



**DAUPHIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**WORKSHOP MEETING**

**AUGUST 25, 2010**

**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. Rebuck, Controller; Janis Creason, Treasurer; William Tully, Esq., Solicitor; J. Scott Burford, Deputy Chief Clerk; Randy Baratucci, Director of Purchasing; Leila Brown, Solicitor's Office; Fred Lighty, Esq., Human Services Director's Office; Dave Schreiber, Personnel; Kay Lenge, Personnel; Gary Serhan, Deputy Controller; Mike Yohe, Director of Budget & Finance; Edgar Cohen, Director of Facilities Maintenance; Greg Schneider, Budget & Finance; Donna S. Miller, Risk Management; Steve Shaver, Director of EMA; Amy Richards, Commissioners' Office; Brooke Miller, Personnel; Lorrie Bushman, Personnel; Robert Burns, Director of AAA; Tom Wasco, Director of Veterans Affairs; Sandy Snyder, Register of Wills; David Feidt, Solicitor's Office; Tom Guenther, Director of IT; Melissa Wion, Personnel; Kacey Truax, Commissioners' Office; Jena Wolgemuth, Commissioners' Office; Lynn Farina, Facilities Maintenance; Justin Imes, IT; Faye Fisher, Director of Personnel; Mike Pries, Director of Safety & Security; August Memmi, Director of Community & Economic Development; Steve Libhart, District Attorney's Office; George Connor, Community & Economic Development; Brenda Hoffer, Commissioners' Office and Richie-Ann Martz, Assistant Chief Clerk

**GUESTS PRESENT**

Mike Musser, Congressman Tim Holden, Tim Smith, Dominic D. DiFrancesco, Beverly DiFrancesco, Stefanie DiFrancesco, Elizabeth DiFrancesco, Anthony DiFrancesco, Debra Wagner, WHP 21, WHTM 27, Fox 43, Dave Black, John McNally, Matt Steck, Jim Nulton, Richard Bowra, Robert Martin, Karen Cullings, Kathy Silks, Sue Yenchko,

H. Glenn Manning, Darren Robinson, Jeff Witmer, Mary Smith, Gregg Cook, Derek Hughes and Paul Navarro, Jr.

## **MINUTES**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Haste, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 10:12 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 a series of meeting minutes that will be taken up at next week's Legislative meeting.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Haste: We are at the point in time in the meeting for public participation. Is there anyone in the audience that would like to address the Board at this time who is not on the agenda? (There was none.)

### **DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS/GUESTS**

- A. Farewell Presentations to Commissioner DiFrancesco**
- 1. Congressman Holden**
  - 2. Dauphin County Library (Rich Bowra, Karen Cullings and Kathy Silks)**
  - 3. CREDC (David Black)**
  - 4. Police Chiefs Association (Robert Martin)**
  - 5. Fire Chiefs Association (Darren Robinson)**
  - 6. EMS Council (Jeff Witmer)**
  - 7. Hershey/Harrisburg Regional Visitors' Bureau (Mary Smith)**
  - 8. Presentation from the 19<sup>th</sup> District of the American Legion (Dominic D. DiFrancesco)**
  - 9. Proclamation from Representative John Payne's Office**

Mr. Haste: It is my honor to turn the microphone over to you, Congressman.

Mr. Holden: Nick, it is a great honor to be here today with your family, friends and supporters to wish you the very best. As I was speaking to your mother, she did say though this is bittersweet day. We wish you the best in your new opportunity, but it is going to be a tremendous loss for the citizens of Dauphin County. I have a Citation to present to you from the United States House of Representatives, but I cannot enter it into the record until we are back in session on September 14<sup>th</sup>. It is going to commend you on a life of a very young man who has dedicated his life to public service as a borough councilman, township commissioner, serving in the Pennsylvania National Guard and all the good work that you have done here in Dauphin County. I can tell you that the three of you have really worked as a team. You have put public service and the citizens of Dauphin County ahead of partisan politics. The three of you are to be commended for that, but Nick today is your day and I want to congratulate you. Thank you for all that you have done. I look forward to working with you in your new capacity as we did many times in the past. Congratulations!

Mr. DiFrancesco, II: Thank you Congressman. I look forward to that as well. Thank you very much.

(Applause was given.)

Mr. Haste: Rich Bowra.

