



DAUPHIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' WORKSHOP MEETING

TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2003 (10:00 A.M.)

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jeff Haste, Chairman
Lowman Henry, Vice Chairman
Anthony Petrucci, Secretary

STAFF PRESENT

Robert Burns, Chief Clerk/Chief of Staff; Julia E. Nace, Assistant Chief Clerk; Marie Rebuck, Controller; Bob Dick, Treasurer; Bill Tully, Esq., Solicitor; Bob Knupp, Esq., Solicitor's Office; Carolyn Thompson, Court Administrator; Steve Farina, Prothonotary; Tom Guenther, Information Technology; Faye Fisher, Personnel Director; Kacey Truax, Commissioners' Office; Rick Wynn, Human Services Director; Gary Serhan, Deputy Controller; Richie Martz, Commissioners' Office; Mike Yohe, Budget Director; Jane Gordon, Commissioners' Office; Garry Esworthy, Risk Manager; Diane McNaughton, Communications; Jenn Kocher, Communications; Ed Chubb, Parks & Recreation Director; Edgar Cohen, Facility Maintenance Director; Randy Baratucci, Purchasing Director; Anthony White; Donna Price, Controller's Office; and Shari Eagle, Information Technology; Iva Hodge, Personnel Office

GUESTS PRESENT

Jack Shertzer, Patriot News; Loretta Barbee-Dare; Steve Brodie

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Haste, 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. Haste: We have Minutes from the May 29, 2003 Legislative Meeting, May 29, 2003 Salary Board Meeting, June 3, 2003 Workshop and June 3, 2003 Election Board Meeting for review and for approval for next week.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Haste: At this point and time in the meeting, we are open for public participation. Is there anyone in the audience that would like to address the Board of Commissioners? Seeing none.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Haste: Faye, personnel matters.

Ms. Fisher: Good morning, Commissioners.

All: Good morning.

Ms. Fisher: There are several Salary Board items in the personnel packet. The first is for Information Technology. It is to abolish a Coordinator of Services position and a part-time Technical Support position and create an Information Technology Project Manager position.

The second is also for Information Technology and it is to create an Information Technology GIS Analyst position. Both of these are per Mr. Guenther's presentation at, I believe, last week's meeting.

The third Salary Board item is to abolish an Administrative Officer III position and to create an Area Agency on Aging Deputy Administrator III position.

The fourth Salary Board item is a reclassification for a Domestic Relations employee to reclassify this position for an Accounts Clerk III position to an Administrative Assistant I position. This is per the AFSCME contract.

The final Salary Board item is the information that I just passed out. This is transferring the following employees from Facility Maintenance Department to the Parks &

Recreation Department effective July 7, 2003 per the restructuring of these two departments. It is my understanding that a presentation will be made in just a few minutes by Mr. Cohen and Mr. Chubb.

Moving into the personnel packet, we have the workshop agenda vacancies listing, new hires listing, changes listing, overtime report for pay period #11, and an overtime request from the Prison.

Mr. Haste: We still have those unresolved issues on the budget from last week. We will need to have those resolved for next week, hopefully.

Ms. Fisher: Yes, there were some questions that Mike Yohe had and we'll try to resolve those before the next meeting. That concludes the personnel packet.

Mr. Haste: Are there any questions for Faye? Thank you, Faye.

TRAINING PACKET

Mr. Haste: Training packet, Mr. Burns.

Mr. Burns: Mr. Chairman, there are thirty (30) requests in the packet today. All of them have been preapproved by the oversight Commissioner and they can all wait until next week's meeting for Board action.

Mr. Haste: Are there any questions for Bob?

PURCHASE ORDERS

Mr. Haste: Purchase orders, Mr. Baratucci.

Mr. Baratucci: Commissioners, you should have all received a report yesterday. There are no changes at this point to it. There are some budget issues as usual that will need to be resolved between now and next Tuesday. Mike and I are working together on those. Do you have any questions on any of the items? If not, we'll work to resolve those budget issues and have a revised packet next week.

Mr. Haste: Are there any questions for Randy?

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

Mr. Haste: Sharon...

