



DAUPHIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WORKSHOP MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2003 (10:00 A.M.)

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Robert Burns, Chief Clerk; Marie Rebeck, Controller; Bob Dick, Treasurer; Randy Baratucci, Director of Purchasing; Rick Wynn, Director of Human Services; Edgar Cohen, Director of Facility Maintenance; Jennifer Kocher, Director of Communications; Dan Robinson, Director of Economic Development; Steve Suknaic, Director of Juvenile Probation; Jeff Patton, Juvenile Probation; Bruce Foreman, Esq.; Bob Knupp, Esq.; Jane Gordon, Commissioners' Office; Kacey Truax, Commissioners' Office; Gary Serhan, Controller's Office; Faye Fisher, Personnel; Garry Esworthy, Risk Manager; Diane McNaughton, Communications; Melanie McCaffrey, Solicitor's Office; Shari Eagle, Information Technology and Richie Martz, Commissioners' Office.

GUESTS PRESENT

Jack Sherzer, Patriot-News and Helen Steely.

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 the September 16, 2003 Workshop Meeting Minutes, September 23, 2003 Salary Board Meeting Minutes and the September 23, 2003 Legislative Meeting Minutes on the Agenda for next week.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Haste: Public participation. Is there anyone in the audience that would like to address the Board of Commissioners at this time? (There was no public participation.)

TRAINING PACKET

Mr. Burns: The packet presented can wait until the Legislative Meeting for a vote.

PERSONNEL

Ms. Fisher: There are several Salary Board items in today's packet. The first is for Spring Creek to eliminate six (6) per diem LPN Charge positions and create six (6) full time LPN Charge positions. The second is for Fiscal Affairs and it is to eliminate a Special Assistant to the Director position in Weatherization and create an Insurance Administrator position in Fiscal Affairs. The third item is to create three (3) full time Telecommunicator Trainee positions in Emergency Management. The next one is to eliminate a temporary Intern position, effective December of this year and to create an Administrative Assistant/Program Assistant Coordinator position effective January 2004 for Community and Economic Development. The next two items are to reclassify two Crew Worker positions for Weatherization. The next item is to create two Crew Worker positions for Weatherization. The next item is to reclassify a Weatherization Outreach Estimator position. The next item is to reclassify two Crew Leader positions for Weatherization. The next item is to reclassify a Department Clerk II position into a Secretary III position for Weatherization. The next item is to reclassify a Receptionist/Typist position into a Clerk III position for the Public Defender's Office, per Union contract. Finally, the last item is to create a Deputy District Attorney position for the District Attorney's Office.

Mr. Haste: I don't have that sheet. In Weatherization there are a lot of things going on. Could the Board get an old organizational chart and a new one that shows what all is happening in that department?

Ms. Fisher: Moving into the Personnel Packet, we have the Workshop Agenda Vacancies Listing, next the Workshop Agenda New Hires Listing. There are several new hires that I would ask the Board to vote on and approve today so these people can begin new employee orientation.

Mr. Haste: Which ones are those?

Ms. Fisher: On the New Hire Listing, new hires #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, #12, #13, #14, #22, #28 and #32. On the Workshop Agenda Vacancies Listing, I would like the Board to vote on and approve item #1 and #2. Some of the new hires are filling those positions and Item #3 listed under vacancies approved by the President Judge.

Mr. Haste: Is that on the Changes List?

Ms. Fisher: Yes, it is the listing right before the New Hires Listing.

Mr. Petrucci: Changes List, item #3.

Ms. Fisher: No, the Workshop Agenda Vacancies Listing.

Mr. Petrucci: Item #3 is Certified Nurse at Spring Creek.

Ms. Fisher: On the second page, Commissioner Petrucci, under vacancies approved by the President Judge, that #3.

Next is the Workshop Agenda Changes Listing.

Mr. Haste: I do not have that one. I have the New Hire and Changes.

Ms. Fisher: You don't have the Vacancies Listing? (Ms. Fisher provided the Board with the Listing.)

Mr. Haste: On the Vacancies Listing, the numbers you want approved today are?

Ms. Fisher: Number 1 and 2 and on the second page number 3. Finally, an overtime request from the Prison.

Mr. Haste: Do we have to deal with the Prothonotary's request today?

