 in capital money currently reflected in the 2010 Budget be returned to the County for use in other capital projects throughout the County and that \$150,000 be taken out of the general fund balance for the purpose of increasing the County Library’s budget for this year on the general fund side by \$150,000 was passed.

Ms. Ellis-Marseglia asked Mr. Hessenthaler how many of the row offices have gotten back to him regarding their Solicitor’s hours. Mr. Hessenthaler indicated that a total of 4 offices have gotten back to him and he is still waiting to hear back from several others.

Ms. Ellis-Marseglia asked Mr. Hessenthaler if any resolution was brought up regarding the Board of Assessment. Mr. Hessenthaler indicated that no change has been made regarding the Board of Assessment. Mr. Martin indicated that he is optimistic that this still may occur.

Ms. Ellis-Marseglia asked if the money for the position of an inspector in the Controller’s Office is in this budget as she requested. Mr. Hessenthaler indicated that it is not in the budget and that the Controller indicated to him that he would try to accomplish the task with the current staff.

Ms. Ellis-Marseglia inquired whether she would have access to \$4,000 worth of legal services in this budget as she requested. Mr. Martin stated this has not been resolved.

A. 2010 County Budget, Tax Levy and Appropriations

Upon motion of Mr. Cawley, seconded by Mr. Martin, and opposed by Ms. Ellis-Marseglia, with the vote being 2-1-0, a Resolution was adopted to approve the following Budget item:

- 1. Adopt the 2010 County Budget as recommended by the Finance Director.

Upon motion of Mr. Cawley, seconded by Ms. Ellis-Marseglia, with the vote being 3-0, a Resolution was adopted to approve the following Budget items with the above amendment noted:

- 2. Adopt the 2010 County Tax Levies, Millage Rate and user fee schedules (Consumer Protection and Health) as recommended by the Finance Director.
- 3. Approve the 2010 Appropriations to County agencies and authorities as recommended by the Finance Director.

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

PERSONNEL

Brian Hessenthaler, Acting Chief Operating Officer and Finance Director made a correction to the list and stated that in item #5, the rate should read 10.00 per hour.

Upon motion of Mr. Cawley, seconded by Ms. Ellis-Marseglia, with the vote being 3-0, the following Personnel Actions were approved, with the above correction noted:

APPOINTMENTS

	NAME	TITLE	DEPARTMENT	DATE*	REMARKS
1.	Elizabeth M. Farrell J.R.#19	Registered Nurse Unit 06	NM Nursing 24.0 hrs/wk	12/08/09	25.42 PH
2.	Mary A. Grafenstine J.R.#17	LPN – Pool Unit 31	NM Nursing 8.0 hrs/wk	12/08/09	26.26 PH
3.	Marianne R. Kelly J.R.#18	Registered Nurse Unit 06	NM Nursing 40.0 hrs/wk	01/04/10	28.56 PH

4.	Kathleen Knauer J.R.#636	County Caseworker II Unit 04	Children and Youth 37.5 hrs/wk	01/18/10	21.43 PH
5.	Stephanie S. Rath J.R.#607	Bookkeeper – Secretary - PD Unit 03	General Services 40.0 hrs/wk	12/21/09	18.13 PH

REHIRE

	NAME	TITLE	DEPARTMENT	DATE*	REMARKS
6.	Mary K. Dougherty J.R.#21 Sepdate 08/01/09	Food Service Attendant - PD Unit 03	NM Dietary 24.0 hrs/wk	11/27/09	12.01 PH

PERM TO PER DIEM

	NAME	TITLE	DEPARTMENT	DATE*	REMARKS
7.	Violette Valcinpierre J.R.#15	Nursing Assistant Unit 03 To Nursing Assistant – Pool Unit 30	NM Nursing 40.0 hrs/wk To NM Nursing 8.0 hrs/wk	12/19/09	16.81 PH To 13.89 PH