Mr. Bowra: Our first experience with Nick was when he was running for Commissioner. Karen and I set a meeting up with Nick in our office to talk to him about his passion for libraries. He really revealed that very early and we liked him right away. He certainly has lived that out with his role as Commissioner in supporting us in what we do. We very much appreciate that. He has supported our efforts as the other Commissioners have with major grants for infrastructure improvements, and with the other Commissioners, led the way in funding support, strong support for the libraries in what we do. We've set some high goals for ourselves to show this to the Commissioners. We hope we have delivered those for you. The Commissioners, last year, were awarded three different awards, the Pennsylvania Citizens for Better Libraries, Elected Official Award, the same award from our State Association, and our Library Systems Impact Award. That is a testament to everything you have done and with Nick as our oversight.

Ms. Cullings: I just want to say a personal thanks to you for being an incredible ambassador for learning and literacy and not just the type of support that Rich has talked about, but coming in and reading to the kids, doing story times on Saturdays and all that type of stuff. It has been incredible to meet you and I really appreciate it. I'm sure all of the families and the children in Dauphin County appreciate it too. So, thanks!

Ms. Silks: As the volunteer part of this triangle and as the immediate past president of the Board, I want to thank you on several levels. The top one is because you are a visionary leader. That has benefited the Library and the citizens of this County in

immeasurable ways since you took office. On a somewhat lower level, in your official capacity as our oversight Commissioner, your support has meant everything to us. The libraries mean a great deal to the citizens and you recognized that from the start. I can't thank you enough for that support. On another level, as a parent, as a citizen yourself of Dauphin County, I want to thank you for stepping up to the plate and making great things happen for the people who live here. It has been a pleasure to watch the three of you working together. I would imagine behind the scenes sometimes it has been a little bit like a frat house. You have to understand from me that's a compliment. What it says to me is that the three of you have enjoyed working together and I think all laughter aside that has meant a great deal to Dauphin County. I can tell you it has to the Dauphin County Library System. Thank you so much.

Mr. Bowra: Just in closing, I want to say thank you again. We have a board opening and we know where you live.

Mr. DiFrancesco, II: Thank you very much!

(Applause was given.)

Mr. Haste: Next is Dave Black and...the whole board.

Mr. Black: I'm just going to stand here. For the record, we have with us past chair of the CREDC Board, Sue Yenchko, current member of our executive committee, Jim Nulton, past chair Matt Steck and past chair, Bub Manning. You have been an exceptional team. I have said in the past that it is a rare opportunity in Pennsylvania that the three commissioners work so well together for the common good of not only your county, but for the region as a whole. We sincerely appreciate it. Nick, we do want to thank you for everything you have done. You were assigned to us as CREDC was one of your responsibilities. Over the course of the year, you were by far the most active commissioner of the three counties that we have involved. I think you've set the pace, particularly for new commissioner Benner in Perry County who has been an active participant. You certainly made her feel welcome. You have been an active participant in the organization. I was actually quoted today, but I will say on behalf of our organization that serves the Tri-County area that your concerns have always been about the region and understanding the economic dynamic of the region that we live in and how integrated we are in both sides of the river. Your leadership in that fashion has been outstanding for us. We just can't thank you enough for that. We wish you all the best. We do have a presentation for you. There was a commonly used phrase at the Board meetings on a regular basis and I'm not going to say who commonly used the phrase, but we got into some very intense conversations, primarily at the Executive Committee. It was something that is actually going to stick with us forever and ever in our hearts. We would like to present this to you. It is a tape recorder and it says "Is this thing off?" Thank you so much.

Mr. DiFrancesco, II: I will cherish this, trust me.

(Applause was given.)

Mr. Haste: Next, the Chiefs of Police Association, the head, Rob Martin.

Chief Martin: The County SWAT team is going to give you this (Kevlar Riot Helmet) because you are entering the banking industry. Everybody knows how ruthless it can be.

On behalf of all the police departments and the chiefs across Dauphin County, first let me say when these three men took office in their first term it was a breath of fresh air for Dauphin County law enforcement. Finally we knew that we had three leaders who were going to listen to us, give back to us and facilitate the needs and the changes for 21<sup>st</sup> century law enforcement that we needed to take place. These three gentlemen have done a remarkable job that is unmatched throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; specifically with Commissioner DiFrancesco heading the radio project. Let me just tell you how important that has been. This past Friday night I was out with the SWAT team in the Borough of Penbrook for four hours, because the U.S. Marshall's Office had located a homicide suspect who escaped from the Philadelphia Police. He was held up in a house in the Borough of Penbrook. Finally, through the efforts of Commissioner DiFrancesco and his radio committee and the Commissioners, we have a 21<sup>st</sup> century radio communications set that now the SWAT team has its own channels and they are encrypted. We knew that this fellow was listening and monitoring the scanners. We were able to talk freely on some very high profile issues to get him out safe. The work and leadership that you have done, individually and collectively, has saved lives.