Ms. Fisher: Which listing? No, we are not dealing with that today.

Mr. Petrucci: I would first like to ask about the overtime sheet from all of the departments. Am I reading this right in regard to Dauphin Manor, where it says

in 2002 they had 4000 and some hours overtime and so far in 2003 they have had 15,000 hours in overtime.

Ms. Fisher: I would have to ask about that.

Mr. Henry: That is just one pay period, isn't it?

Ms. Fisher: Yes.

Mr. Henry: That is probably a typo, I hope. I think it might be 5,254, but I don't think it is 15,000.

Ms. Fisher: I think you are right and I will verify that with our Payroll Department. I think that is an error.

Mr. Haste: The assumption would be that overtime went up with the move.

Mr. Henry: Not in Pay Period #18. The move has been done.

Mr. Haste: At some point in time.

Mr. Henry: But 10,000 hours.

Mr. Haste: You are right.

Mr. Petrucci: Since I am going to be on vacation next week, I would like to comment on some of the Salary and Personnel issues that were raised here today. If we were voting today, I would not vote to create the new Insurance Administrator position. I would vote, however, to eliminate the Weatherization position; which that gentleman was being moved from. I have had this individual in two of my departments previously. The person is a political ghost employee. He basically brings about a negative productivity in any department that he goes to and I could not vote for this. If I were to vote on this issue, I would vote no on changing that.

Mr. Haste: Any other comments? Ms. Fisher has asked us to take action on Workshop Agenda New Hires Listing #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, #12, #13, #14, #22, #28 and #32, as well as, Workshop Agenda Vacancies #1, #2 and #3 under vacancies approved by the President Judge.

Is there a motion to approve those items?

Mr. Henry: So moved.

Mr. Petrucci: Second.

Mr. Haste: Any further discussion? All those in favor say, Aye.

All: Aye.

Mr. Haste: Motion carries.

PURCHASE ORDERS

Mr. Baratucci: You should have all received the Purchase Order Packet yesterday. In addition to what is on the Packet, I just handed you a Requisition that came my way through Edgar Cohen's Facilities Maintenance Department. It is actually being charged to the Coroner's Office. It is a replacement for a walk-in refrigeration unit out at Bulk Storage in the Coroner's area. Mr. Cohen can give you a more detailed explanation. Basically, it is replacing something that is not working properly out there and it is not a good area to have your refrigeration not working properly. We would like to get it added to the Packet so that it can be approved next week.

Mr. Henry: I was going to ask what we were storing, but I think I will dispense with the question.

Mr. Haste: I had a conversation with the Coroner, he actually tried to get used refrigeration put in there. He thought he could save money. I believe it was with Polyclinic, their old facility and their old unit he was going to look to move. After they explored it, it was cheaper to buy a new one than to tear out a used one somewhere else.

Mr. Baratucci: We did have three different companies come in and give prices. This was the lowest quote.

Mr. Henry: New or used does not matter at that point.

Mr. Baratucci: It needs to be done. The refrigeration needs to be fixed. It will appear on your Packet next week for approval. The other items are just the standard ones. There are a few budget adjustments, which will be done by next week. If you have any other questions on the Packet, I can answer those.

Mr. Petrucci: Why are we unable to allocate phone costs? I see a page called unallocated phone costs, Page 9.

Mr. Baratucci: When we got the new phone system, we allocated all of the costs for the usage of the phones. However, some technical equipment that goes into the central phone area, they established a separate cost center under IT to put all that equipment in there. We are just paying for it out of there since it is hard to take something like a trunk card or line card and actually separate it. This is just equipment that is added. It is actually down in the phone room. There has just

been a code established, I think, both between Mike Yohe, the Controller's Office and IT worked out that they would charge all that type of stuff to this one thing and not worry about spreading it out. We did spread out the system when we bought it and that was based on the number of phones. We also spread out the actual phone costs.

Mr. Petrucci: It wouldn't fit under an IT budget kind of item?

Mr. Baratucci: The 173 at the top, if you turn back to Page 7 and 8, the 173 cost center is IT's. This is just a separate item under IT so that it is separate from their operating costs. It is part of IT's overall budget.

DIRECTORS

Mr. Haste: Are there any directors that would like to make a presentation? (There was none.)

