



DAUPHIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WORKSHOP MEETING

JULY 15, 2009

10:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Chad Saylor, Chief Clerk; Marie E. Rebeck, Controller; Janis Creason, Treasurer; William Tully, Esq., Solicitor; J. Scott Burford, Deputy Chief Clerk; Randy Baratucci, Director of Purchasing; Dave Schreiber, Personnel; Faye Fisher, Director of Personnel; Fred Lighty, Esq., Human Services Director's Office; Amy Richards, Commissioners' Office; Leila Brown, Solicitor's Office; Hector Ortiz, Human Services Director's Office; Peter Vriens, Director of Human Services; Michelle Haack, Commissioners' Office; Jordan Barkus, Commissioners' Office; Bruce Foreman, Esq., Solicitor's Office; Kay Lenge, Personnel; Lindsey Bierzonski, Solicitor's Office; Danielle Vayda, Solicitor's Office; Diane McNaughton, Commissioners' Office; Larry Moore, Parks & Recreation; Tom Guenther, Director of IT; Brenda Hoffer, Commissioners' Office; Jena Wolgemuth, Commissioners' Office and Richie-Ann Martz, Assistant Chief Clerk

GUESTS PRESENT

Dan Miller, Terri Herb, Heidi Herb, Paula Hill, Mikala Wright, Marquis Hill, Brian Hill, Rebecca Underkoffler, Madison Hill, Jennifer Kinsey, Brad Kinsey, Marley Kinsey, Ms. Rodriguez, Tariah Burton, Tania Tanna, Ceena Jenkins, Elaine Lane and Saj Edmonds

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Haste, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 10:10 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. Haste: We have three sets of Meeting Minutes that we'll take up at next week's Legislative Meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Haste: Next on the Agenda is public participation. Is there anyone in the audience that would like to address the Board at this time? (There was none.)

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS/GUESTS

A. Dauphin County Cultural Celebration Task Force

1. Essay Contest Winners

Mr. Hartwick: It is my pleasure this morning to first of all see so many beautiful young people in the audience and to discuss a little bit about why we are here. Dauphin County, about five/six years ago, talked about doing something a little bit different, it was a whole lot different, and that is trying to gain a greater understanding of individuals who are from all different backgrounds and different ways of life, to understand the people who we serve come from all different backgrounds and ways of life and the people that make up this County come from a very diverse background. It is quite frankly what makes this County such a great place to live. As the Mayor of Steelton, I know as my experience growing up that the differences between us are something that we should be celebrating and something that we have an obligation, not just when we see somebody at work, but to gain a deeper understanding of someone's background and history. Over the years the Cultural Diversity Celebration, which this year is going to be celebrated on August 7th with a fabulous group from Philadelphia, Kindred and Family Soul, which I'm hoping all of you join us. We are closing Market Street and are going to have a party. It is going to be a celebration. It is going to be a community coming together to celebrate those very important differences. We are doing it as a celebration, not in any negative way. When we first began the idea of recognizing cultural diversity in the County we wanted to talk about a way that we could do it and not just talk about it. Everybody wants to say how they promote diversity. We wanted to get in our organization and have people get to know the person that is next to them to gain a better understanding. I think the first year we had limited participation. I think

people were a little shocked. We sent out emails to everybody asking them about different things related to cultures and countries. We came out with a new program that in the end people qualified for a huge reward. They not only gained a better understanding of the person that lived next to them, but at the end they might get a trip to the Hershey Hotel and Spa or some other great gifts that caused them to pay attention the next year. As the word got out that we were really serious about getting to understand the differences in our cultures this thing has tremendously taken off. I want to give great credit to the Cultural Diversity Celebration Task Force, many of which are here today. Those are the individuals who judged the winning essays that are actually in front of us today. That Task Force is made up of individuals of all different cultures and nationalities and gives a great representation of the cross section of people and employees that we have here in Dauphin County. Those individuals are Hector Ortiz, Kay Lenge, Diane McNaughton, Kacey Truax, Faye Fisher, Larry Moore and I know there are a larger number of members of that committee. Those are the individuals that judged your essays today. It was interesting to note the diversity in the essays. We had some fabulous essays. We have increased the number of submissions probably by over 500%. I think the first year we only had a few submissions. This year we had about 240 submissions and we are expecting that to grow as all of you realize, just like we did with the awards for the employees, that I got cash in my hand for those of you who actually submitted and took time and thought to being able to answer a very important question which is "How is diversity expressed in your community?" As we begin to engage in the discussion we should require our community leaders to be addressing this subject, what are you doing about promoting diversity in your workforce, what are you doing about hiring individuals that look like me, what are you doing about advancing opportunities, what are you doing about understanding my culture and how are you going to be able to make sure that the people that are here serving me reflect those individuals that are in our community. Those are all things that this group answered in various ways. I was impressed. I was impressed with the level of essays. The principals and teachers of the schools deserve a great deal of credit and obviously the parents who are with these young children today who have obviously set a high level of expectation and their ability to want to participate and achieve also deserve a great deal of credit. What you see sometimes is the lack of parenting and the lack of involvement causes kids to go down the wrong path. You are obviously here with your child. You have expressed that level of expectation as it relates to academic success and personal success. We got some cash money today to award you for that effort that you made.

Today, I'm proud to announce the first age group winners (6 to 9 years old). The second place winner is from my hometown, Steelton-Highspire Elementary, Mr. Tyler Hill. (Applause was given and an award presented.)

