

**APPROVED**

A meeting of the Lehigh County Board of Commissioners was held on this date in the Public Hearing Room of the Lehigh County Government Center, with Dean N. Browning presiding as Chairman.

**Present:** Commissioners Dean Browning, Thomas Creighton, III, Percy Dougherty, Glenn Eckhart, David Jones, Sr., Daniel McCarthy, and Andy Roman. Commissioner Hamm was absent and one seat was vacant.

**Others:** Bill Berndt, Deputy Court Administrator; Valerie Hildebeitel, Deputy Clerk to the Board; Lynn Kovich, Human Services Director; Frank Kane, Chief of Staff; Terry Lopus, Cedarbrook Administrator, LW Consulting; Tom Muller, Director of Administration; Glenn Solt, Capital Projects Director; Eman Jarrah, Deputy Solicitor; reporters Brian Callaway, Bernie O' Hare and Ken Petrini; and David Barilla, Clerk to the Board.

Upon the motion of Commissioners Dougherty and Jones and a unanimous voice vote, the Minutes of the Board of Commissioners' meetings held 12/16/09 and 01/04/10 were approved. Under Executive Sessions, the clerk said none were held since the last Board meeting.

Under Citizen's Input, Lisa Sportelli said she has a ten year old son with autism. She said nine years ago we started fighting for services for our children. She said there still remains a void and large gap in our population. She questioned what programs are offered at the ARCH that are not offered elsewhere. She said her son has yet to be able to attend a program at the ARCH. She distributed a packet to the Commissioners regarding 2003-2004 Reinvestment Planning for Lehigh County Health Choices and the Children's Behavioral Health Unit. A copy of this material is on file in the Commissioners' Office. She asked Commissioners to review the material and please contact her.

Liz Jones, Peaceable Kingdom Executive Director, distributed and reviewed the packet of information attached as Exhibit A. She asked the Commissioners for letters of support to the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement. Commissioner Roman asked Commissioner Eckhart if a resolution of support from the Board of Commissioners would be helpful. Commissioner Eckhart said he will sponsor a resolution of this type for the next meeting. Commissioner Dougherty said he would support a resolution of this type.

Paulette Hunter said she brought her son with her tonight. She said Lehigh County originally wanted to place him in an institution and thanks to Secretary Richman he lives in her home. She asked that County action be taken to allow families to directly pay for respite care. She said she has great concerns with the follow through of items at the ARCH. She asked the Commissioners to ensure the ARCH is open and complete.

Ms. Rinker said autism is a very broad spectrum and requires a broad spectrum of services. She said the ARCH is doing good work for a segment of the spectrum but the children of the speakers tonight have been excluded. She said having the ARCH is the difference between having a life and not having a life. She said the ARCH is a wonderful facility that is working but needs to be expanded to the entire spectrum.

Sportelli asked that Commissioner Browning arrange for a direct meeting with those concerned and Lynn Kovich. Commissioner Browning said he will forward that to the Human Services Committee Chair.

Under the Chair's Review, Phil Mitman, LVEDC Executive Director, distributed and reviewed a packet of information including the attached "talking points" labeled Exhibit B. The complete packet of information is available in the Commissioners' Office.

Commissioner Roman said he heard there are 41,000 people laid off in the Lehigh Valley. He asked if there was a business sector breakdown for the layoffs. Mitman said the only sectors that are not losing jobs are health care and education. He said he would get Commissioner Roman a breakdown by sector.

Mitman said the Workforce Investment Board, known as Career Link, is putting millions of dollars into retraining those who have lost their jobs. He said they are doing everything possible to retrain workers. He said retraining is where the push is coming from. He said the most underserved are those who are not finding jobs.

Commissioner Dougherty said it was an honor to serve on the executive board and to see the operation of LVEDC. He said several years ago he was skeptical of the organization. He said he is proud of how open the organization has become.

Commissioner Browning said he opposed Lehigh County's funding of the recent rail study. He asked for an update on the study. Mitman said SISTRA is the consulting company for New Jersey Transit. He said we linked with them to determine if we can bring rail to the Lehigh Valley. He said it was not just a rail study, we included LANTA, TransBridge and the airport area; it became a holistic approach to Lehigh Valley transportation. He said Lehigh County and Northampton County each contributed \$75,000 and LVEDC contributed \$100,000. He said the analysis will be completed in March. He said Cindy Feinberg serves on the four person executive committee. He said the study will be presented publicly in March or April.

