



DAUPHIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WORKSHOP MEETING

JANUARY 28, 2009

10:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dominic D. DiFrancesco, II, Vice Chairman
George P. Hartwick, III, Secretary

Jeff Haste, Chairman (ABSENT)

STAFF PRESENT

Chad Saylor, Chief Clerk; Marie E. Rebuck, Controller; Janis Creason, Treasurer; J. Scott Burford, Deputy Chief Clerk; Bruce Foreman, Esq., Solicitor's Office; Leila Brown, Solicitor's Office; Randy Baratucci, Director of Purchasing; Kay Lengle, Personnel; Dave Schreiber, Personnel; Diane McNaughton, Commissioners' Office; Amy Richards, Commissioners' Office; Gertrude Farling, Controller's Office; Marge Ebersole, Children & Youth; Jen Barnes, Children & Youth; David Mattern, Children & Youth; George Connor, Community & Economic Development; Jena Wolgemuth, Commissioners' Office; Kacey Truax, Commissioners' Office and Brenda Hoffer, Commissioners' Office.

GUESTS PRESENT

George Groves, Justin Warren, Jim Szyborski, Mark Stewart, Esq., Mike Musser, Fox 43, WHTM 27, Paul Zeigler and Dan Miller

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. DiFrancesco, Vice Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Everyone observed a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. DiFrancesco: The Agenda shows that we will have three sets of meeting minutes to take up at our Legislative session next week. They are the January 14 and 21 Workshop and Legislative Meeting Minutes and the January 21 Salary Board Minutes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. DiFrancesco: We are at the point on the Agenda for public participation. Is there anybody in the room who would like to address the Board? (There was none.)

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS/GUESTS

A. George Groves, Chairman, Gaming Advisory Committee

1. Presentation of Recommendations for Local Share Municipal Grants

Mr. Groves: My name is George Groves and I'm Chairman of the Dauphin County Gaming Advisory Committee. With me are Justin Warren, Vice Chairman, and member Jim Szymborski. Two of our members, David Craig and Lloyd Umberger could not be here today. We were assisted in this project by Mark Stewart of Wolf Block, Mike Musser from Community Network & Resources and Amy Richards from the Dauphin County Communications Department.

The Pennsylvania Gaming Act requires casinos to share their gaming revenues with host counties and host municipalities. The requirements on the use vary by type and location of the casino. The local share gaming funds are broken down as follows: the County's share equals 2% of the gross revenues, the municipal's share equals 2% of the gross revenues or \$10 million, whichever is greater, and approximately 50% of the local share funds are dedicated for grants. As well, the Gaming Act creates two separate grant pools for local share funds. Grants are awarded by the Dauphin County Industrial Development Authority and grants are awarded by the Board of Commissioners.

The Committee's responsibilities include advising the Dauphin County Commissioners as to the need for municipal funds, to consider the health, safety, transportation and the other elements of public interest and to work with the Dauphin County Industrial Development Authority specifically relating to East Hanover Township and the

Memorandum of Understanding between East Hanover and Dauphin County. The details of that Memorandum of Understanding are as follows: the IDA and East Hanover Township entered into a MOU in recognition of the greater impact for East Hanover as the host municipality. There is priority consideration for grants of up to a total of \$3 million per year and the Memorandum lasts for four years. The Commissioner Grant Pool is awarded by the Dauphin County Commissioners with advice from this Gaming Advisory Committee. It is funded by a portion of the excess municipal share. The eligible applicants for local share grants include: East Hanover Township, the contiguous municipalities, Derry Township, Middle Paxton, Rush, South Hanover and West Hanover Townships, Dauphin County and non-contiguous municipalities and not-for-profits that partner with an eligible applicant.

The Committee processed the Commissioner Pool Applications. The Committee provides advice and/or recommendations to the Commissioners. The Committee is comprised of two members from East Hanover Township, two members from other contiguous municipalities and one member who is County-wide. This chart goes through the timetable that we dealt with this year. On September 2, 2008 all of the applications were due. Between September and November of 2008 the applications were reviewed for eligibility and completeness and in many cases supplementary information was requested. On the dates of December 8, 10 and 11, 2008, public presentations were made to the Industrial Development Authority and/or the Gaming Advisory Committee. Following those meetings until now, the Committee worked on ranking the applications for the grants. On January 15 the IDA took action on the grant applications submitted to them and today, January 28, 2009, we provide our recommendations to the Board of Commissioners.