A. Sharon Ludwig, Personnel and Steve Brodie, of Professional Insurance Inc.

1. Proposed long term care insurance for county employees.

Ms. Hodge: Good morning Commissioners, Sharon could not make the meeting this morning. My name is Iva Hodge from personnel. This morning we have Mr. Steve Brodie of Professional Insurance, Inc.

Mr. Haste: Okay, go ahead Steve.

Mr. Brodie: Good morning. I believe you have received a proposal for offering long term care insurance on a voluntary basis to the employees of the county. I was wondering if you had any questions you would like me to address or if you would like me to give a short presentation on what we are proposing.

Mr. Haste: I think a presentation would be appropriate.

Mr. Brodie: In general, what we are proposing to do is offer a voluntary benefit to the employees of the county without any county participation financially. The benefit would be for long term care insurance. I don't know how much or how little you know about long term care insurance, but it's probably one of the most understood or misunderstood insurances out in the market place. Most people think it is nursing home insurance for old people. In fact, that is not the case. Employee age individuals make up about 40% of the dollars spent on long term care in this country. In the last few years, you probably heard commercials on television, the government is trying to educate the public about long term care, AARP is doing it's part in trying to educate people. But basically it is the greatest financial risk that is presented to the average family in America. Long term care insurance is not for everybody. You'll find that a good percentage of the population, it is appropriate for, and what we propose to do is educate the employees of the county through a series of employee benefit seminars. The seminars are strictly educational in scope. There is no sales push for this sort of insurance. We are explaining a benefit that is available to them. We'll explain the risk that is involved throughout their life and what this plan can do for them. Then they are given the option. We feel and we found in previous enrollments that by giving the employee the information that they need to make a decision chances are they are going to make the right decision.

Mr. Petrucci: I might ask a question. Can't our employees get this on their own?

Mr. Brodie: They can.

Mr. Petrucci: What would be the advantage then of having a county sponsored long term care insurance benefit?

Mr. Brodie: There are a number advantages. First of all they can apply for this policy on their own. If they do, they are not able to get it as inexpensively as they will through the county. The second and probably more important item is that Monumental Life offers very relaxed underwriting for this policy. If you go out on your own to try to get a policy, this policy or any policy, we broker fifteen of the top companies in the nation, you have to fill out a full medical history that includes everything from soup to nuts. You

have to fill out about a twenty page application. With this there are three questions that are asked. If the employee answers negatively to the three questions, they get the policy no questions asked. Another benefit other than the underwriting is the cost that is involved. It is a discounted price. It is not only available for the employee and their spouse, but for their extended family as well including in-laws. That is important from the employee standpoint, but it is also important from the county's standpoint. If a parent of an employee has a policy like this and that parent needs care, the employee is likely to remain productive at the workplace and have less absenteeism because of the ability to pay for somebody else to come in and care for that relative.

Mr. Petrucci: Would retired employees be eligible for the program?

Mr. Brodie: They're eligible for the program. They're eligible for the discount. Unfortunately, they are not eligible for the underwriting. They would have to fill out the full application as the rest of the public. But they do get the discount. In fact, employees from ages 18-64 are eligible for the underwriting. After the age of 64 they ask for a full underwriting.

Mr. Haste: Whether they are employed or not?

Mr. Brodie: That is correct.

Mr. Henry: Anthony, we have a special suite for you out at Spring Creek. We just prepared that, so you're....

Mr. Petrucci: Mine is going to be on the beach with a Corona sitting there.

Mr. Haste: What is the discount? What discount are you offering?

Mr. Brodie: It depends whether the person applies with a spouse or without. Total discount ends up being about 10%. It is 8-10% but it's about 10% from what they are going to get out in the individual marketplace exactly. While it might not sound like a lot over time because it is a life paid policy overtime it adds up. But the key here, I think, is the underwriting that's made for the group. I think that's going to be....because you can have people that wouldn't get the policy normally in the workforce that this is offered to employees. They are able to obtain it. They would never be able to get outside of the workplace.

Mr. Henry: And the employee would pay for this benefit, not the county?

Mr. Brodie: That's correct. It would be payroll deducted on a biweekly basis. It's also fully portable. If they leave the employ of the county, they are allowed to take this policy with them at the rate that they have. They just call an 800 number and make arrangements to pay it directly from out of their bank account or however they want to pay it with the insurance company. These are individual policies. They're not a

certificate. It is not a group policy. It is an individual policy written on an underwriting group discount basis.