Commissioner, thank you for what you have done for Dauphin County law enforcement. We are going to miss you! We have two presentations for you. First is the helmet, because you are going into the private sector and it is ruthless out there. Secondly, from the officers and the Dauphin County Crisis Response Team, we present this plaque to you for being a supporter and a leader and being there for us during the tough times.

(Applause was given.)

Mr. Haste: Now, from the Fire Chiefs Association, Darren Robinson

Mr. Robinson: I walked in the door and saw Chief Martin and I said "boy am I glad you are going before me so you can set the tone", but he took some of my thunder away with the radio project.

I do have a good story, a positive note. First, I want to say thank you for your service and dedication to the emergency services, as well as the fire departments throughout Dauphin County. Whenever there was an incident going on in Swatara Township, as emergency management coordinator dealing with a lot of emergencies, flooding, snow and whatever, it was always nice to hear that you were in the communications center

ready to go and jump into action. With the radio project, that was quite a project. I want to thank all three of you for that commitment. The success story is the snow storm in February. At that point in time the lower end of the county, the police departments, were already switched over to the new radio system. I believe at that time the EMS was switched over to the new radio system, but the fire departments were yet to come in March. I got to thinking what is there to lose, I'll have the guys on the new radio system to play with it and try it out. We heard the snow storm was coming and I had police, fire, EMS and highway all on Swatara Township channel. It worked well. The money was well spent. Just to be able to coordinate all functions. If EMS needed to get into a driveway they were able to call the fire department, the fire department would be able to go out and shovel the driveway out. The highway superintendent was able to hear EMS or fire police if they were stuck that they needed to get plows out there to open up the streets. I wanted to give you that success story. It was quite a commitment among all three of you. Thank you very much. It was quite an improvement. Thank you for your service and good luck!

Mr. DiFrancesco, II: I appreciate it and it has been great working with you.

(Applause was given.)

Mr. Haste: EMS Council, Jeff Witmer.

Mr. Witmer: I'm pleased to be here to represent the Dauphin County EMS Council. Our chair, Brad DeLancey, unfortunate is out of the State at this point in time. He sends his best regards. He wishes he could have been here for this event. He has worked closely with all of you over the past few years. It has been my privilege to have been able to serve the residents of Dauphin County as an EMS provider/paramedic for the last 20 years. I first met Commissioner DiFrancesco back in 2004 when you were a driving force in revitalizing the Dauphin County EMS Council, which had ceased to function for a number of years. That is something that I was glad to see corrected, because we lacked what other counties around us had. Since that time, you have been a driving force, a big supporter for EMS issues and working with the Council and we truly appreciate that support. One of the things that I recall you were heavily involved in was the creation of the Craig Webb Memorial Award, which keeps his great memory alive by recognizing an EMS provider, firefighter and law enforcement officer every year. One of the other things that we greatly appreciate is the County-wide Proclamation for EMS during EMS Week. We appreciate your willingness to listen to EMS issues and discuss issues and give us your input and advice on things of that nature. One thing that Brad wanted to me to make sure that I pointed out to everyone in this room that not only have you been a champion for EMS in the County, but you are just an all-around good guy. We would like you to know that we have enjoyed our working relationship with you and the Council wishes you the very best in your future endeavor. Thank you to all the Commissioners.

Mr. DiFrancesco, II: I appreciate it.

(Applause was given.)

Mr. DiFrancesco, II: I can still remember back in 2004 coming into office for the first time and one of the first objectives was to have a town hall meeting on the state of ambulance systems in Dauphin County and also have another meeting with the providers. That basically was brought on by the fact that Lower Swatara Township, my home ambulance company, had just gone out of business in a very dysfunctional way and other ambulance companies were on the verge of collapse. I can just remember everybody, all of the political council saying you don't want to step in that pond; you don't want to go there. As a result, basically for the last six or seven years, that group has been reconstituted. Honestly all it took was the initiative of that meeting. Since that time those groups have come together and have been working together. I don't believe we lost a single ambulance company. Good stuff! Thank you very much!

Mr. Haste: Mary.

Ms. Smith: How do I follow three gentlemen in uniform? That is a tough act.

Mr. DiFrancesco, II: I think you are up to it.