Mitman said Paul Marin led a small group that showed the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that it did not have a complete passenger rail plan or freight rail plan. He said Pennsylvania's government spent \$1 million and now has a rail plan. He said that puts us in line for federal funding. He said Lehigh County's \$75,000 appropriation was leveraged to put Pennsylvania in a position to get federal funding for rail.

Commissioner Browning said this is the first meeting in the last four years that this Board is not chaired by Percy Dougherty. He said it is his belief that the reputation the Lehigh County Board of Commissioners has for its ability to conduct business is in no small measure to the leadership of Chairman Dougherty. He asked for a round of applause for Commissioner Dougherty.

Under Appointments, the clerk announced the following reappointments to the Lehigh County Conservation District to a term that expires 12/31/13

Mary Ellen Snyder	5231 Geissinger Rd.	Zionsville, PA 18092
Robert P. Souder	5501 Fox Lane	Emmaus, PA 18049

Commissioner Eckhart said the Intergovernmental & Appointments Committee reviewed these reappointments and recommended approval by the full Board. The reappointments of Mary Ellen Snyder and Robert P. Souder to the Lehigh County Conservation District were approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Snyder reviewed the duties of Conservation Districts in Pennsylvania. She said the Conservation District Board and staff are working on initiatives to make the district more self sufficient. She invited the Commissioners to attend one of their meetings or visit the conservation district's website.

The clerk announced the following appointments to the Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority Board to terms that expires 12/31/14

Ed Pawlowski	43 North 11 <sup>th</sup> St.	Allentown, PA 18101
Anthony Boyle	2502 Ludwig Court	Macungie, PA 18062

Commissioner Eckhart said the Intergovernmental & Appointments Committee reviewed these appointments and recommended approval by the full Board. Commissioner Dougherty spoke in favor of both appointments. He said before he was the Mayor of Allentown, Ed Pawlowski was Economic Development Director for the City and he had a very ambitious plan for the Queen City Airport. He said if that was put into effect it would bring a lot of jobs and tax money to the area.

Jay Goldstein spoke in favor of the appointment of Mayor Ed Pawlowski. He questioned the culture and by-laws of the airport authority. He questioned why general aviation and commercial aviation appear to be treated equally in the by-laws of the airport authority. He reviewed the airport authority's position on Queen City airport in Resolution 4090 from December 2005. He questioned why the Mayors of our three cities serve on LVEDC but do not serve on the airport authority. He reviewed the reduction in air traffic statistics at LVIA.

The appointments of Ed Pawlowski and Anthony Boyle to the Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority were approved by a unanimous voice vote. Mayor Pawlowski thanked the Board of Commissioners for the vote of trust and the opportunity to serve. He said he will do what is best to bring life back to the airport. Anthony Boyle thanked the Commissioners for the appointment.

Under Old Business, the clerk announced Bill 2009-145: Approving a Professional Services Agreement with Michael J. Shosh, MS (sponsored by Commissioner Browning); the deputy solicitor provided a summary.

Commissioner Browning said this bill was reviewed by the Administrative Committee on 12/16/09. Commissioner Bill 2009-145 was approved by a unanimous voice vote. The Chair announced the bill's approval.

Refer to the Ordinance Book for County of Lehigh Ordinance 2010 - No. 101.

Re: Approving a Professional Services Agreement with Michael J. Shosh, MS.

The clerk announced Bill 2009-146: Approving a Professional Service Agreement with Concord Public Financial Advisors, Inc. (sponsored by Commissioner Browning); the deputy solicitor provided a summary. Commissioner Browning said this bill was reviewed by the Administrative Committee on 12/16/09. He said this deals with refinancing bonds that were issued in 2001 at an interest rate of five percent. He said the intent is to refinance those bonds at a much lower rate and save the County \$500,000. Commissioner Bill 2009-146 was approved by a unanimous voice vote. The Chair announced the bill's approval.

Refer to the Ordinance Book for County of Lehigh Ordinance 2010 - No. 102.