Mr. Haste: Are there any other questions? Bill, do you have any?

Mr. Tully: Other than I took advantage of a similar situation through my wife's employer some years ago. It was an amazing benefit to be able to take advantage of. Sounds like a win win situation and obviously no expense to the county.

Mr. Haste: Very good, are there any other questions? Thank you.

Mr. Brodie: Thank you.

Mr. Henry: Thank you.

Mr. Petrucci: Thank you, Steve. Not related to the quarterback are you?

Mr. Brodie: I wish.

B. Steve Farina, Prothonotary

1. Proposal/request to fill a vacancy in the Prothonotary's Office which was not funded in the 2003 Budget.

Mr. Farina: Good morning, first of all I would like to say that I hope the fact that I believe this is only the second workshop that I have attended in fourteen years would signify the importance I place on this matter. I would like to even further back up since everybody is here. I just had one of my clerk III hand me her resignation yesterday effective this Friday. I would like to request permission to post her position, promote a clerk II and rehire a clerk II which was a funded position of course. Since she gave it to me yesterday, I might as well try to kill two birds with one stone here.

Mr. Haste: Please see Faye, there is paperwork that you have to do. Make sure you do that.

Mr. Farina: Quite a bit to do all those steps, isn't it? Why I requested to be here this morning, I was one of the unfortunate offices I guess to have a vacancy at the end of 2002. When the budget was passed, of course, anybody who had unfilled vacancies those vacancies were not funded. I'm here to ask that that position be reconsidered and be funded. I've met with Mr. Yohe and fortunately for myself, the Prothonotary's Office can raise their fees every three years in conjunction with the President Judge. You have to petition the Courts. 2003 was one of those years I could raise my fees. So based on five months actual revenue, which I gave you, it appears if our revenues for 2003 will be approximately \$22,000 more than what we projected when preparing the budget. I believe a clerk II position in the Prothonotary's Office is paying about \$19,080 a year figuring around \$10,000 a year for benefits, you're looking at \$30,000. We are

obviously at July at least until I find somebody to fill this position. So we are looking about \$15,000. You can see that we are projecting \$22,000 so obviously the revenue is there.

I would also like to point out that starting February of last year the Prothonotary's Office invested in some imaging equipment to tie into the software system that we purchased the other year. It has been basically sitting there because I don't have anybody to run it. It's about \$150,000 that we spent on equipment that is sitting there gathering dust. In fact, last week I got a maintenance bill for it. So, I'm not paying maintenance fees on equipment that's not being used. I'm not asking for additional staff. Mr. Guenther taught me years ago automation doesn't eliminate jobs it just redefines the employees duties. Which I'm to stay with the staff that we've had for the last twelve years. I'm just trying to give our constituents a better product and without the bodies, I cannot do that. I do believe that I'm fortunate in being able to say at least I'm a fee generating office and the money is there this year. That is about all the pitch that I have.

Mr. Haste: Steve, I see what you have here and I know that it is hard to project June thru December accurately, but having gone back thru history, do you know whether those fees stay the same, whether they go down or go up. I don't know what this may be...

Mr. Farina: I would say they are pretty consistent monthly. The types of actions tend to change. Certainly summer and the end of summer you get more custody. Super Bowl is the biggest day for protection from abuse but we don't want to go into that.

Mr. Haste: So, if that is the case, you are averaging for the first five months probably \$61,000-62,000 so, the 60,000 is conservative. Is that what you are saying?

Mr. Farina: Correct.

Mr. Haste: Where is Mike, have you looked at these, Mike?

Mr. Yohe: Yes, I prepared it.

Mr. Farina: Yes, Mike and I met three weeks ago.

Mr. Yohe: The revenue, it is pretty consistent.

Mr. Haste: Okay. Are there any questions for Steve? These position exists on...so we don't have to take salary board action either?

Mr. Burns: That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Farina: Does that mean that it was approved?

Mr. Haste: That means it will move to next week's meeting where we vote.

Mr. Farina: Okay, so come back next week at 10:00?

Mr. Haste: Yes, next week is when we vote.

Mr. Farina: I told you I haven't been here often. Thank you, Commissioners.