Ms. Smith: It has been a true pleasure working with all three of you. As said before it is Nick's day so we are going to focus on Nick and the work he has done. On behalf of the Hershey/Harrisburg Regional Visitors' Bureau, our staff and board, we cannot begin to thank you enough for everything you have done to help increase the awareness in the community for the importance of tourism. You have been a pillar in getting the job accomplished and helping us rally to bring in some pretty big events. You always had an open ear with some of the crazy ideas that we bring to you. You always listen and at the end of the day we work it through and we focus on what is good and best for the community. We thank you for everything you have done with regards to tourism.

Mr. Cook: I've been at the Bureau for seven plus years through various directors and through dealing with various county commissioners from as many as five counties at various points over that time. It has been an absolute pleasure and makes things so much better when you are dealing with commissioners who get it from the tourism standpoint. You certainly do, as well as Jeff and George. That is why we have been able to make such progress as we have. The Bureau has gone through some ups and downs going back, but the last five years or so things have really solidified. That is certainly in no small part the support that we got from you and from the Board as a whole. I'm sorry to see you go. Good luck! We look forward to continuing to work with Jeff and George and Nick's replacement. We hope that this does not create a domino effect. It is a pleasure to work with you guys. The doors are always open and it makes things so much easier.

Ms. Smith: You will be missed.

Mr. DiFrancesco, II: You mentioned it was rocky in the beginning. I would have to say that the relationship between the Commissioners and the Tourism Bureau was probably one of the most dysfunctional and most rocky going. It is fabulous now. I leave here knowing that tourism is in great hands. We have a great organization. Mary, your leadership has been terrific. The staff is great. Everybody is doing a wonderful job. It is amazing how that group has turned around over the last five or six years. Thank you for all your efforts. It has been great working with you.

Ms. Smith: Thank you. I have a frilly gift to give you.

(Applause was given.)

Mr. Haste: I'm going to go out of order. Next is John McNally and he will be presenting the Proclamation from Representative Payne.

Mr. McNally: It is my distinct honor and pleasure to deliver a Proclamation from the House of Representatives Representative John Payne. (Mr. McNally read the Proclamation.)

On a personal note, I want to say thank you very much to Nick and to the Commissioners for serving as a model of efficiency in government. You gentlemen have conducted yourselves professionally, keeping in mind at all times the best interest of all citizens of Dauphin County, be it Republican or Democratic. On behalf of the Dauphin County Republican Committee, I want to thank you and Jeff for your leadership in unifying the committee and providing, again, a model for good governance throughout the County and throughout the mid-State. Thank you very much!

Mr. DiFrancesco, II: Thank you Sir.

(Applause was given.)

Mr. Haste: Now, it is my honor to go back to the Agenda and call upon Dominic D. DiFrancesco, the first, to make a presentation.

Mr. Hartwick: The original.

Mr. DiFrancesco: Mr. Chairman, I am here on a two-fold purpose today. Purpose #1 is to present the Commissioners of this County with a plaque honoring you by the American Legion for your full support of our activities in this County of Dauphin. You guys have been extraordinary. You guys have been doing a great job. You supported us in every way, shape and form. We are really proud of you for that. I would like to present these plaques to you and after I present them, I want to continue with a point of personal interest. If you would come forward, I would like to present these plaques. These plaques are being presented to each of the Commissioners in recognition of your generous support through the 19<sup>th</sup> District Convention Corporation of Pennsylvania American Legion, August 25, 2010, signed by Ford Carnes, President. This



Convention, which will be held in Harrisburg continually from now on, brings in 1200 delegates of the American Legion and their families, about 800 delegates of the American Legion Auxiliary and their families and the Sons of the American Legions, maybe another 200 and their families, which is great income to the County of Dauphin. We are proud of what they have done for us and we hope that we are helpful with the economic development of this County. (The plaques were presented to the Commissioners.)

At this time I would very much like my wife to join me and my family. I would like to introduce you to the matriarch of the DiFrancesco Family, the person who has labored in making Nick the man he is. I wasn't too much help, but she did a lot. This is my wife, Beverly, this beautiful lady is my granddaughter, Elizabeth. She is a beauty. This is Stefanie, Nick's wife, who is a preacher at the Camp Hill Church of God and how I ever got involved with a preacher, only God knows that. Best daughter-in-law in the world. This is my daughter Debra, who is Nick's older sister. I won't tell you her age, because she will kick me. We love her. We have a close-knit family. This is my other son Anthony, Nick's brother. The other daughter, Toni-Ann, is in Philadelphia. Her daughter is starting at Temple College. She could not be here.