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Mr. Haste: I see we have some that need action. I also received a note that we need to take action on Item E. Mr. Burns, do you want to speak to the items that need action?

- A. Daniel Robinson – Director of Community and Economic Development Approval of an Application for an Intergovernmental Cooperation Grant Program between the Borough of Steelton and the City of Harrisburg for Phase II of the GIS Project. **(***NEEDS VOTED ON 10/07/03)**
- B. Lease Agreement between Dauphin County and Triple Crown Corp. for new District Justice Office in the City of Harrisburg. **(***NEEDS VOTED ON 10/07/03)**
- C. Appoint Mary Lundeen to the Friends of Fort Hunter Trustee Board – term to expire December 31, 2006.
- D. Appoint Gary V. Hoover, Joseph R. DeLellis and Linda D. Thompson to the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) – terms to expire December 31, 2006. **(***NEEDS VOTED ON 10/07/03)**
- E. Medical Assistance Transportation Program Agreement between Dauphin County and the Cumberland-Dauphin-Harrisburg Transit Authority.
- F. Proposal for County of Dauphin to guarantee a bond issue of the Harrisburg Authority and City of Harrisburg for a retrofit of the

Harrisburg Incinerator. This proposal may be considered for vote on 10/21/03. In anticipation of vote the County is soliciting public comment.

Mr. Burns: Mr. Knupp just pointed out to me that he received an email on Item B, the Lease Agreement, apparently that can wait for Legislative action on the 14th. Item D that request was received from Commissioner Petrucci for a vote and I think it is because, as the Commissioner said, he would not be here next week. Item E, Rick Wynn is here to talk about this. I know CAT has been providing that function without a contract so there was a desire to get that approved.

Mr. Haste: Mr. Robinson, would you like to come forward and address Item A?

Mr. Robinson: The Steelton Borough and Harrisburg City Intergovernmental Cooperation Grant is before you for a vote. This line item is currently paid out of the 1% hotel tax and as has been the custom we bring the application before the Board. I assume everybody has a copy of the purpose of the Grant. It is between Steelton, the City and Dauphin County for GIS transfer of property and deed data. This would be year two and the final year for the GIS transfer. The purpose of these Grants, for the public, we encourage municipalities throughout the County to work together. In the Grant, it allows for up to \$12,500 in matching money. This Grant would be year two and the final year. They will not be coming back to us for this purpose in the future.

Mr. Haste: This is for the Borough and the City to work together on doing the GIS for some of their infrastructure on their streets.

Mr. Robinson: Yes. Also, the County will have access to what they do so there won't be a duplication of effort. The merging of data will be accessible to the public as well.

Mr. Haste: Is there a motion to approve?

Mr. Henry: So moved.

Mr. Petrucci: Second.

Mr. Haste: Any further discussion? All those in favor say, Aye.

All: Aye.

Mr. Haste: Motion carries.

Mr. Haste: We will hold Item B and C. Item D, Commissioner Petrucci do you want to address that?

Mr. Petrucci: Gary Hoover is the Director of the Susquehanna Employment Corporation. I am Vice Chairman of the Board and Earl Keller is the Chairman of the Board. We have a WIB Board (Workforce Investment Board) of businessmen, labor leaders and community leaders that give recommendation and advice to the group about how to allocate the training dollars for the eight county region. Gary Hoover is a resident of Dauphin County, as well. It would be good for us to have him represent Dauphin County at the WIB Board, as one of the most knowledgeable people in regard to this kind of activity. Linda Thompson is asking for a reappointment and Joe DeLellis is also asking for a reappointment. So, I am placing these three names as Dauphin County appointees to the Workforce Investment Board. Their terms expiring December 31, 2006.

The Workforce Investment Board has been on our case about not filling our vacancies. The County has had a long period of vacancies on a couple of the appointments to the WIB Board. It jeopardizes the activity of the WIB and it also makes Dauphin County look like we are not paying attention to an important issue. So, I place these names for appointment to the WIB Board. They will then have to be approved by the Board before they would be actually accepted. So, these are names that we are recommending for them to approve.

Mr. Haste: Actually, I don't think Dauphin County has ignored the appointments. I know I have talked to a number of people that go there. Some have attended this Board meeting before and do not want to serve because the number of folks that attend are so large that the meetings get out of hand. I think the Board would be better off if somehow they would restructure. When you have a committee meeting of upwards to 80 people that is difficult to conduct business in.