**C. Edgar Cohen, Facility Maintenance Director; and Ed Chubb,
Parks & Recreation Director**

1. Proposal to "restructure" Parks & Recreation and Facilities Maintenance Dept.

Mr. Haste: Mr. Cohen and Mr. Chubb.

Mr. Chubb: I would like to revisit that long term care. I would like to sign up for Anthony's program, if I could. Are you offering it?

Mr. Petrucci: Yep.

Mr. Chubb: Before you leave make sure I get your address and phone number.

We're here today simply to try to perhaps straighten something out that occurred a few years ago. I'm simply asking that we return the function of Parks and Recreation maintenance back to Parks and Recreation Department. We've had a good shot of the trial if you want to put it that way. We find that there is just a little bit getting in the way from time to time. It's worked....it hasn't been a bad experience but I think a better experience would be a more direct line of command if you will between myself and my staff and the maintenance workers that are presently cutting the grass, picking up the trash, raking the leaves and doing the minor and some of the major projects that occur in the park from time to time including tree removal that occurred just recently when a tree came down at Fort Hunter. I'm just trying to streamline something and get a little better....we're not asking for any more money or any new money. Edgar and I have sat down and we've talked and we've had some conversations with Mike Yohe. We just simply want to move the money of those positions that went to Edgar back in 2001, move them back under Parks and Recreation along with some of the money. Some of the maintenance monies for supplies and certain pieces of equipment back to Parks and Recreation. We'll continue to work with Buildings & Grounds as we had in the past. They need something, for instance we have a certified pesticide applicator on our staff that can do some things that his certified pesticide applicator can't do. So we share those duties. When we can we share equipment. We're housing some of the equipment, we'll continue to do that for Buildings & Grounds. We'll continue the relationship that we have built up before 2001. It's not a big change but I think it is going to allow for a better access and better command.

Mr. Haste: Edgar do you have anything?

Mr. Cohen: I agree with that. Basically the work that the guys do up there, about 98% of it is for Parks & Recreation. They built benches, install new playground equipment, help out with different programs with the park activities person. Basically with moving things back towards Fort Hunter, Ed would be able give more oversight that is needed.

Mr. Haste: Do these folks just work at Fort Hunter or do they work for all of the parks?

Mr. Chubb: All the parks, they work Wildwood...we operate out of Fort Hunter. That is sort of our central garage. We house most of the equipment there and we have some pieces of equipment that are down in Wildwood but our staff basically works out of there for both Wildwood and Fort Hunter. Up county, on a seasonal basis we move a staff person back up there and he operates out of Wiconisco Creek Park outside of Millersburg. He basically operates out of there and goes to Lykens Glen Park on an as needed basis to mow the grass. We do have part-timers up there, seasonal people that do the day to day stuff on seven days a week in addition to the full timers. It would...the positions that we are asking for the movers....four full timers, and then there is about five part timers.

Mr. Haste: That is the list that Faye gave us?

Mr. Chubb: Right.

Mr. Haste: The only thing that I would say is, I understand the attempt of trying to make sure we're all working on the same page because we all work for the county. I understand your desire to try to have better control and more focus on their work flow as it pertains to the parks and keeping the parks up to speed. I would only want to say, Ed, if we move forward with this, you make very very clear to those folks that even though they are assigned to Parks & Recreation, they work for the county and when if in fact we have a need, I would hope that cooperation would be there.

Mr. Chubb: Absolutely.

Mr. Haste: Whether it be for downtown here, or snow emergency at the Manor, or wherever the case may be, when there is a need, we have a need.

Mr. Chubb: Right, understood.

Mr. Haste: Okay. Are there any questions for Ed or Edgar? Thanks.

Mr. Chubb: Thank you.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Mr. Haste: Next is Items for Discussion. We have A thru D, and I see there is a note, Bob on Item A, we need to take a vote?