The actual winner for the first age group is Marley Kinsey of Kunkel Elementary School in Middletown. (Applause was given and an award presented.)

The second age group (10 to 14 years old), the second place winner is from SciTech High, Tariah Burton. (Applause was given and an award presented.)

The winner is also from SciTech High and that is Paloma Ceballos. (Applause was given and an award presented.)

The final age category is 15 to 18 years of age. The second place winner is Heidi Herb from Halifax Area High School. (Applause was given and an award presented.)

The winner is Saj Edmonds from Steelton-Highspire High School. (Applause was given and an award presented.)

Marly Kinsey enjoys tap, jazz and hip-hop dancing. We might have her do a little bit of that in front of the group. I'm only kidding! She also is a volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House and the food bank in Middletown; all things that we should aspire to do in providing community service. She is in the gifted program and loves art, reading and drawing. (Applause was given.)

Tyler Hill enjoys attending mass, playing sports like basketball and football. I guess we have another superstar coming in Steelton. In school, he enjoys math and is a very good student. (Applause was given.)

Paloma Ceballos enjoys music and theatre. She hopes to study business at an Ivy League School. Paloma has two siblings and a half sister. (Applause was given.)

Tariah Burton was accepted into SciTech High and will start in the fall. She plans to major in forensics when she attends college. She enjoys cheerleading for the Harrisburg Cougars JV squad, running track and singing in the choir at her church From the Heart Ministry. (Applause was given.)

Saj Edmonds enjoys playing sports like volleyball, softball and basketball. She also plays piano and is learning guitar. Her favorite classes were math and science. She just graduated from school and plans to attend HACC and then Penn State University. (Applause was given.)

Heidi Herb will be a senior next year at Halifax Area High School. She plans to major in zoo science and attend Delaware Valley College. In her spare time she likes to garden, ride horses and volunteer as a member of student council and SADD. (Applause was given.)

(Pictures were taken.)

We certainly want to invite you to the August 7th event and maybe we could also provide some recognition at that event to the masses of folks that we believe will be there and hopefully encourage additional individuals to participate in the future. Commissioner Haste just mentioned that we should put on display the winning essays at the event to allow the individuals who are there to be able to read and understand why in fact you

were selected and it is because of your great work and inspiring thoughts that you are here. Hopefully your work will inspire other people to move in the same direction.

PERSONNEL

Ms. Lengle: Are there any questions on the Salary Board items? (There was none.)

Mr. Saylor: Are you aware of Mr. Wenner's request to create a new position?

Commissioners: Yes.

Ms. Lengle: Any questions on the personnel listings? (There was none.) I would like to request a vote on Vacancy #2.

Mr. Haste: Do they need to fill that?

Ms. Lengle: They would like to post that right away so they can fill in the August window. That gives them time to post and interview in time for the window.

It was moved by Mr. Hartwick and seconded by Mr. DiFrancesco that the Board approve Vacancy #2 of the Personnel Transactions; motion carried.

PURCHASE ORDERS

Mr. Baratucci: You should have all received your Packet yesterday. There are no additions or changes at this point so it is there for your review and approval next week unless you have any questions now. (There was none.)

TRAINING PACKET

Mr. Haste: There are no items that need to be approved today.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Mr. Haste: We have Items for Discussion. We have four listed A through D. All need to be acted upon today. Are there any that need to be pulled or voted on individually?

Mr. DiFrancesco: What is A.

Mr. Haste: It is a vehicle that was confiscated through the DA's Office. As part of Risk Management, we have transferred these vehicles over to the City. They can use them and they have control over them.

- A. Intragovernmental Transfer Agreement to transfer a vehicle to the City of Harrisburg. (**A VOTE IS REQUESTED 7/15/09**)

- B. Proposed Settlement for Donna Wolfgang v. Dauphin County. (*****A VOTE IS REQUESTED 7/15/09*****)
- C. Proposed Professional Services Contract from Susquehanna Group Advisors, Inc. to provide services to Dauphin County Prison. (*****A VOTE IS REQUESTED 7/15/09*****)
- D. Purchase of Service Per Diem Rates between Children and Youth and: (*****A VOTE IS REQUESTED 7/15/09*****)
 - 1. Hempfield Behavioral Health, Inc. (2009/2010)
 - 2. Colleen Kwiatkowski – Daycare (2009/2010)
 - 3. Colleen Kwiatkowski (2008/2009)

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

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Mr. Tully: All the matters on the report will be ready for action next week. If you have any questions I would be happy to answer them for you. (There was none.)

CHIEF CLERK’S REPORT – CHAD SAYLOR

Mr. Saylor: I have nothing unless there are questions of me. (There was none.)

COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS

Mr. Haste: I will note this later today, but I’ll also do it now since it was in the paper. I would like to commend PrimeCare for the work that they did out at the jail. Most of you know that there was a suspect of swine flu. Thank goodness about two years ago they put a MRSA practice in place that they were able to implement into this. It turned out that it wasn’t anything, but the State Department of Health was very pleased at how they responded and isolated the situation. Doc Hoffman in particular and Tom Toolan spent a tremendous amount of time there and did an excellent job.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Haste: We are again at the point in time for public participation. Is there anyone in the audience that would like to address the Board? (There was none.)

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Chad Saylor, Chief Clerk

Transcribed by: Richie-Ann Martz