The principles that were followed in developing our recommendations include: a priority given to infrastructure projects, inter-governmental projects and projects that leverage outside investment in Dauphin County were favored, ready-to-go projects that needed the final piece of financing had the advantage and municipal sponsors had to indicate and prioritize support for those projects. We relied upon that prioritization in our development of recommendations.

The Committee received local share applications from 19 separate applicants, 13 of which were eligible. They proposed funding for a total of 54 projects. The applications totaled a grand amount of greater than \$17 million or more than three times the amount of available funds. That is the background for the recommendations. I would like to now proceed with our specific recommendations.

Priority 1 - East Hanover Township various infrastructure and planning projects for a request total of greater than \$7.1 million. The Committee recommends to the Commissioners an amount of \$1.48 million, which is in concert with the Dauphin County Industrial Development Authority. The combination of the two will fulfill year one of the Memorandum of Understanding.

Priority 2 - West Hanover Township – New Fire Engine Pumper Unit requested \$400,500. We recommend the same amount.

Priority 3 - West Hanover Township – New Fire Station requested \$2 million. Our recommendation is for \$329,000 for phase 1 and land acquisition.

Priority 4 - Dauphin County and Grantville Food Pantry requested a building addition, new van and payment for a social worker. The request was for \$227,288. We recommended \$188,000 for the addition and the van.

Priority 5 - is Derry Township Route 743 relocation, requested amount was \$525,000. We recommend the same.

Priority 6 - South Hanover Township – New Municipal Building Land Acquisition requested amount \$407,976, which is also our recommendation.

Priority 7 - Middle Paxton Township for the development of a shared municipal service and fire building in concert with Dauphin Borough, requested \$1.75 million. Our recommendation is for \$250,000 for design and preconstruction services.

Priority 8 – Rush Township for a new Municipal Building and Emergency Management Center. The request was for \$150,000 that is also our recommendation.

Priority 9 – Washington Township and Northern Dauphin County YMCA for the development of a senior wellness center (construction and equipment). The request is for \$236,000. Our recommendation is for \$57,900 to complete the construction and outfit the kitchen.

Priority 10 – South Hanover Township for Shetland Drive improvements. The original request was for \$323,000. Our recommendation is \$140,000 and that is based upon a revised bid that will fulfill the project needs.

Priority 11 – Hummelstown Borough for Shope Field improvements and public transit project. The request is for \$180,000. Our recommendation is \$160,000.

The remainder of the projects are listed in the priority that we accorded them, but we have now exceeded our recommended amount of money so we stopped recommending dollar amounts. They are listed for your review. West Hanover Township, South Hanover Township, Dauphin County Library, City of Harrisburg, Emergency Care Training at Penn State Milton Hershey, Geyer's Church Road improvements, Street Sweeper in West Hanover and land acquisition for South Hanover parks. Again, we have gone beyond the allotted funds so we make no recommendations in those cases.

The grants that we are recommending total \$4,087,592. Ninety-five percent of these recommended grants go to East Hanover Township and projects within the five contiguous townships. The recommended grants will leverage a total of \$13.9 million of

additional investment in Dauphin County and the recommended grants will provide \$1.2 million in support for fire and emergency management related efforts.

Commissioners these are our recommendations and we thank you for the opportunity to serve the County on this project and we are open to any questions that you might have.

Mr. DiFrancesco: Before we get into any questions, I just want to state this Board's sincere appreciation for everything that you have done. Obviously starting something new, especially something like this, where basically you have a difficult job of looking at a number of projects that far exceed the amount of money that is available and then having to make the tough decisions to tell a bunch of people no and to invest hard dollars into the yes projects. Not only have you done a great job in presenting recommendations today, you have also done a fabulous job setting up the structure by which this will move forward each and every year. I just want to thank you all for your efforts first.