- A. Service Agreement for Administration of Self-Insurance Liability Program between Dauphin County and Inservco Insurance Services, Inc. (*****NEEDS VOTED ON 6/17/03**)
- B. Change Order for Phase One Courthouse Renovations - Change Order No. 2002-01-11, with L. R. Costanzo Co., Inc., general contract, in the amt. \$14,169.43 to complete the kitchen and cafeteria work.
- C. Proposal for the Board to recommend that the Susquehanna Area Regional Airport Authority (SARAA) use the Greater Harrisburg Credit Union as a depository.
- D. Recommendations to the Workforce Investment Board:
 - 1. Tom Bell
 - 2. Frank Cibort
 - 3. Patrick McHugh

Mr. Burns: Correct, Mr. Chairman. On Item B, if the Board is prepared to vote today, the renovations committee has requested a vote. If you feel you need more information, then it can be held until next week.

Mr. Haste: Garry, do you want to talk about Item A?

Mr. Esworthy: Good morning, Commissioners. Item A is a Service Agreement for the administration of Self-Insurance Liability Program between ourselves and Inservco Insurance Services which is located across the street from us at Penn National. Inservco Insurance Services currently provides our administration, TPA, (third party administration), of our worker's compensation claims. As we are moving forward from Coregis to St. Pauls who is our new carrier, they are requesting that we have a TPA, third party administrator. We cannot administer claims inhouse in the state of Pennsylvania. Therefore, what I'm requesting is the ability to assign the administration of those liability claims to Inservco for the upcoming year. The choice was between either Inservco or put it back to St. Pauls and they would do it for us for an additional fee of \$45,500. I'm not really comfortable with allowing my carrier to administer the claims at the same time. I think by going to Inservco, they look out for the county's benefits. Also, it gives another ability of layer of insurance if you would. If something would go wrong with that claim, we can always go back to Inservco. That's part of the agreement. Inservco, in your package I believe you have a copy of the agreement, has the fees for each assignment.

Mr. Haste: You said that St. Pauls was charging \$45,500?

Mr. Esworthy: Part of the package program was to charge us \$45,500. After I went through for the past six years and looked at the number of claims we have had, I thought in by taking the set fee, it would be cheaper for us to go this route than to give them \$45,500. St. Pauls would not break it down for me. Inservco would break it down for me. We are paying only on a claims basis for each claim we are submitting to them.

Mr. Haste: So what would be your projection on what we would pay or what we would save?

Mr. Esworthy: I'm looking probably to save about \$10,500 off that fee of \$45,500 of St. Pauls.

Mr. Petrucci: Inservco is local.

Mr. Esworthy: Inservco is very local. That's the other good thing about that. If I would be dealing with St. Pauls, it would be out of state trying to establish those claims. It is very difficult over the phone. If we have a concern we can go directly over to Inservco and bring Inservco in front of us.

Mr. Henry: We already use Inservco for something else don't we?

Mr. Esworthy: We use them as our TPA for our self insurance worker's compensation. I'm very comfortable with them and very happy with the work they have done so far for us.

Mr. Henry: We've used them for two for three years at least.

Mr. Esworthy: Absolutely. The reason we need this voted on right now is that our policy renewed June 1st with St. Paul. If we have a claim in the meantime, I need to get it over to them as soon as possible. I don't want to prolong this more than what I have to.

Mr. Haste: Are there any further questions for Garry? Is there a motion?

Mr. Henry: So moved.

Mr. Haste: Is there a second?

Mr. Petrucci: Second.

Mr. Haste: All those in favor say, aye.

All: Aye.

Mr. Haste: Motion carries. Thank you. Bob, do you want to speak to Item B?

Mr. Burns: Commissioners, this would be the final of three Change Orders for the cafeteria. The Board had approved two Change Orders earlier this year. This would be the final one. It's been held for a while to try to get the cost down. The initial estimate was about \$20,000 and it was felt that it was high. So it has been reduced to \$14,169.43. It would be for the completion of the work in the food preparation area of the cafeteria. Primarily HVAC, electrical upgrades, duct work and a new counter is being put in or being proposed to if the Board approves the Change Order. I checked on the contingency fund this morning and currently in that fund there is \$164,811. If the Board approves this Change Order there will be approximately \$150,000 left for future change orders.

Mr. Haste: In the projections that you and Mike had put together, was this planned on being paid out of the contingency fund or not?