POSITION CHANGE

	NAME	TITLE	DEPARTMENT	DATE*	REMARKS
8.	Veronica T. Carroll 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	12/19/09	13.89 PH To 13.89 PH
9.	Elaine A. Cole 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	12/19/09	13.89 PH To 13.89 PH
10.	Sandra L. Hockstein 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	12/19/09	13.89 PH To 13.89 PH
11.	Joclyn J. Phillips J.R. #13	Nursing Assistant Unit 03 To Nursing Assistant Unit 03	NM Nursing 24.0 hrs/wk To NM Nursing 40.0 hrs/wk	12/19/09	13.89 PH To 13.89 PH
12.	Gayle S. Turner 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	12/19/09	13.89 PH To 13.89 PH
13.	Betty Vernet 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	12/19/09	13.89 PH To 13.89 PH

PROMOTION

	NAME	TITLE	DEPARTMENT	DATE*	REMARKS
14.	Barbara L. Raudenbush J.R.#615	Coordinator Unit 03 To Office Manager Unit 00	Tax Claim 35.0 hrs/wk To Tax Claim 40.0 hrs/wk	12/21/09	19.44 PH To 42,765.30 PA

SEPARATIONS

	NAME	TITLE	DEPARTMENT	DATE*	REMARKS
15.	Elizabeth Barclay	Aging Care Manager II	AAA	12/07/09	Separation**
16.	Terrence L. Cheromcka	Activities Assistant	NM	01/02/10	Separation
17.	Ronald W. Crawford	Corrections Officer	Corrections	12/04/09	Separation
18.	Cynthia J. Daley	LPN	NM Nursing Pool	11/16/09	Separation
19.	Michael J. Falco	Corrections Officer	Corrections	12/03/09	Separation

20.	Philip J. Graziani	Custodian	General Services	12/07/09	Separation
21.	John L. Mahon	Lieutenant Corrections	Corrections	12/04/09	Separation
22.	David M. Sanko	Chief Operating Officer	Commissioners	02/04/10	Separation***

+eligible for 50 cents/hour bonus if completes season *estimated date **Never Started ***Agreement

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

MISCELLANEOUS

Brian Hessenthaler, Acting Chief Operating Officer, reported on the following:

Mr. Hessenthaler asked Dr. Damsker, Health Director, to give an update regarding H1N1. Dr. Damsker reported that mass clinics continue, with more clinics scheduled in early January for any remaining Bucks County residents who wish receive the vaccine. Dr. Damsker also reported that there has been an 85% drop in the number of people getting the flu nationwide and there is no seasonal flu circulating right now. Mr. Martin commended Dr. Damsker and his staff for doing great work.

Mr. Hessenthaler commended all the Department Heads, Division Leaders, Row Offices, the Courts, and especially Dave Boscola, Deputy Finance Director, for the hard work put in to the budget this year.

Mr. Hessenthaler reported that the Commissioners will be hosting the Holiday Pageant for kids on December 24, 2009, from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., at the Courthouse.

Lynn T. Bush, Acting Chief Clerk, reported on the following:

Ms. Bush reported that she, the Commissioners and Brian Hessenthaler had a briefing yesterday regarding the flooding situation and the study that was released by the Delaware River Basin Commission. The Commission was formed to help us understand the causes of the severe floods of 2004, 2005, and 2006. Ms. Bush indicated that the Task Force will be looking into that and coming up with a response to help reduce the damages from flooding along the river. Mr. Cawley commented that there will never be a time when anyone can say that there will never be flooding along the Delaware River if we do X, or Y, or Z, but that there are several things we can do to significantly reduce the risk of flooding, and this should be the focus of discussions for the Task Force moving forward.

The Commissioners commented on the following matters:

Ms. Ellis-Marseglia reported that Joe Funk, Director of Human Services, is having a letter printed for the Commissioner’s signatures to those agencies that provide foster care thanking them for helping us, but letting them know that we hope they will put an extra effort into recruiting families that live in Bucks County and within the School District.