Re: Approving Professional Service Agreements with Concord Public Financial Advisors, Inc.

The clerk announced Bill 2009-147: Approving a Professional Service Agreement with Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC. (sponsored by Commissioner Browning); the deputy solicitor provided a summary. Commissioner Browning said this bill was reviewed by the Administrative Committee on 12/16/09. Commissioner Bill 2009-147 was approved by a unanimous voice vote. The Chair announced the bill's approval.

Refer to the Ordinance Book for County of Lehigh Ordinance 2010 - No. 103.

Re: Approving a Professional Service Agreement with Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC.

Under New Business, Commissioner Eckhart made the following motion: to accept the Lehigh County Board of Commissioners' committee assignments, as presented by Commissioner Dean N. Browning, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Commissioner Eckhart made the following motion: pursuant to section 803(D)(8)(b) of the Administrative Code, change order number 12 in the amount of \$5,075.00 to the contract between the County of Lehigh and F.A. Rohrbach, Inc. be approved. This contract was for concrete for the Lehigh County Courthouse. The change order is to provide for concrete sealer on the basement floor slab. Because the original contract price was \$1,715,485.00, and the change orders for this contract exceed 10% of the contract price, Board of Commissioner approval by motion is required. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

The clerk announced Resolution 2010-01: Resolution Designating Lehigh County, Pennsylvania as a Recovery Zone (sponsored by Commissioner McCarthy); the deputy solicitor provided a summary. Commissioner Browning said this resolution was reviewed by the Development Committee this evening. Commissioner McCarthy said as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the General Revenue Code authorized the issuance of recovery zone bonds within a designated recovery zone. He said the U.S. Department of Treasury will allocate \$5,743,000 to Lehigh County in recovery zone economic development bonds and \$8,615,000 for recovery zone facility bonds. He said potential developers can borrow these funds to invest in Lehigh County. He said we could limit the area in which these bonds could be utilized in the County. He said this bill permits anyplace to be so designated.

Commissioner McCarthy said these bonds will not be an obligation of the County and will have no impact on our indebtedness. Resolution 2010-01 was approved by a unanimous voice vote. The Chair announced the approval of the resolution.

Refer to the Resolution Book for County of Lehigh Resolution 2010 - No. 01.

Commissioner Browning announced the deferral of Commissioner Bill 2009-144: Approving 2009 CDGB Subrecipient Grants With the Boroughs of Alburtis, Catasauqua, Coopersburg, Emmaus, Fountain Hill and Macungie, and Catholic Charities, Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living, Meals on Wheels, North Penn Legal Services, The Literacy Center, Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley and Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley.

The clerk announced Commissioner Bill 2010-01: Adopting the "Perkiomen Creek Headwaters - Act 167 - Stormwater Management Plan (sponsored by Commissioners Roman and Dougherty); the deputy solicitor provided a summary. Commissioner Browning said this bill was reviewed by the Planning Committee on 01/13/10. Commissioner Roman said this was presented in committee by the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission. Commissioner Dougherty said he commented on the bill in committee. The Chair announced the bill's first reading. Second reading, discussion and vote will be held on January 27, 2010 in the Public Hearing Room of the Lehigh County Government Center.

The clerk announced Commissioner Bill 2010-02: Approving an Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Interstate Nursing Services, Incorporated D/B/A Whitehall Medical Transport Services (sponsored by Commissioner Jones); the deputy solicitor provided a summary. Commissioner Browning said this bill was reviewed by the Cedarbrook Committee on 01/13/10. Commissioner Jones said this provides for an additional attendant to assist with ambulance services. He said even with the cost of the additional attendant there will be a savings of over \$10,000 from the prior arrangement. The Chair announced the bill's first reading. Second reading, discussion and vote will be held on January 27, 2010 in the Public Hearing Room of the Lehigh County Government Center.

The clerk announced Commissioner Bill 2010-03: Approving a Fourth Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with the Software Group, Inc. D/B/A Tyler Technologies, Inc. for 2010 (sponsored by Commissioners Eckhart and Jones); the deputy solicitor provided a summary. Commissioner Browning said this bill was reviewed by the Judiciary & Corrections Committee on 01/13/10. Commissioner Eckhart said this deals with the Clerk of Judicial Records and updates the computer systems. He said this also ties in protection from abuse orders and the state police. He said this is another phase of a computerization upgrade. The Chair announced the bill's first reading. Second reading, discussion and vote will be held on January 27, 2010 in the Public Hearing Room of the Lehigh County Government Center.