Mr. Burns: I'm not yet sure of that, Commissioner. There is a possibility that Mike may have already encumbered the funds for this and if that is the case, then this would not come out of the \$164,000. It would have been already accounted for. In order for Mike to answer that, I think we need to give him a little bit more detail. This Change Order reads as a payment to Costanzo. I think Mike needs more information than that to determine if he's already encumbered the funds or not. In a worse case scenario, we would be taking it out of the \$164,811. In a best case scenario, it's already been accounted for.

Mr. Haste: In the overall, when you were looking at this project, the \$164,000, the contingency fund we always knew was there, and we knew we would have to use that to pay for something, was that planned to pay for this or was it planned to pay for something else?

Mr. Burns: No, it was planned, Commissioner, not to pay for any specific item but just change orders that came up in the course of the renovations. So this would be one of those change orders.

Mr. Haste: Is there a need to vote on this today?

Mr. Burns: There is not, the benefit to voting on it today would simply be to start the work this week but that's probably the only benefit. If the Board would like more time to deliberate it, it can certainly be held.

Mr. Haste: What is the will of the Board?

Mr. Petrucci: I have no problem with it.

Mr. Henry: It's out here let's get it off the agenda.

Mr. Haste: Is there a motion?

Mr. Henry: So moved.

Mr. Petrucci: Second.

Mr. Haste: All those in favor say, aye.

All: Aye.

Mr. Haste: Motion carries.

Mr. Burns: Thank you.

Mr. Haste: I guess Item C is one that Commissioner Petrucci has requested. Do you want to talk about that?

Mr. Petrucci: Yes, we have three vacancies on the Workforce Investment Board.

Mr. Haste: Item C.

Mr. Petrucci: Oh, C, I'm sorry. I moved right onto the next one. See why I need retirement. The Greater Harrisburg Credit Union called up to ask if I would be able to present to the Commissioners a request that we ask or encourage SARAA if they wouldn't be able to find a way to participate in putting a part of their financial accounting depository situation into the credit union. You might know they are doing a lot of work out there, millions of dollars are being spent and I'm not sure who their depository institutions are. But the Harrisburg Credit Union which we do have an account ourselves in for \$100,000 is in need of a little assistance and if we would write a letter to encourage SARAA to consider them as a partial depository it would be a help to the credit union. Their rates are comparable if not perhaps even beneficial and it would be a service to a group that does need help in our county.

Mr. Haste: Has the credit union made a presentation to the SARAA Board?

Mr. Petrucci: We don't know.

Mr. Henry: May be we should know that first before..

Mr. Petrucci: Okay, we'll find out.

The second item on there, Item D, is, I received a letter from George Hempt from the Workforce Investment Board. He is the executive director of that Board saying that we have three vacancies. Two of them very long term and we are in need of filling them. The appointments are for private sector representatives. We already have a labor representative and a public position representative. These would be the three private sector representatives. The letter sent was one stating that the state is starting to put pressure on them to make sure that they have full representation on the Workforce

Investment Board (WIB). So these names are ones that we have to put forward. They have all been asked and are willing to serve on the WIB. Tom Bell is with a local bank. I forget which because he has moved around a bit. Frank Cibort is a local businessman in Swatara Township. Patrick McHugh is, I'm not sure what his position is or title. I think he has some kind of a business agent for a union or something like that. We would like to put these things forward to the WIB for their acceptance. Our appointment goes to them for their final approval of the members.

Mr. Haste: I guess if they are willing to serve. When I knew there were vacancies, I asked around....+I'm not sure what the Board does, but I could not find anybody who wanted to sit....

Mr. Petrucci: I know.

Mr. Haste: I understand there is about sixty members on this Board and they sit forever.

Mr. Petrucci: It is tedious. We had Dan Robinson sitting on there and he quickly backed out. A lot of talk and little action.

Mr. Haste: That is what I've heard.

Mr. Petrucci: But for some people, it is critical because they are in the skill of developing of labor and business in our area, needs of specific kinds of labor help. It does spend about fourteen million or at least guide in education, training, of our workforce. Helps business and helps labor. There are some people who are willing to do that and these three have agreed to help out on that.

Mr. Haste: If that is the case, I don't know who decides the make up of the Board, when you get 60 people, that's no longer a committee, it's a convention. I think that is part of the problem.