Mr. Petrucci: Gary Hoover is in the business. He is the Director. For him, it is part of his normal work responsibility.

Mr. Haste: If they are willing to serve that is a good thing. Somewhere along the line, the Board needs to look at the structure, if they want us to keep sending them people who have an interest.

Mr. Petrucci: There was a major restructuring that occurred from the Federal Government a couple years back. The Ridge Administration Labor Department tried to apply those national directions for regionalizing and consolidating. They took our five county area and made it into an eight county area. It has just been a struggle all along in regard to leadership from the top, the Department of Labor. It has been difficult to blend Dauphin County's five county region with York, Adams and Franklin County; which had their own. It has been a mess and it still hasn't been worked out. They are struggling.

Mr. Henry: Also, what I have found with this Workforce Investment Board is they are very top heavy in administrative costs. Very few of the dollars actually make it into job training. The whole concept seems to be a huge waste of taxpayer dollars. From that point, I will not vote to appoint anybody to it. I think it ought to be abolished. It is not achieving its mission.

Mr. Petrucci: I am in partial agreement with my colleague. I would as a policy person like to see a guaranteed minimum income for all Americans and I would take this program, the Farm Subsidy Program, Social Security Program and the Housing Program and dump them all into a guaranteed minimum income plan for all Americans. I would agree with you that this is an administratively heavy kind of a department and I don't like it either. On the other hand, I don't want to let \$14 million dollars in potential money not go accounted for, from a Dauphin County perspective. We do have a Director that is in charge of it and we have a sort of preferred position. I would like to see that we do as much as possible to get what training dollars there are available for us. I would point out that I mentioned a couple of weeks ago, the program that WIB helped fund was the training of about 18 or 19 of our Harrisburg youth into arts and crafts. They developed tables and chairs, made from scratch, that are now in eight of our Dauphin County Libraries. We are getting participation in dollars and assistance for people out of this program. I still would like us to have representation and I therefore move that we appoint these three people to the Board.

Mr. Henry: Fourteen million dollars for some benches seems to be rather excessive. Personally, I would rather see them eliminate the program and use the \$14 million to cut tax rates. Either businesses could invest that more appropriately in upgrading their ability to hire folks in improving their capacities and/or working families could put it to better use taking care of their kids and obligations. I don't see any reason to encourage this by seconding the motion.

Mr. Haste: Since these terms are not up until December 31st, why don't we not take action now and as our representative to this, Commissioner Petrucci, if you would send them a letter expressing our concerns that we feel, for this to be an effective organization, it needs to look at being restructured and that we want to support this idea and move forward, however, it appears that the current structure, both administratively and organizationally, seems to be a hindrance. See what their response is.

Mr. Petrucci: There was some time difficulties that I am not able to recall. Mr. Burns, do you know anything about our need to have these appointees onto the WIB Board?

Mr. Burns: The only thing that I can add is the terms actually expired on September 30th, I believe, from their By-laws that they continue to serve if the Commissioners do not replace them. By taking no action, it would remain status quo. I think they would continue to serve in their capacity.

Mr. Haste: Until the end of December. So, we don't run a risk of not having representation on the Board.

Mr. Burns: I believe that is accurate.

Mr. Haste: In your letter, may be you could say that we are delaying our vote until we hear a response back. At that point in time, we will take action.

Mr. Henry: I will make a motion to table the motion.

Mr. Haste: I will second that motion. Any discussion. All those in favor, say Aye.

All: Aye.

Mr. Haste: Motion carries.

Mr. Haste: Item E

Mr. Wynn: This item is a six-month contract. We currently are operating under a continuation clause in the contract from last year while we could work out some details. One of the reasons for a six-month contract is that the County and CAT need to work together to do a better job in the medical assistance transportation program. There are some particular items there that needed to be improved. We are jointly working with them. Additionally, we thought we had a correct amount and it wasn't. The contract they were going to send in prior that we would have had on time, didn't get in because that amount was wrong. That needed to be changed. We were able to work that out, but it has taken a couple months. Because of that this is a six-month contract. It is retroactive to July, but we have been operating under a continuation since July. Again, part of this contract is that we and CAT need to work out some problems to keep the State satisfied of the services that are being offered to medical assistance clients. Basically, we were not doing services to those that are on general routes. They are expected, unless having a disability, to use those routes and everybody was getting shared ride.