I have a couple words that I would like to say about my son and I would hope his mother also might say a couple words about him. He has been, as all my children are, a great blessing to both of us. He has done many things and accomplished many things. I am so proud of him and so proud to stand here and tell you publicly how proud I am of him and of all my children. The one thing that I do want to make clear to all of you, I know that this group of people was going to be great. There was no doubt in my mind. That started on Election night, some seven or eight years ago. I've been around politics all my life and I'm 77 years old. On the night of the Election, the Republican Party was meeting out at the Holy Name of Jesus facility and for some reason or another they could not find the newly elected commissioners. Maybe you all don't know about it, but the newly elected commissioners, from the Republican side, were at a party held by the Democrats for Mr. George Hartwick's campaign. On that night they consolidated together to show the world that this was not going to be a political board. This was going to be a board dedicated to the improvement of Dauphin County, dedicated to the people of Dauphin County and the day after Election all politics are forgotten. The day after Election they were going out and making known that they were going to be a success and this County was going to be a success. For that I am so proud to stand here and honor my son and the other two also. I know it hurts to see them break up, but I also know that he got two college kids to pay for so he needed a few dollars. We'll always be friends. Like I said, Jeff, my second son, and George, he and I are Steelton buddies and when you are a Steelton buddy you die a Steelton buddy. I'm sorry to see them break up, but son I am so proud of you it's a shame.

Mrs. DiFrancesco: I think you said it all. The only thing I can say is that I am really proud of the three of you. I hate to see you break up, but I am proud of you, Nick, for the person that you have become.

Mr. DiFrancesco, II: Thank you.

(Applause was given.)

Mr. Haste: Is there anyone else that would like to address the Board at this time?

Before my colleague wraps this part up of the meeting, I would just like to say sitting here thinking about my early introduction to Nick and actually to my second family. Most folks don't know this, but I'm half Italian too, it is just that side of me is hidden a little bit. So, I have a lot in common with the DiFrancesco family. Since my mother passed and my father's health does not permit it, they have sort of become my adoptive parents at times. I have a lot of fun with them. I was thinking back and how I actually met the family and it was through Middletown, not Steelton, unfortunately. I was very involved with the Elks in Middletown and Dominic was a member there and was well known. We got very supportive of Dominic as he made his move through the Legion, even though we were in a different organization. The organizations were very supportive of each other. Of the family, Tony was really my link to the family. We were active in the Elks in what was called the Youth Association. Tony was the chair and I would help out. I remember every year we would have these big hoop shoots and different events that would go on. We needed volunteers and Tony said that he could get his little brother Nickie and his girlfriend to help out. I remember when Nick would show up and he would shag the balls and he brought his girlfriend, who does look like your granddaughter. We always wondered why Nick was running around with such a young lady, but that is how I met the family. Actually Tony and I had some very good times through the Elks at different conferences. That is how I met Nick. When politics entered into it, our paths would always cross. For whatever reason Nick and I seemed to always be in the same circle, which wasn't always the most popular circle of the Republican party, but for some reason we always ended up in the same circle all the time. When the opportunity came to us to serve as a board of commissioners together and Dominic talked about that, we made a commitment early on, even before we were certain who the Democrat would be that this was going to be something different. We wanted to be a board of commissioners that really after the Election was over, politics were gone and the interests of the citizens were put first in everyone's heart. Nick never forgot that and I think Nick developed that attitude really from his family. My thanks go to both of you for raising such a fine son and someone who has been and I didn't see the paper yet, but someone as I refer to as my political spouse, because it did seem that way in not only this run, but in many other things. I want to say thank you. It is my pleasure to turn the microphone to wrap this up.

Mr. Hartwick: First Nick, congratulations to the family. When you are Steelton you are Steelton for life and the values that were instilled in Nick came across through his leadership and the way that he handled himself as a man and a public servant. Before I even get started, there are a couple things that I want to clear up. The idea of a frat party... What is that? I hope Mr. Miller is not going to have that as the top line for tomorrow's paper and the fact that we are somehow accepting gifts. I want to be on the record that we are accepting no gifts above \$50 without reporting it on our ethics

statement. That certainly would not be a reason to get in or out of public service. I wanted to make sure that all of those issues are clarified.