Mr. Petrucci: The Ridge Administration wanted to regionalize our approach and they forced three differing workforce investment boards together. We were in one, the Susquehanna Employment Corporation was five counties, they joined us with York, Adams and Franklin counties to make it eight counties that are now represented here. So that each county has certain representatives, it gets up to a pretty large number. You're right, it's not very efficient. But everyone is covered. The state has given us this very large representative group to try and force some direction out of the spending of the fourteen million.

Mr. Henry: They also spend a disproportionate share of the fourteen million on the administration. A very small percentage of the money actually ever goes into job training which is a real deficiency with this operation.

Mr. Petrucci: It is indeed. It is one of the reasons that they annually go through reductions at the federal level for this.

Mr. Henry: The money is not getting to the people that it's meant to help.

Mr. Petrucci: Right.

Mr. Henry: It's ground up by bureaucracy before it gets there which is very unfortunate.

Mr. Petrucci: What the change has brought about however, just to talk about a couple of positive spots. Is that the business entities have grabbed a hold of the leadership which is probably good. And they have the opportunity to leverage private sector funds so they can take a part of their public sector funds and if there is an industry out there that wants some additional training they can ask for some money to come in and join together. It is an effort that is administratively heavy at the moment but there is the opportunity bringing in sharing money to augment the training and services.

Mr. Haste: Is there anything else?

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Haste: Solicitor's Report, Bill.

Mr. Tully: The only change or addition was actually the Inservco contract that was just approved. It didn't make it on the regular course of the Solicitor's Meeting but a person reviewed it before hand. I apologize for it not being on the Solicitor's report. At this point, it stands as submitted.

Mr. Petrucci: Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Haste: Yes.

Mr. Petrucci: I have some questions in regard to Item 15 on the Solicitor's Report. I don't know when is the appropriate time to bring up discussing them. I don't want to wait until next week when we are voting. May I discuss some of this?

Mr. Tully: By all means.

Mr. Petrucci: This is in regard to an agreement going to an engineering firm for work that we have on a project that I believe we have submitted bids for and we haven't yet selected one of the groups to do the project but we are already moving forward in regard to engineering on a piece of county property for that project. In light of some discussions that we are currently having with the Schaffner Center and with the state auditors and things like that, there is discussion occurring in regard to our having Schaffner more hooked up with the Prison than with our Human Service Department. I'm wondering if in the consideration of this building and the project. I've looked at the

two proposals and the scope of it. But I'm not sure we have developed it at a scale that would allow us for example to take the Schaffner, both detention and sheltered kids out of that and put them into this new and expanded facility and allow us to reutilize the Schaffner Center as a female work release facility. What we may be building is only half an answer. I'm asking if at this point can we consider the potentiality of taking care of all of our kids both detention and secure out of Schaffner into this new facility that is being contemplated here and reutilize the work release facility for the female offender program as a work release facility? Currently, the Woodside Work Release Facility is in a deplorable condition. It is not sufficient to house as many women that are qualified for work release. This would allow us to take that facility and convert it into night court, booking center, or a variety of other things related to prison activities and municipal police. As this starts to go forward, I would like to make sure that all these alternatives have been considered.

Mr. Haste: It is my understanding and correct me if I'm wrong, Rick, this really doesn't get into the detail that you are talking about. That's something that the committee will have to work out. This came up because the neighbor is looking to develop that land and made an approach to us to see if we could share in some of the cost that would basically cut our cost down. This is really for putting in the road and locating exactly where the buildings will go. This is actually the very preliminary....I believe...what promoted this was the neighbor was going to be doing something and we could either share in that costs savings or not. That really doesn't go into detail.

Mr. Petrucci: I wanted to clarify where we are.

Mr. Wynn: A couple of things. One is that the purpose of the engineer is to protect the County's interest in their property whether anything ever gets built on it or not. The main issue was that they are building around it. We have potentially planned to do something on it. What we wanted to do.....they're going to do massive moving of earth in the 100 some acres that they have and the question is how will it affect it and how would the access for all the different things like sewer, etc. All the different things that you need for building. So this was only to protect the County's interest. In terms of who would go on there, we are in the middle of looking at different alternatives. They're going to look at it no matter who goes in there. We have given them two proposals that we currently have. But they are very preliminary so that they can do a general advise to the County as to how that would fit. I wanted to correct something earlier, you said that Schaffner was under the Human Services Department. I have no oversight responsibility for Schaffner.