Mr. Haste: Is there a motion to approve.

Mr. Henry: So moved.

Mr. Petrucci: Second.

Mr. Haste: Any discussion. All those in favor say, Aye.

All: Aye.

Mr. Haste: Motion carries.

Mr. Haste: Item F will be on the Agenda until it is appropriate for us to take action. When is the City scheduled to address this?

Mr. Burns: Their current time line is for them to vote on October 14, 2003.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Knupp: The Solicitor's Report is before you. It was reviewed yesterday and Mr. Tully is in Trial before the President Judge. I reviewed it with the other Assistants and there is nothing to add to the Report and I would be happy to answer any questions. I recommend that it be carried over to next week's meeting.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Henry: Each year, I have the rather unique experience of going out to the Rutherford House. Rutherford House is leased from the County for \$1.00 per year. They present us with their rent annually and usually come up with some creative ways of doing that. As oversight Commissioner, I am presented with the \$1.00 and of course, I want to make a required disposition of funds to the County Controller. They got better this year. Last year, I was presented a \$1.00 in a banana by a State Representative wearing a monkey suit. This year we had a Marilyn Monroe impersonator. That was a dramatic improvement. Marilyn had the \$1.00 on a necklace and took it off and handed it to me. Marie, here is the \$1.00 rent payment from Rutherford House.

Ms. Rebeck: Thank you. I would like to know if you still have the receipt from last year.

Mr. Henry: I regret to inform you that I had to eliminate the receipt from last year. Marie, was very inventive and wrote the receipt on the banana peel. It was kept in the file, but after a while it ceased to be effective as a receipt.

Mr. Petrucci: I have a couple of things that I would like to discuss with the Board.

First, I received a copy of a letter from the County Treasurer, Mr. Dick. It was in regards to a Tax Collector, Deborah Feeder. What municipality is she the Tax Collector for?

Mr. Dick: The Borough of Dauphin.

Mr. Petrucci: The letter indicated that she had been quite delinquent in carrying out her duties in that she had not filed the weekly reports, nor had she remitted any of the taxes collected. Mr. Dick is basically informing her that unless she

starts to comply that he is going to have to recommend that he take over her function or that someone be brought in. We had mentioned the tax collectors earlier today in our discussions and I just point this out as to the fact that this is probably the most asinine way to collect the \$90 million that the County collects from taxpayers. It is just mind boggling.

Mr. Dick: Two days after I mailed the letter to the Tax Collector, she did respond. Unfortunately, she is having some personal problems, but she is all caught up on her taxes. Everything is in and she agreed to keep up to date. As the letter indicated, several phone calls on her answering machine went unanswered. I had to take that action.

Mr. Petrucci: The other issue that I wanted to raise is a continuing concern to me and that is the General Authority. I don't even say Dauphin County General Authority any more because I don't think it deserves the name of Dauphin County in front of it. Let me just start by pointing out there was an editorial in the Patriot-News that pretty much continues to publicly denigrate the Authority and basically make a joke out of the Authority and those of us on the Board who are responsible for the activities of that General Authority. Therefore, I would remind the Board that I have on several occasions offered suggestions about what this Board needed to do in regard to the General Authority. I had after the last public round of sad stories from the General Authority suggested that its efforts for Dauphin County are over that it has lost its capacity to be a service to the citizens of Dauphin County and that this Board needed to abolish it. That was sent over to the Solicitor's and nothing has come forward from the Solicitor's Office in regard to that other than a suggestion that it will take a long time for the General Authority to get rid of the bond issues, debts and obligations of that Authority. There was a long term proposal that we do abolish the General Authority. There was no directive from this Board that the Solicitor or the General Authority pursue a course to get itself abolished and I think that is an oversight that this Board needs to take a positive action to call for the abolishment of the Authority as quickly as possible. Barring that, I would suggest that there are some short term, kinds of programs, that we need to address. This Board is still out there, still doing things that could create a considerable amount of harm to the citizens of Dauphin County unless reformed. It has shown, in my opinion, no ability to function in the interests of Dauphin County and that needs to be addressed by this Board. Therefore, I am making a suggestion that we propose some amendments, a resolution to ask the General Authority to amend several of the things that it is doing.