The clerk announced Commissioner Bill 2010-04: Amending the 2009-2013 Lehigh County Capital Plan to Increase the Total Cost for the Cedarbrook Roof Replacement Project of the B and C Wings (sponsored by Commissioner Jones). He said the 2009 Capital Plan is being amended because that is the year that the project was authorized. The deputy solicitor provided a summary. Commissioner Browning said this bill was reviewed by the Cedarbrook Committee on 01/13/10. Commissioner Jones said these additional costs are being covered by delaying two projects which paled in priority to the roof project. The Chair announced the bill's first reading. Second reading, discussion and vote will be held on January 27, 2010 in the Public Hearing Room of the Lehigh County Government Center.

The clerk announced Commissioner Bill 2010-05: Ordinance Authorizing the County of Lehigh, Pennsylvania to Issue General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2010, to Finance the Refunding of a portion of its Outstanding General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2001 in order to Reduce Debt Service (sponsored by Commissioner Browning); the deputy solicitor provided a summary. Commissioner Browning said this bill was reviewed by the Administrative Committee on 01/13/10. He said he had no further comments from the committee discussion.

Commissioner Eckhart made the following motion. Bill 2010-05 authorizes the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2010, to finance the refunding of up to \$18,885,000 of General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2001. Lehigh County's administration has directed the contracted professionals associated with this transaction to proceed when a savings of \$500,000 can be achieved. I move that the Board hereby endorse this proposed bond refinancing and state its intent to approve Bill 2010-05 after the bond refinancing transaction is complete. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dougherty and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Commissioner Dougherty added his name as a sponsor of the bill. Commissioner Eckhart said the refinancing will not increase the term of the debt or push off costs to the future. He said it will hopefully save \$500,000. The clerk said if there are not savings of \$500,000 the documents will not be executed. The Chair announced the bill's first reading. Second reading, discussion and vote will be held on January 27, 2010 in the Public Hearing Room of the Lehigh County Government Center.

The Committee Reports were given as follows:

General Services – No report.

Human Services – No report.

Intergovernmental & Appointments – Commissioner Eckhart reviewed the agenda of the committee meeting held 1/13/10. He said as Chair of the committee he is recommending the Board's approval of the Democratic and Republican Parties' recommendations to the Lehigh County Election Board.

Judiciary & Corrections – No report.

Planning – Commissioner Roman reviewed the agenda of the joint committee meeting held 01/13/10.

Administrative – Commissioner Browning reviewed the agenda of the committee meeting held 1/13/10.

Cedarbrook – Commissioner Jones reviewed the agenda of the joint committee meeting held 01/13/10.

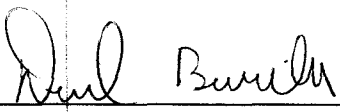
Development – Commissioner McCarthy reviewed the agenda of the committee meeting held 01/13/10.

There was no Citizens Input on Committee Reports. Under Commissioner Announcements, Commissioner Roman said he sent all Commissioners an email with his comments regarding the health bureau meeting that was recently held. He said it is important that we become active and engaged in that process. He said in his view the health bureau plan is flailing and we need to be part of the team that puts a strong base together to make an intelligent decision.

Commissioner Eckhart said he will be unable to attend the next Board meeting.

Under Citizens Input, Stan Bielecki brought the Commissioners a copy of the United States Constitution to assist them in upholding the oath of office they took as Commissioners.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

  
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David Barilla, Clerk to the Board

## **Zeus, Dog Number One**

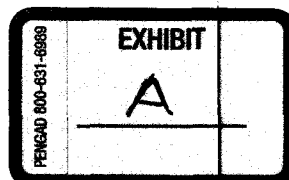
Meet Zeus, the first dog to come to Peaceable Kingdom under our animal care programs.

Zeus was found running at large in Coopersburg and picked up Sunday.

Zeus's information and picture were sent out to townships, police departments, and veterinary hospitals as well as posted on PK and Petfinder's web sites.

