

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' WORK SESSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2005

The Board of County Commissioners met today in their weekly Work Session.

Present at today's meeting were:

Dick Shellenberger, Chairman
Molly S. Henderson
Howard "Pete" Shaub
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Don Elliott
CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR

Gary D. Heinke, Ph.D.
CHIEF OF HUMAN SERVICES

Andrea McCue
CHIEF CLERK

Also present:

Mike Brubaker, Chief Executive Officer
THE BRUBAKER CORPORATION

Matt Kirk
ACCESS FINANCIAL MARKETS

Jill McVey, Administrator
CHILDREN AND YOUTH SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCY

Chris Neumann, Director FOR Transportation Planning
PLANNING COMMISSION

Commissioner Shellenberger called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Commissioner Shellenberger announced that the following items were discussed at the February 22, 2004 Executive Session

1. Real Estate matters
2. Potential Litigation matters.

The minutes of the February 15, 2005 Work Session were approved, as circulated.

Commissioner Shellenberger announced that the Board of Commissioners met in Executive Sessions on February 16, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss a real estate matter and on February 17, 2005 at 10:30 a.m. to discuss a personnel matter.

Commissioner Shellenberger stated that since this Board of Commissioners took office, they discussed the need to prioritize their efforts to continue the viability of agriculture in Lancaster County. One point that was abundantly clear at the first round of meetings held by the Growth Management Task Force is that the public agrees we must keep Lancaster County farming. The Commissioners continue to talk about this need and to coordinate and formulate effective and innovative ways to keep this important part of the economy, which represents 11 per cent of the economy and provides 20 per cent of the jobs in Lancaster County. Commissioner Shellenberger requested an endorsement of a Blue Ribbon Commission for Agriculture in Lancaster County. This commission will be made up of a diverse group in Lancaster County, representing varied agricultural, academic and economic disciplines with diversity in education, culture and geography, who will seek innovative and successful ways to keep agriculture viable and to keep Lancaster farming. Also the commission would hold a series of listening sessions around the County.

Commissioner Shellenberger recommended a small search committee be appointed to review applicants or nominees for the Blue Ribbon Commission for Agriculture. This committee would be asked to start immediately in seeking about 20-25 members. Gary Willier from the Lancaster County Chamber, Luke Brubaker from Brubaker Farms and Mike Brubaker, President of the Brubaker Corporation, will serve on a Search Committee and a website will be set up to include a procedure to nominate members for the Blue Ribbon Commission for Agriculture in Lancaster County. As part of that an 800 number will be set up for those who prefer to call to nominate a person. From the nominations various committees will be put together called sub-panels that the Commissioners envision formulating for the initial work of this commission. After the commission is selected, it will develop its Vision Statement and set meeting dates for 3-5 countywide listening sessions. Commission members will be asked to make a commitment to attend at least 75 per cent of the meetings. Mike Brubaker has agreed to facilitate this commission and manage its operation.

Commissioner Henderson said that approximately two years ago the Hourglass Foundation stated that farming and agriculture in the County had received overwhelming public support. Commissioner Shaub stated that 51,000 jobs, which are 1 in 5 jobs in Lancaster County, are involved in agriculture. Agriculture totals approximately \$4 billion per year, and 7 million tourists come here because of it.

Mike Brubaker was present to discuss the formation of a committee to establish a blue ribbon commission on agriculture. The primary website will be www.blueribbonag.org. The nominations will be handled by the Selection Committee, and the committee will wrap it up the week of March 14, 2005. The names will be recommended to the Commissioners who would then be appointed to the commission. The first tentative evening meeting will be March 30, 2005, open to the public, and the location will be determined at a later date.

**County Commissioners' Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 22, 2005**

On motion of Commissioner Shaub, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, it was agreed for the County of Lancaster to approve the establishment of the Blue Ribbon Panel, which will evaluate and develop a strategy to sustain agriculture as a viable business in Lancaster County for generations to come.

Motion passed unanimously.

On motion of Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Shellenberger, it was agreed for the County of Lancaster to name a Search Committee, naming Gary Willier, Luke Brubaker and Michael Brubaker to serve as the Selection Committee for the Blue Ribbon Commission for Agriculture in Lancaster County.

Motion passed unanimously.

1. Jill McVey was present to discuss an Agreement, acting on behalf of the Children and Youth Social Service Agency and/or the Juvenile Probation and Parole Department.

NOTE: For more information, please refer to the County Commissioners' Meeting Minutes dated February 23, 2005.

2. Chris Neumann was present to discuss for the County of Lancaster to approve Budget Adjustments in Resolution No.8, acting on behalf of the Planning Commission.

NOTE: For more information, please refer to the County Commissioners' Meeting Minutes dated February 23, 2005.

On motion of Commissioner Shaub, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, it was agreed for the County of Lancaster, acting on behalf of the Planning Commission, to approve the following:

**Letter Supplemental
Agreement No. 520660-J
With:**

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Purpose:

To extend the completion date for the Willow Street Revitalization Study to December 31, 2005, as included as Exhibit A of Amended Annual Grant Agreement No. 520660-H.

Note:

All other terms and conditions in the original contract and supplements shall remain in full force and effect.

Motion passed unanimously.

Matt Kirk was present to discuss 2005 Bond Financing and future capital needs of Lancaster County for the years 2005, 2006 and 2008. He explained the Debt Service Analysis for identified projects over the next several years. The next new Debt Issuance Assumptions of Project Amounts for 2005 are: \$22,207,827, for 2006: \$24,450,000 and for 2008: \$7,015,000, and the Total Project Amount is \$53,672,827. The financing structure for all of these will be General Obligation Bonds of the County's and will be at a 25-year level Debt Service Bonds, which means they will be approximately equal payments every year. The interest has been moved to Fixed as of February 16, 2005. Mr. Kirk stated the value of one Mill is \$23,000,000, and the Current Tax Rate is 3.218 Mills.

NOTE: For more information, please refer to the County Commissioners' Meeting Minutes dated March 2, 2005.

3. Don Elliott was present to discuss Resolution No. 7 of 2005: the Lancaster County Management Protocol, acting on behalf of the County of Lancaster.

NOTE: For more information, please refer to the County Commissioners' Meeting Minutes dated February 23, 2005.

4. Andrea McCue was present to discuss an Agreement with Scheffey Advertising, Inc., acting on behalf of the County of Lancaster.

On motion of Commissioner Shaub, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joy W. Laubach, Executive Assistant
Commissioners' Office