Ms. Ellis-Marseglia inquired regarding the RFP on housing financial counseling and housing financial services and why we are doing it. Lynn Bush stated that it has not gone out, and is just beginning the process of being reviewed. She explained that the County has contracts with a couple of agencies to provide the housing counseling that we currently have which addresses the first time home buyer issue and foreclosures. Ms. Bush indicated that several agencies have approached the County who are interested in doing this, so perhaps we should make it available to any agency that is qualified and interested in serving the County in this way. Ms. Bush further indicated that the RFP is under review by Maureen McIlvaine, Purchasing Director, to see that it properly addresses those issues.

Ms. Ellis-Marseglia stated that HOK has submitted some renderings regarding the building exterior for the new Courthouse and inquired whether a meeting will be scheduled to discuss this. Jerry Anderson, Project Manager from General Services, responded that it is still preliminary and as soon as they are satisfied with the pictures he will bring them to the Commissioners’ attention. Mr. Cawley indicated that he requested that the exterior of the building be in brick for the sake of cohesion. Mr. Martin stated that they will also be communicating with the residents of Doylestown Borough for input. Mr. Anderson added that the Borough has a very comprehensive ordinance that must be adhered to and that this is a long process.

Ms. Ellis-Marseglia expressed that when a “Code Blue” is declared she does not think it is necessary to contact Brian Hessenthaler, Acting Chief Operating Officer, and the three Commissioners. Joe Funk suggested that because it is a declaration, and for the sake of continuity, it was decided that John Dougherty, Director of Emergency Services, and Dr. Damsker, Health Director, would notify the COO and the Commissioners when a “Code Blue” goes into effect. Mr. Funk also explained that a “Code Blue” would be declared when the temperature went below 20 degrees for 2 days in a row. Mr. Martin stated that when that happens and Mr. Dougherty and Dr. Damsker declare a “Code Blue”, they can then notify the COO and the Commissioners.

Mr. Martin reported that there was a ceremony in the Courthouse dedicating a Project Blue Light Wreath recognizing law enforcement who have perished in the line of duty.

Mr. Martin reported that he and Commissioner Ellis-Marseglia celebrated the groundbreaking for the expansion of the Bucks County Historical Society this week by placing their hands in a vat of concrete.

Mr. Martin reported that Commissioner Cawley unveiled a beautiful painting in the Courthouse this week that was brought back from South Korea.

Mr. Cawley reported that the Economic Development Advisory Board met and there will be a report issued by the end of the year to the Commissioners and he believes it will recommend some ongoing steps as part of the County's self analysis and will sketch out a blue print for economic improvement.

Mr. Cawley stated that he listened to the audio from the November 4, 2009 Commissioners Meeting. He stated that he never used the word "incompetent" and he never used the term "Judge of Election".

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

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

Airport Authority

Louis E. McKay – reappointment, term expires 1/1/15

Area Agency on Aging Council

Albert J. Sutter, Jr. – reappointment, term expires 1/1/13

Conservation District

John Frederick, Farmer Director – reappointment, term expires 12/31/13

Jeffrey Garton, Public Director – reappointment, term expires 12/31/13

David Wolfinger, Farmer Director – new appointment, term expires 12/31/11

Enterprise Zone Organization

George Flocco – reappointment, term expires 12/31/12

Nicholas Moran – reappointment, term expires 12/31/12

Ken Worthington – reappointment, term expires 12/31/12

Human Relations Council

Maria Armington – reappointment, term expires 12/18/12

Jean Taylor Kelly – reappointment, term expires 12/18/12

Independence Blue Cross of Philadelphia

Dr. Vail P. Garvin-Unterberger – reappointment, term expires 1/1/13

Open Space Review Board

Anthony Belfield – reappointment, term expires 11/5/10

George Dranginis – reappointment, term expires 11/5/10

Dr. Joshua Feldstein – reappointment, term expires 11/5/10

Frederick S. Groshens – reappointment, term expires 11/5/10

Marilyn Jacobson – reappointment, term expires 11/5/10

Robert Moffett, Esq. – reappointment, term expires 11/5/10

Hon. William Hart Rufe, III – reappointment, term expires 11/5/10

Opportunity Council

Maureen Carlton, Esq. – reappointment, term expires 12/31/12

Saint Mary Hospital Authority

Nanci Ciarrocchi – reappointment, term expires 12/31/14

SEPTA – Citizens Advisory Commission

Ryan Berry – reappointment, term expires 1/4/12

Workforce Investment Board

Stephen Noll – reappointment, term expires 12/31/12

Lenora Williams – reappointment, term expires 12/31/12

Upon motion of Mr. Cawley, seconded by Mr. Martin, with the vote as follows, 3-0, a Resolution was adopted to approve the following appointments:

Conference & Visitors Bureau

Joseph H. Campbell – reappointment, term expires 12/31/13

Susan S. Koelble – reappointment, term expires 12/31/13

Bob Waite – reappointment, term expires 12/31/13

Upon motion of Mr. Cawley, seconded by Mr. Martin, and opposed by Ms. Ellis-Marseglia, with the vote as follows, 2-1, a Resolution was adopted to approve the following appointments:

Enterprise Zone Organization

Jane Burger – reappointment, term expires 12/31/12

Housing Authority

Michael Gallagher – new appointment, term expires 12/15/13

Industrial Development Authority

Harry W. Fawkes – reappointment, term expires 1/1/15

Library Board

William P. Draper – reappointment, term expires 10/16/12

Constance Renee Moore – new appointment, term expires 10/16/12

Planning Commission

David R. Nyman – reappointment, term expires 1/1/14

Carol A. Pierce – reappointment, term expires 1/1/14

Water and Sewer Authority

Norman (Pete) Stainthorpe – reappointment, term expires 1/1/15

Upon motion of Mr. Cawley, seconded by Mr. Martin, and abstained by Ms. Ellis-Marseglia, with the vote as follows, 2-0-1, a Resolution was adopted to approve the following appointment:

Conference & Visitors Bureau

Paul Lacetra – new appointment, term expires 12/31/10

Upon motion of Mr. Cawley, seconded by Ms. Ellis-Marseglia, and abstained by Mr. Martin, with the vote as follows, 2-0-1, a Resolution was adopted to approve the following appointment:

Conservation District

Charles H. Martin – reappointment, term expires 1/1/11

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

Emergency Health Advisory Council

John L. Yoder – new appointment, term expires 2/1/12

Upon motion of Ms. Ellis-Marseglia, seconded by Mr. Martin, and abstained by Mr. Cawley, with the vote as follows, 2-0-1, a Resolution was adopted to approve the following appointment:

Open Space Review Board

Det Ansinn – new appointment, term expires 11/5/10

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

GRANTS - Hotel Tax Project

Mr. Martin introduced Jerry Lepping, Executive Director of the Bucks County Conference & Visitors Center. Mr. Lepping thanked the Commissioners and introduced the three member panel that decides who will be awarded the grants as Commissioner Martin, Jeff Marshall from the Heritage Conservancy, and Bill Haas, First Vice-President of the CVB. Mr. Lepping went on to state that in early 2008 the Bucks County Commissioners and the CVB created a plan whereby a portion of the hotel tax paid by overnight visitors would be set aside in a fund from which grants would be awarded to non-profit, tourism related members of the CVB. These funds may be used for marketing, special events, or capital projects which would increase tourism into Bucks County. The fund is expected to be approximately \$400,000 per year split into two periods. Mr. Lepping announced the award winners for the fall grants as follows:

B & B Inns of Bucks County	\$15,000.
New Hope Celebrates	\$2,500.
Bucks County Wine Trail	\$20,000.
Johnsville Centrifuge	\$2,500.
Historic Morrisville	\$5,000.
Heritage Conservancy	\$3,000.
Pearl S. Buck	\$10,000.
Quakertown Alive	\$2,000.
Bucks County Covered Bridge Society	\$7,500.
Bowman Hill Wildflower Preserve	\$12,500.
Historic Society of Bensalem	\$2,500.
Bucks County Historic Society	\$20,000.
James A. Michener Art Museum	\$25,000.
Delaware Valley Philharmonic Orchestra	\$5,000.
River Road Business Alliance	\$20,000.
Historic Fallsington	\$3,000.
King Library Restoration	\$3,000.
Craven Hall	\$1,500.
Churchville Nature Center	\$7,500.
Landmark Towns	\$10,000.
Bucks County Wine Trail & The New Hope Chamber of Commerce Wine Fair	\$10,000.