Mr. Hartwick: I would like to echo Commissioner DiFrancesco's comments. We appreciate the long hours that you put in, the professionalism by which you set the structure up and the standard by which other counties in fact will be trying to establish their own set of structures. I have already been contacted by Northampton County, Allegheny County and Philadelphia County talking about what's our structure, how is it going so smoothly, because in other parts of the State it hasn't gone that smoothly. I quite frankly credit this Board for the structure of the professionals that have worked along with them from Wolf Block to Community & Networking Resources to be able to engage the local officials at all levels, making sure that we are meeting them where they are at, understanding what the priorities of the Board of Commissioners are and understanding what the priorities of the local communities are. It is not often that we have a Board that sits in front of us that listened to everything that we said. In this case, things that we highlighted were we want to leverage dollars to try to get the maximum investment for infrastructure. It shouldn't just be about the \$4 million that we have to invest as a part of casino revenue. It should be about the ability to inject a significant amount of money into infrastructure projects in Dauphin County and prioritize those projects that have additional funding. The Derry Township project was a perfect example of that. I forget how many dollars went into the Derry project already, but that got financing that was needed to be able to put that very important road improvement and infrastructure in place was something that I think monies were designed for. It is not designed for political insiders, inside trading, for the ability to just help out friends. It is designed to have an open transparent process that is able to be evaluated with those priorities in mind with the largest amount of investment and economic impact on this region. Those requests then brought forward to the Board of Commissioners and it has been done relatively without a whole lot of fanfare. That means you guys are doing your job. I know you are all here for the high salaries you receive from this unpaid position, but we greatly appreciate the professionalism, the due diligence, the time that you have placed into this and applying what many evaluated this process and we received applications for the Gaming Advisory Board. People wondered what the factors were that made us make the determination. As a result of this process going the

way it was, I think we did pretty good in our evaluation process to recognize professionals who have expertise in a number of fields who are able to handle some very difficult decisions from planning to banking to business and even local business to understand what the needs of the local communities are and to bring the best applications forward. Kudos to the Committee and the IDA as well for working cooperatively along with us in this process to establish a structure. While it may need a little bit of tinkering and hopefully as we move forward we'll think about not having you spend as much time as you did this year, because I know your time is extremely valuable, but I think we put a pretty good structure in place as we move forward to examine these requests as the casino hopefully continues to be a success. Commissioner DiFrancesco noted Priority 4 emergency management services and I see a significant amount of investment for these dollars. Maybe I can have you come in and train some of our other directors to listen to what exactly the Board says and then carry out the request. We thank you for all your hard work.

Mr. DiFrancesco: As this is being reported publicly and as these projects go forward, I think it is important to note that these dollars are truly going to help the priorities of the taxpayers of Dauphin County as well. What we have been able to do is find an alternative source of revenue to do very important community projects, projects that without this line of funding would require property taxes to offset the costs that we were able to offset today. We were able to help fire companies and road projects and senior citizens with a source of revenue that doesn't come from the taxpayers and that takes that burden off of their back and their community is a better place because of it. Again, what you have done is an excellent job and we thank you very much for your service and we appreciate this list of priorities. It was well thought out. It was responsive to the demands of the community and I'm quite certain that your recommendations will move forward. Thank you very much.

B. Paul Zeigler, CPEC and Scott Burford

1. Update on Natural Gas Audit and the CPEC Program

Mr. Burford: As you are aware Dauphin County is a member of the Central Pennsylvania Energy Consortium. Dauphin County does participate in some of the product lines the Consortium offers. We have not participated historically in the natural gas program. I had directed Paul Zeigler to conduct an audit of the natural gas program. I would like to turn it over to him to share with you briefly the methodology in which the audit was conducted and share with you some of the results.