Mr. Petrucci: I said the state is recommending that we switch it from a prison relationship over to your Human Services Department.

Mr. Wynn: It's reversed that's why I didn't understand you.

Mr. Petrucci: There is an audit going on at Schaffner and we are meeting and having very detailed discussions. They are into us fairly thoroughly in regard to dollars being

spent. The big push we put on the increase in fees are now being gone over by the state auditors like mad. First thing that came out is why are we not under the Human Services Department? I just learned about this last week. It has been on our agenda before. We did have the Warden and the Prison Board take female offenders through the juvenile detention center to see if it would be adaptable to a female work release. There has been preliminary background looking at that at the time when we were contemplating a new juvenile facility and moving.

Mr. Henry: It is my understanding that what we're.....the whole gneiss of this project came about when we had the situation with Schaffner about a year and half ago. Schaffner being the preadjudication facility, the short stay where the juveniles go until they are given a plan of correction or plan of action. What we are looking at building on this property now is having various nonprofit agencies that provide the services that the juveniles are assigned to that now have to go to facilities all across the state rather than Dauphin County, would be able to actually receive that care and that treatment and finish out their adjudication here in the county. So what we are looking to build is completely different from the function of Schaffner. If you were to move the function that's at Schaffner into another one of these buildings you would have to build another Schaffner. Wouldn't it be better just to build a new facility for the women?

Mr. Petrucci: That is the debate that should occur.

Mr. Henry: I think we may have sort of an apples and oranges situation going on here.

Mr. Petrucci: I look to our experts in our Human Services field and the other fields for direction on that.

Mr. Wynn: When we started this project it was with Schaffner continuing under its current function. There would be some additional services like Schaffner does at the new site. It was not intended to replace Schaffner.

Mr. Petrucci: So you would be doing sheltered services expanding the shelter service that Schaffner does by having that but not the detention part, the seventeen day general waiting period for them to come to court and do that kind of stuff?

Mr. Wynn: No we wouldn't. That's not the main thrust for this site.

Mr. Petrucci: We could expand that by taking the sheltered beds from Schaffner and allow you to do all the sheltering which of course the easy part and I think it is like 80% funded by the state. And we do the detention part at Schaffner. There are secured beds back there that we could expand that. Okay, thank you.

Mr. Haste: Are there any other questions for the Solicitor? Is there anything else, Bill?

Mr. Tully: Just as that was raised, I would concur that there should be a priority to look toward a female work release center. I think it is an area that we are lagging behind

and I have some legal concerns as to how that may leave the county if we don't step up the facility quality that is currently existing at Woodside.

Mr. Petrucci: Thank you.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Haste: Are there any comments by the members of the Board of Commissioners?

Mr. Petrucci: I do have a comment, Mr. Chairman, if I may. The Prison has worked with Dan Robinson with our Economic Development Department and the City in doing a substantial amount of cleanup effort on the main thoroughfare on Market Street through Allison Hill which is the largest feeder of our many Human Services, Prison and court related problems. The crew has been working for quite a few weeks now in cleaning and sealing buildings and getting them ready for rehab. We had four inmates working with Dan Robinson and Jim Albert, from my office, helping to supervise these prison crews. They have removed over a 100 tons of debris and trash from these properties. The City provided the dump truck that was then taken out to the incinerator. It's been a very good community joint cooperation effort. I was approached my minister at St. Francis who is very appreciative of the fact that it engendered a spirit of things beginning to change on Allison Hill. More than just the amount of tons there is the mind set that has been altered by this kind of a program. It may well continue in the future but at this point they are taking a little respite and we'll see if we can continue it. But it has been a very good successful program.

Mr. Haste: Is there anything else?

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Haste: We're again at the point, is there anybody in the audience that would like to address the Board? (There was no public participation.)

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Haste: Is there a motion to adjourn?

Mr. Henry: So moved.

Mr. Haste: Second?

Mr. Petrucci: Second.

Mr. Haste: All those in favor say, aye.

All: Aye.

Mr. Haste: Meeting is adjourned. Just a reminder, we have Retirement Board Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Burns, Chief Clerk/Chief of Staff

Transcribed by: Shari Eagle
June 17, 2003

printed 7/28/03