First of all, I hear that one of the Board Members may not be a resident of Dauphin County and upon checking some of the rules and regulations, through a Solicitor, we don't find that there is any kind of residential requirement. However, just as Mr. Paterno, who wants to run for the 17th Congressional Seat doesn't live in Dauphin County, it would seem just as asinine to me to have a person serving on the General Authority that lives in Lebanon County instead of Dauphin

County. If there are any members of the General Authority who do not live in Dauphin County, but pretend to, I would suggest that they resign from the General Authority and that someone from Dauphin County, representing Dauphin County, should be replacing them. Barring no resignations, I think we should impose a provision stating that all members of the Dauphin County General Authority should be Dauphin County residents. That is not clear in any of the language any where in regard to any of the ordinances or any of the resolutions and I think we should make it clear.

Secondly, a five member Board, to me has been too easy to manipulate. I think that a larger Board is more in the interest of our citizens. There is a greater likelihood that secure decision making will occur in a larger Board. I would like to suggest that we pass a resolution expanding the General Authority Board from five members to seven members and that we institute immediately the appointment of two new people to the General Authority Board.

I also feel that the location of the General Authority is in itself hiding from the taxpayers of Dauphin County. They need to be better watched. They need to be by this Board observed daily. I would like to see the Dauphin County General Authority staff placed on this floor in our Offices that we have available right next to our Chief Clerk. To be out in the middle of the golf course on property that could be utilized by the County for other human services, such as a work facility for juveniles or something else and not even decide to go into a building that they control and pay rent at the Forum Place still to hide out on the middle of the golf course where they seem to do decision making for themselves instead of for Dauphin County to me is calling for us to take action. Therefore as another part of my short term proposal is to call for a resolution requiring the General Authority to move its administrative offices to the Fourth Floor of this County's Administration Building.

Fourthly, I am to understand that this is the only Board of Dauphin County that is paid a compensation. I have asked for information in regard to the amount of that compensation earlier last week and I have yet to receive the information. I understand that the Chairman of the Board receives \$300 a meeting and that the other members of the Board receive \$200 per meeting and that there is a \$200 per diem per month for them, indicating an enormous kind of monthly cost associated with the holding of this Board. This is the Board that has defaulted twice in regard to its payments to debt holders on properties that they have bought. This is above and beyond what we should allow any group representing Dauphin County to do. I would ask our Solicitor's Office to prepare a resolution. I have rough drafted three of those. I was waiting for the compensation information to formulate a third. I would like to add a provision in the resolution stating that any compensation by any board would be determined by the Board of Commissioners and not by the boards themselves. There is no other Board getting paid and yet people on our Airport Authority Board and on our other authorities are not getting paid and this to me is a further indication of the self

interest of the General Authority and a denial of the interests of the citizens of Dauphin County. Therefore, I would ask for support of the Board to have the Solicitor's Office prepare for the October 21st Meeting these four points in a resolution directed to the General Authority.

Mr. Henry: Well, it is very unfortunate in this business that you can make a set of wild accusations without having the facts to back them up and that you can make a set of proposals that clearly would be in contravention of current law. I am not going to attempt to rebut point by point every thing you have said, because we all have many important things to do today. Let me say this, several years ago I sat on the Board of the Dauphin County General Authority for about six months. At that time the compensation, which I did not take, was \$25 per meeting. There was no per diem in addition to that. I do not think that would be an excessive amount of compensation for board members. Having said that, there are two other points that I want to address. You reference a Board Member who has a residence in Lebanon County. The Board Member, to whom you refer, owns a farm in Lebanon County and owns a residence in Lower Paxton Township. I understand you don't view Lower Paxton as being part of Dauphin County, but some of us do. I think he qualifies since he also has significant business interests in Dauphin County certainly qualifies as a Dauphin County resident and a Dauphin County person with vested interest in the welfare of our community.