Commissioner Cawley pointed out that it was Commissioner Martin’s idea to create this fund and applauded his efforts.

PUBLIC COMMENT – All Items

Steve Nathan of West Rockhill Township stated that he lives on Mill Creek Drive in Mill Creek Manor adjacent to the Mill Creek Bridge that closed on the Friday before Labor Day weekend. Mr. Nathan went on to say that on December 3, 2009, two telephone poles came down creating a power outage for 15 hours and preventing many people from getting out of the area for 12 hours. He stated that no work has been done to repair the bridge and asked when it will be worked on. Mr. Martin indicated that in order to repair the bridge the County must engage an engineering firm and confirmed with Joe Bush of General Services that a RFP (Request for Proposals) has been done for the work. Joe Bush indicated that he should have a recommendation for an engineering firm by the end of January. Mr. Cawley mentioned that there are competing interest among those who want the bridge repaired and those who want the bridge replaced, but that what happened last month is an indication of how important it is to get the bridge open. Mr. Nathan questioned why something wasn't done to repair the bridge before it had to be closed. He stated that the Township and its residents have no idea what is going on and invited the Commissioners to attend a Township meeting this evening with Township Supervisors and residents. Mr. Cawley stated that the process is underway and Mr. Martin added that the Emergency Coordinator from the Township should have plans in place when situations such as this arise. Ms. Ellis-Marseglia asked Joe Bush why the recommended bridge repairs from 2007 were not done. Mr. Bush indicated that not all of the recommended repairs could be done because of the cost involved. He also indicated that he has been in constant contact with the Township Manager. Mr. Martin stated that the County will do its best to get the bridge open as soon as possible. Mr. Cawley stated that public safety is paramount, but all concerns have to be considered. A discussion followed regarding working with Penn Dot to secure the needed funds.

Ed Kesselback, Council Member from Bensalem Township, thanked the Commissioners and commended each for the work they did on the Budget and for presenting the residents of Bucks County with a zero tax increase. Mr. Kesselback went on to say that all residents understand a zero increase in taxes, regardless of how they vote.

Det Ansinn, Council Member from Doylestown Borough, thanked the Commissioners on behalf of the Library Board for the Budget Amendment and complimented the Commissioners and their staff on how quickly they acted to get this money into the general fund despite the challenges to do so. Mr. Ansinn expressed that he was disappointed not to be reappointed to the Library Board and asked why the Commissioners chose not to do so. Mr. Cawley explained that when he looked at the compliment of the Board, he was surprised to see that there was no representation from the area of Bucks County typically referred to as "Lower Bucks" and it was important to him to have that presence. Ms. Ellis-Marseglia asked if geography will be a consideration when making appointments to other Boards and Mr. Cawley responded that it is something that we should strive toward. Mr. Martin pointed out that the woman appointed to the Library Board is from Levittown and expressed a desire to serve the needs of the Lower Bucks County area. Mr. Ansinn stated that he now looks forward to serving on the Open Space Review Board.

Mr. Ansinn expressed that he was happy to hear that some renderings are in place for the new Justice Center and looks forward to the time when the Borough, both Council and residents, will have an opportunity to view them.

Mr. Ansinn pointed out that for the past couple of Commissioners Meetings the press conference section of the agenda has been removed and encouraged the Commissioners to put it back on the agenda. Mr. Martin asked Mr. Ansinn if they hold a press conference at their Borough Meetings and Mr. Ansinn indicated that they do not have a dedicated press conference. Mr. Martin explained that the meetings last a lot longer than they used to, but the Commissioners and their staff always make themselves available to the press.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The next public meeting of the Bucks County Commissioners will be held on Wednesday, January 6, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., at the Bucks County Courthouse Community Room, 55 East Court Street, 1st Floor, Doylestown, 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

Lynn T. Bush, Acting Chief Clerk