Nick, when I think about family, I think about good values. You are aware that we've done a lot of growing in this job. There have been times where things have been taken personally. There have been times where we are so passionate in our points of view that we sort of internalize and we took it upon ourselves to sort of carry that ball. It was a healthy part of that growth in me and, I think, in you in understanding that part of the reasons why we were able to do that is because I never questioned your motives. Understanding that despite our differences in philosophy, clearly your best interest was in the best interest of the people and the residents of this County. It wasn't in your own personal best interest. That has been a really healthy reason why this Board has been extremely successful, because it is not that we all agree. Despite what you may hear or say, and we have some significant differences philosophically, but ultimately the debate and dialogue is always surrounding what is in the best interest of the people that we serve, and allowing us to take a look at it. Jeff always said that he is the pointer, you're the setter and I'm the retriever. For us to be able to have that sort of dialogue and the range and scope of that discussion has been really an extremely helpful part in service to the residents of Dauphin County. The other thing that is important to note is that no matter who the Judges select, I know you will stand against politics getting in the way of doing business. We see it ruining the Federal government and the State government being responsive to people. We see it being major barriers and hurdles to local government being able to be successful. It is easy to tell people what is wrong with what they do. It is hard to be able to come up with a plan and show leadership and to discuss the merits of that plan and be able to come to a resolution that is in the best interest of the people. That takes skill-set. It takes an understanding of public finance, economic development and emergency services. People don't need to run for a political office, because they want to be a commissioner. They should run for political office for the opportunity to serve the public and to bring competencies and passion to that level of service that is going to make a significant difference. You have been able to do that. This Board has been able to do that. I'm sort of feeling like I was in a relationship and we're breaking up, but I know we are not going to do that. We are going to continue to remain friends, communicate and I expect you to be a good advocate, call me up and I know you particularly will when you don't agree with me. I also thought it was extremely fitting to pull together on behalf of Jeff and me a plaque for you today. This is one that we wanted to present on behalf of our team. It reads "in grateful tribute to a freedom rider, Honorable Dominic D. DiFrancesco, II, Dauphin County Commissioner from January 2004 through September 2010... As he moves onto a new position, but leaves behind a legacy of honesty, openness, teamwork and love for County and Country. As a man of passion, principle and vision, his leadership has made Dauphin County a better place to live, work and play and his character and career achievements will endure forever. We have enjoyed the ride."

(Applause was given.)

Mr. DiFrancesco, II: First of all thank you to everybody. I truly appreciate it. This has been such an incredible opportunity. First of all I have to thank the people of Dauphin County for allowing me to have this experience to serve. As I sit here and as I listened to everyone who has come through, the bottom line is that every time somebody got up and started saying thank you for getting this done or that done, what was going through my head was the actual vision of the people who work so hard to make all of that happen. The bottom line is at every turn Dauphin County is blessed with great employees, who if you give them the opportunity and you give them the freedom to do their job and you let politics stay out of the way, absolutely wonderful great things are going to happen. This past seven years has really been a testament that other levels of government, other elected officials can look at and say, if you have your focus set in the right place good government, good community and they are not just rhetorical words, they actually mean something. If you do the job the community will respect that even through the rough times. I can't even begin... It's tough to leave what I'm hoping is not a unique team, but I'm guessing probably was. You guys have meant so much to me over the past seven years. We have accomplished a lot and we have not always agreed. I will tell you what it has been some of the best public discussion, the best political discussion and best topical discussion that any group has ever had. The respect that I have for the two of you, the respect that we have for each other and the fact that in seven years no one ever had to worry that their back wasn't covered. No matter if we agreed or disagreed, this Board always had the focus on good government, good community. We might differ on philosophy and that is okay. That is what makes America great. The bottom line is I could never have had better partners than the two of you. Leaving this team will be very difficult. I said this all along; there is a reality that everybody is replaceable. When I leave somebody is going to come in and sit in this chair and it is going to click. The Judges and their wisdom, it's going to click. I know where your hearts are and I know whoever comes in to sit in this chair is going to have your respect and they will respect you as well. This is the hardest part of leaving. I love the new opportunity. I can't wait to get to the new job, but I can guarantee you that it is not because I lost any interest in this job. My passion still rides high. I will still go toe-to-toe with anybody in this community based on the issues that we have been working on. Certainly the job is not done. We know that. There are some issues hanging out there, but the job is never done. There are always going to be more issues. I thank you for the respect that you have given me. I thank you for the friendship you have given me and I thank you for the genuine love that you have given me. This is truly a family that will not be broken up. Thank you all and yes you did bring a tear to my eye. I appreciate that too. Thank you to everyone else. Thank you to the staff. I can't stress that the good works that happened in this County, over the last seven years, and there are a lot of them and I don't mind standing here and saying it, the stuff that has happened good has been the heart and soul and work of a lot of the people in this room and a lot of people that aren't in this room. Thank you all very much.

(Applause was given.)

## PERSONNEL

Ms. Lengle: Are there any questions on the Personnel Packet, including the Addendum? (There was none.)