The only other thing that I will say and unfortunately the Patriot-News editorial board is equally as inept at properly doing their research as you are when it comes to the snide and ridiculous remark that was included in the Editorial the over day. It is important to understand that when you talk about the General Authority that you separate the current General Authority from past General Authorities. The current General Authority Board has been wholly replaced and appointed over the last four years. The last three months of the Sheaffer/Klein Administration, Mr. Liptak was appointed to the Board and serves as Chairman. Mr. Liptak, in fact, set the General Authority on a path of reform, which has been difficult. Certainly you are correct there is much that has been done in the past that has not yet been totally undone. And you are correct that it needs to be undone. However, it is not as easy as snapping your fingers and has proven to be far more difficult than any of us anticipated at the outset. Since that time we have replaced the other four members of the Board. If you are going to attack the Dauphin County General Authority, I think it is very important that you separate the Board that was here four years ago from the board that is here now. The Board that is here now has not purchased a single property during its tenure. However, enticing the Erie Canal may be as an economic development tool for Dauphin County and the Patriot-News' remarks notwithstanding, this Board has not purchased properties. In fact, it has divested. This Board divested of the Bedford Springs Golf Course. I was personally involved, two years ago, in an effort to try to divest Forum Place and Riverfront. Unfortunately, due to the financial status of Forum Place, the Mayor of Harrisburg correctly decided that was not a good deal.

I might point out Commissioner, for all of your self serving political attacks upon this Board that it was you, who sat on this Board, during the timeframe that this General Authority got into the mess that it was in. If anybody here bears culpability for the disaster that has occurred out here Commissioner, it would be you. The people that we have appointed in the last four years are the people who are trying to undo the problem. Have they been wholly successful, no. Is the process completed, no. Does the current Board have as its operating philosophy divesting of these properties, yes. That is where they are headed and I think that rather than be politically attacked for no apparent reason that these very able business people who have been placed on this Board, all five of them, are doing the best that they can and are trying to untangle the tangled financials that you and your cohorts created at that Authority and to try to divest of these properties and get the Authority down to its core mission of only operating government facilities. At that point, it is up to the County to decide whether they want the General Authority to continue owning and operating buildings for the County or whether they wish for some other authority board to do that. But, there are laws, rules, regulations and financial matters that have to be attended to. You cannot just simply pass a resolution and make it go away. If that were the case, it would have been done years ago. Rather than attack them, I think the new General Authority Board should be credited with moving us exactly in the direction that you say you want to have us move in. While when the ball was in your court you moved us the other direction. So, I think you have some rather hypocritical comments to make on that front.

Mr. Haste: If I could, Mr. Knupp, did you get the four points that Commissioner Petrucci raised?

Mr. Knupp: Residency requirements, expanding to seven, move the offices here and eliminate compensation. Yes.

Mr. Haste: Could I ask that the Solicitor's Office take a look at those four issues and let us know what boundaries or guidelines this Board has when it comes to that and take a look at Commissioner Petrucci's request and then inform us of our standing and where we are.

Mr. Knupp: I would request that if there is a draft resolution that has been prepared by the Commissioner that he submit it to us also.

Mr. Petrucci: Yes, I have three of those points, I was still waiting to produce a fourth, but I will give you what I have so far.

Mr. Knupp: I will turn it over to Mr. Tully and tell him of your direction.

Mr. Petrucci: Since I am going to be on vacation next week, if we could have it back by the October 21st meeting so I would be allowed to have my input onto this I would appreciate it. This gives us two weeks to work on this.

Mr. Knupp: My understanding on this, Mr. Chairman, is that we are to look at the legalities of what has been proposed to see whether or not that can be accomplished by this Board in view of the Municipal Authorities Act and the creation of an independent municipal authority and whether or not this Board has the right for example to amend that Authority's By-laws.

Mr. Petrucci: What I would like to point out to the Solicitor is and just like my colleague mentioned, I was on the Board when the General Authority did go amuck. I did vote against many of the issues back then, but I did vote along with Commissioners Sheaffer and Klein on a resolution that would ask the General Authority to first get approval of the Board of Commissioners for any kind of projects that they were undertaking. That Resolution was then passed by the General Authority Board. What I am asking is following that same amending procedure that we dictate in writing what our view is, what we would like to request of the Authority and then present that to them for their consideration.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Haste: Is there anyone that would like to address the Board of Commissioners? (There was no public participation.)

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Haste: Is there a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Henry: So moved.

Mr. Petrucci: Second.

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

All: Aye.

Mr. Haste: Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Burns, Chief Clerk/Chief of Staff
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