Mr. Zeigler: We were given usage data for 16 accounts. You have 16 natural gas accounts in the County. I want to emphasize the fact that what we were given was 2007 actual natural gas usage and the cost of the commodity in that usage. That is important as I get into the methodology. Eleven of those accounts are so small that you would derive no benefit by being in this program, because there are costs that far exceed what the amount of gas was being used. So, were just basically put to the side. I'm not sure what they are used for, but they are very small. We concentrated on five

accounts, three of which were Prison, one at the Juvenile Center and one at Work Release. Those were the five accounts that we looked at. We look at accounts from two perspectives. One is whether the account itself is actually in the right rate class. There are situations where you find a user in a rate class that is not the best rate class to obtain the lowest commodity price, because the structure of the rate class and the particular utility. In this situation, because here we are looking at history of where you already have someone in place that is assisting you doing some sort of service to you, we agree that the rate classes for these accounts, these five accounts, are correct. There is nothing to be gained by trying to change a rate class and thereby derive a better distribution rate. The second phase is to look and see whether Central Pennsylvania Energy Consortium could save you money on commodity for those accounts. We, as again I said, had the usage data and the cost of the commodity for the year 2007. So, our comparison is what you would have done in those accounts had you been with the Energy Consortium in 2007 as opposed to what you did with these accounts, bearing in mind that I cannot tell you what your actual cost was, because I didn't know anything more than your actual commodity cost. Obviously there are administrative costs that go beyond the commodity cost that you incur when you employ an entity and I was not provided that information. The numbers that I am giving you are net as to the Energy Consortium, because we include those costs. For the Prison account, you would have saved \$7,000 in the year 2007 had you been with the program. Again, I want to emphasize that my number includes our costs. We don't know what the administrative costs were to you from your current consultant. The second account is a Prison account as well. In that account you would have saved \$2,500 had you been with the Energy Consortium in the year 2007. The third account is a Prison account and in that account it appeared that you actually were better where you were in 2007 by \$370. I have to say that doesn't include whatever administrative costs you incurred for administering that account, because we don't know what that is. Our \$370 number compares our costs, which include all administrative costs. The juvenile center you were better being where you are by \$559 and the Work Release program you were better off being where you were by \$1,073. Again in those three situations we don't know what your final total cost was per MCF. I can tell you that the numbers I'm giving you as they relate to our analysis and history is a net cost. It includes the administrative costs. Are there any questions? (There was none.)

PERSONNEL

Ms. Lengle: Are there any questions on the Salary Board items? (There was none.) Are there any questions on the Personnel Packet? (There was none.) There are two items that I would like to request a vote on today. I would also like to point out that there is a request for a prison employee to participate in the educational incentive program. She is a treatment specialist. That can be voted on next week. The two items that I would request a vote on today are #4 a Request to Fill a Vacancy and #7 a New Hire.

It was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. DiFrancesco that the Board approve Item #4, a Request to Fill a Vacancy, and Item #7, a New Hire, of the Personnel Packet.

Discussion:

Mr. Hartwick: Item #7, we have identified and are now in a position to offer a job to a brand new Children and Youth Administrator, a young lady who brings a great wealth of experience to the County. This position has been vacant for over a year. We are extremely excited about a number of things going on in the agency. A brand new dependency, an effort by the Supreme Court to try to put kids back into permanency a whole lot quicker, additional programs for family founding, family group decision-making and family credentialing. We are addressing staff turnover concerns with a study that is getting ready to be undertaken right now to have us continue to be at a full complement. We are rearranging some staff around and with the leadership of Sue Cohick who is going to be our brand new Children and Youth Administrator, I'm looking forward to continuing to be a leader in that area across the Commonwealth. I would like to just make that known for the record.

Mr. DiFrancesco: I had the opportunity to meet with her the other day and chat with her. I think she is going to make a wonderful addition to that department.

Question: Mr. DiFrancesco – Aye and Mr. Hartwick – Aye; motion carried.

PURCHASE ORDERS

Mr. DiFrancesco: Mr. Baratucci – A day when you can come before us calmly knowing that there will not be any comments (chuckle). Sit before us, those that respect your ability...

Mr. Baratucci: You would have never forgotten me.

Mr. DiFrancesco: And the good job that you do for Dauphin County every day.

Mr. Baratucci: You're going to give him a tape of this right?

Mr. DiFrancesco: You'll be on the record. Are you going to show it to the Chairman?

Mr. Baratucci: Yes, I'm going to listen to the tape for all the compliments.

Mr. Hartwick: Make sure you clarify that for the record.