## PURCHASE ORDERS

Mr. Baratucci: I wanted to tell Nick that I wore this Yankee's tie in honor of hoping that the original Dominic D. can finally convince his son that he should be a Yankee's fan.

Mr. DiFrancesco, II: I'm a Yankee's fan.

Mr. Baratucci: You and the Phillies.

Mr. DiFrancesco, II: I'm trying to get you to understand that you should be a Penn State fan and not a Notre Dame fan.

Mr. Baratucci: Nick has been a good boss. We are going to miss you.

We have our Purchase Order Packet. It is a Workshop Meeting so everything on there will be forwarded to next week. There are a few budget issues that we will clear up. Unless you have any questions, it is there for your review and approval next week. (There was none.)

## TRAINING PACKET

Mr. Haste: I don't believe there are any items we have to take up this week.

Mr. Saylor: Richie advises that we need a vote on #1.

Mr. Haste: For early registration.

Mr. Hartwick: I tabled that last week and I am satisfied with the request.

**It was moved by Mr. DiFrancesco and seconded by Mr. Hartwick that the Board approve Item #1 on the Training Packet.**

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

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

A. Requests for County Sponsorship of Local Share Gaming Grant Applications:  
**(\*\*\*A VOTE IS REQUESTED 8/25/10\*\*\*)**

1. Lower Dauphin School District - \$600,000 for Conewago Elementary School Renovation

2. Halifax – \$370,000 for fire apparatus replacement
3. Hummelstown - \$175,000-\$250,000 for sanitary sewer pump station renovation
4. Jackson Twp./Fisherville Fire - for construction of a new fire station
5. Londonderry - for improvements to Geyer's Church Road
6. Colonial Park Fire - \$289,989.11 for improvement to Colonial Park Fire House
7. Linglestown Fire Co. - \$425,000 for firehouse upgrades
8. Lower Paxton - \$250,000 for improvements to Page, Newside & Spring Creek Roads
9. Lower Swatara Fire - for vehicle replacement program
10. Middletown Fire Co. - for firehouse renovation
11. Civil War Museum - \$497,500 for building debt retirement
12. Steelton - \$150,000 for Mohn St. Park renovations
13. Swatara Twp. - \$400,000 for McNaughton & Shiavoni Parks improvements
14. Upper Paxton Twp. - for St. Route 209 Intersection repair
15. Broad Street Market - for Broad Street Farmers Market Building/Energy Efficiency improvements
16. Wiconisco Twp./Wiconisco Fire Co. - \$250,000 (\$160,000 for debt reduction and \$90,000 for equipment) for debt reduction/purchase of rescue equipment and upgrades to rescue truck
17. Dauphin County Bar Association/Mid-Penn Legal Services - \$10,000 for the addition of a dedicated child custody attorney
18. Dauphin County Fire Chief Association - for Dauphin County Firehouse Web project
19. Dauphin County General Authority - \$300,000 for Dauphin Highlands debt service/management
20. Dauphin County Redevelopment Authority - for Dauphin County Comprehensive & Strategic Redevelopment Plan
21. HACC - \$250,000 for Public Safety Center
22. Harrisburg University - \$1,000,000 for Virtosphere Project
23. Latino Hispanic American Community Center - \$6,000 for the purchase of computer/printer; purchase of LCD computer & projector and copier
24. Ned Smith Center - \$100,000 for capital expansion project, outside handicapped accessible elevator
25. New Beginnings - for youth enrichment program
26. Pinnacle Health - \$421,939 for the purchase of equipment for expanded emergency room
27. Red Cross - \$276,888 for placement of AED machines; training of citizens on AED machines and lifelong financial awards
28. SARAA - \$375,000 for retention and recruitment funds
29. Whitaker Center - \$750,000 (\$375,000/yr for 2 years) for installation of digital IMAX projection system

- B. Lease Purchase Agreement between Dauphin County and HP Financial Services for an HP Server for the Emergency Management Agency. **(\*\*\*A VOTE IS REQUESTED 8/25/10\*\*\*)**

Mr. Haste: We have two items under Discussion that need to be acted upon.

Mr. Saylor: Commissioners, you will see an exhaustive list of the Local Share Gaming Grant requests. In order to advance in the process they are seeking County support. Basically this would move them into the next phase, which is a rigorous going over by the Gaming Advisory Board. The Gaming Board, later on in the year, will come back to you with a list of recommendations. We have a very long list this year. They are listed there for your consideration.

Mr. Haste: Today's vote is sponsorship to move it to the next round.

Mr. Saylor: It is simply sponsorship. It is not an indication of support except that it moves them along in the process for further consideration.