Mr. Baratucci: You should have received your packet yesterday. There are two items, Page 27 and 28. Page 27 is for some items out of our drug forfeiture funds. Mike does not have a budget in there. He never puts one in there, but monitors the Drug Forfeiture money as it comes in to make sure that there is enough to cover any expenses. That

one will stay as it is. Page 28 is a Growing Greener Grant for a Wildwood project. The monies there just need to be appropriated into the different line items and that will be done before next week's approval. Other than those two everything else is there for you to review and we'll ask for a vote on it next week. Are there any questions on the Packet? (There was none.)

TRAINING PACKET

Mr. DiFrancesco: Are there any items on the Training Packet that need to be addressed?

Mr. Saylor: Yes, we need to vote on Item #2 and #10.

Mr. DiFrancesco: Are there any questions on Items #2 and #10 or any of the other items listed?

Mr. Hartwick: Can you get some clarification on Item #13? For those items that need to be voted on I have no questions.

Mr. DiFrancesco: The only thing that I will raise as I usually do, if you could verify the two items #4 and #10 just to make certain that we would not be better off with them using a rental car for those two trips. They appear to meet the criteria and I believe the cost should be lower, but I may be wrong on that. Could you just look into those two?

It was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. DiFrancesco that the Board approve Items #2 and #10; motion carried.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- A. Dauphin County Liquid Fuels Tax Fund Report. (*****A VOTE IS REQUESTED 1/28/09*****)
- B. Appointment of Bonnie Rice and Korah Abraham to the Dauphin County MH/MR Advisory Board. Terms will expire December 31, 2011.

Mr. DiFrancesco: Items for Discussion, we have one item on the Agenda today that is to be voted.

Mr. Hartwick: I'm asking if there is any way that we could approve Item B today as well. We have an Advisory Board meeting for MH/MR tomorrow. All the appropriate backgrounds were done.

It was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. DiFrancesco that the Board approve Items A and B under Items for Discussion, listed above; motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Foreman: Obviously Bill Tully is not here today, because of his physical infirmities. He is here in spirit. I have nothing to add to the Solicitor's Report that was circulated. I would be happy to answer any of your questions.

Mr. DiFrancesco: The TMI tower site, which I know is being worked on back and forth. I understand that this week there may have been some movement or at least some changing of attitude or whatever it might be to make this a higher priority on both sides. If you could follow-up on that and just make sure. My big concern with that is I know we are pushing the timeline. The more that site is delayed the greater the potential or risk of increased costs. We want to make sure that we don't add any increased cost because of legal issues. This should be a very simple matter.

Mr. Foreman: I'll follow-up on that.

Mr. Hartwick: I'm concerned about the Derry Township case and how that is all going to work out related to the appeal. I'll talk to Steve about that.

CHIEF CLERK'S REPORT – CHAD SAYLOR

Mr. Saylor: I have one item that I would like to put on the record and that involves the Courthouse. Just to note that we are soon to be the proud parents of two new county judges and staff is working already to ensure that office space is available for them. It would appear that we would be able to move current staff around and provide office space to the new judges without any major kind of cost. You will be seeing more of that down the road, but I wanted to put that on the record that we are working on that item.

Mr. DiFrancesco: When the idea of adding two new judges came up awhile back we worked with the current President Judge to make sure that was one of the issues that we could work within the space confines of the current Courthouse. We are doing some things that will support and give the judges the opportunity to carry out their duties, but also I believe we are considering some options that will make our process move more smoothly and probably reduce costs in other areas in the simply form of the movement of people through the Court system and so forth. So far things are going very well and I want to commend the President Judge for his efforts, because Judge Lewis has been very easy to work with.

Mr. Hartwick: We can't state that this isn't without cost. There are going to be some incurred costs. We are trying to save money as well as thinking about the entire Court and criminal justice process, but there may be some upfront expenditure.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Hartwick: I would like to thank Lauren and Alexis Hartwick, my twins who have sat by patiently today, because we have been running late. Oh, they already left. I

promised that they could get out in the snow, but we were running late and they had to come in here with me. I wanted to thank them as part of the record.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. DiFrancesco: We are at the point in time for public participation. Is there anybody in the audience that would like to participate? (There was none.)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. DiFrancesco that the Board adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Chad Saylor, Chief Clerk

Transcribed by: Richie-Ann Martz