Mr. Hartwick: I want to first of all say that this is going to be the last year that I am willing to support all of these applications going forward that don't go through the established municipal process. We established a set of criteria for a specific reason that says that they need to have municipal sponsorship. In some of these instances where some of the requests appear to have county-wide impact, I think that is different. I think that is something that this Board should be engaged and involved with just to put them in the process, but for some folks to not go through their local municipal process is something that I, as one Commissioner, will not be supporting in the future. I also want to make it clear and I know you stated this...just because these are moving on to be reviewed by the Gaming Advisory Board does not indicate in any way that these projects are being supported by the Dauphin County Board of Commissioners. We want them to go through the exact same process that every other application goes through, being reviewed by that Gaming Advisory Board for merit, the ability to move into categories to be weighted both on public service projects for emergency, ambulance, fire and police services or for infrastructure and improvements being the top priority that has been set forth by this Board. Let it be very clear and to the folks who do the review process that this will be the last time that I will support them getting to the next level without municipal sponsorship.

Mr. DiFrancesco, II: I would like to add to that. Again, this being my last meeting, I still think from a philosophic standpoint we are opening up a can of worms when we simply do a blanket endorsement of all. There were specific criteria in terms of priorities and projects and what those projects should look like. I think if more and more people are going to turn to the County for sponsorship then there has to be a very defined set of criteria that we do to evaluate. If you talk about putting a duplicative process in place now you are asking us to do an initial review of all of these plus you are asking the Gambling Advisory Board to do a re-review of them. By doing a blanket of all of these on this list, the list is going to be a lot longer next year, because it just invites more projects that don't fit the criteria to come to the County for their sponsorship. I just caution. I don't necessarily think that is the right way to do it. We have a very good review Board established and they do a great job with these, but even this is making their work more difficult, because it is allowing things to get to them that probably shouldn't.

Mr. Haste: I agree with both of you. The process is a process in motion. I think we did find a glitch this year in this. It is a little late in the process. I do think any of those that are out there thinking that they can easily get the County support and avoid going to local will be a fallacy. I think that needs to be made very clear next year.

Mr. Saylor: I just want to make sure that Skip and George are hearing this and help me convey this message back to folks who work on the Gaming Advisory Board.

**It was moved by Mr. DiFrancesco and seconded by Mr. Hartwick that the Board approve Item A, listed above under Items for Discussion.**

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

Mr. Haste: Chad, do you have Item B?

Mr. Saylor: I do not. This was on a previous Agenda and we pulled it for further review.

Mr. Shaver: This actually is a Lease with regards to the computer-aided dispatch server at the 9-1-1 Center. It was pulled from last week's agenda, because there was a review going on by the Solicitor's Office with regards to the way the County does business as far as leases. That has since been cleared up the way I understand. It was actually pulled by the Solicitor's Office last week. I believe Mr. Lighty has done his review. This request was actually approved by Mr. Guenther and me.

**It was moved by Mr. DiFrancesco and seconded by Mr. Hartwick that the Board approve Item B listed above under Items for Discussion.**

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

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT – WILLIAM TULLY, ESQ.**

Mr. Tully: I have no additions to the draft report, but with your kind indulgence I would like to add a sentiment on behalf of the Solicitor's Office and I think as a whole, probably on behalf of all the County rank and file employees to basically thank a Board for making our job a lot easier when you have three people that seek out agreement of keeping their eye on the ball and doing what is right. Especially for Nick, his emphasis on his values, his passion and his energy will be deeply missed, but we certainly appreciate the call of the private sector. Now that you are in banking I think the City could use about \$32 million in a loan, if you could line it up.

Mr. Hartwick: Actually \$34 million.

Mr. DiFrancesco, II: No.



## **CHIEF CLERK'S REPORT – CHAD SAYLOR**

Mr. Saylor: I have nothing, but I too want to add my two cents. I just want to say that serving as Chief Clerk has, in my 20 some years of working in politics and government, this job has been one of the best that I have ever served in. I feel very sorry for those that work in government that haven't had a chance like this. Not only to work for Nick and such a great troop of individuals, because in politics, as a career staffer, it is very hard to find good elected officials to work for. I have that here in abundance. Beyond that it has been very rewarding, because, as you heard here today, we have done an awful lot of good things, concrete things. In no small part, Nick you played a role in my coming here. I will forever be grateful for that and grateful for your friendship. I wish you well! Unless there are questions of me that is all I have. (There was none.)

## **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

(There was none.)

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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

The Retirement Board will convene at 12:30.

## **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