Zeus was back home within 24 hours.

Though this may not happen so quickly in all future cases, we believe our procedures will increase the return of dogs running at large to their homes.







DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

December 17, 2009

Elizabeth M. Jones  
CSS, Peaceable Kingdom  
1049 MacArthur Road  
Whitehall, PA 18052

Dear Ms. Jones:

We have received your letter seeking to accept stray dogs from "animal control officers and police officers" during the 2010 calendar year. You are correct that you need permission from the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement to do so. This requirement is found in Section 302(b) and (c) of the Dog Law, stating that law enforcement officers and dog wardens seizing stray dogs shall cause the dogs to be kept and fed for a period of at least 48 hours "at any licensed kennel approved by the secretary for those purposes."

Licensed kennels that have been approved to take stray dogs from officers in the past have been either humane societies or associations for prevention of cruelty to animals, with extensive physical facilities and paid staff, or municipal or animal control holding pens that keep dogs 48 hours or less before transferring them to such an organization. These humane societies and SPCAs are eligible to receive limited funding from the Department. They agree to take dogs brought to them by the Department (including dogs for quarantine and dogs from other counties and municipalities), and to submit to record keeping requirements and audits by the Department as to each dog received.

These organizations are required by law to be open to the general public with normal business hours for persons to view dogs, to follow the appropriate legal process and time frames for licensed stray dogs, and to quarantine and humanely kill dogs when appropriate. This is sadly necessary because detained strays may be dangerous behaviorally or otherwise unadoptable due to injury, illness or disease.

In deciding for the first time whether a nonprofit kennel that does not currently meet these criteria should be approved by the Secretary to take stray dogs, the Department is understandably cautious. This is especially so because there is a humane society in your county that takes stray dogs from the Department and meets its criteria.

Jessie L. Smith, Esquire  
Special Deputy Secretary  
Dog Law Enforcement

2301 North Cameron Street, Room 210  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408  
717-214-3447  
FAX: 717-346-3301  
jlsmith@state.pa.us

You state in your letter of request that you now take in stray dogs from the public. Your "posted hours are not extensive," but you would expand them and also be available by appointment for 10 hours "almost every day of the week." You also list several labor-intensive steps you would take to publicize dogs in your possession – you post photos on a national adoption website now. Neither this website nor the Peaceable Kingdom website informs the public that you take in strays.

You are currently a kennel with capacity for less than 12 dogs, run solely with volunteers. At the time of your 2009 inspections of your facility, you had 9 dogs in May, 10 dogs in June and 8 dogs in September. You currently have 18 dogs listed as available for adoption. Most of the dogs in your care are kept and fed in the personal residences of volunteers – a network of foster homes – and your kennel facility appears from your website to be for dogs receiving medical care or awaiting an already arranged adoption.

Your first 2009 kennel inspection was unsatisfactory for records – a vet check was ordered on a dog and a warning issued. In August 2008, during an inspection also unsatisfactory for records, volunteers refused to give their names to inspectors or sign the inspection report, and stated they had no contact information for you.

Your request letter states that you rehome over 95% of the animals you take in, but accept the need for euthanasia for "incurable illness or unacceptable aggression." However, your website states that you "offer no-kill solutions" with no mention of the 95% or of any euthanasia.

In summary, the Department appreciates that you are willing but does not find you to be ready to be the first kennel of your type approved by the Department to detain strays. There is no indication that your small volunteer-staffed kennel, necessarily supplemented with the keeping of dogs in individual homes, could handle the large and unpredictable influx of strays that would result from this approval, the need for public access to view the dogs, or the record-keeping complexities that would result from this approval. Your request pursuant to Section 302(b) and (c) to be approved by the Department to take stray dogs is not approved at this time.

If you wish to expand your staff, physical facility, public hours and mission to become a facility that can provide current assurance to the Department of your ability to handle a significant number of strays, we would be glad to reconsider your request in the future.

Sincerely,



Jessie L. Smith  
Special Deputy Secretary

cc: Sue West, Director  
Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement



January 6, 2010 DRAFT

Jessie L. Smith  
Special Deputy Secretary  
Dog Law Enforcement  
2301 North Cameron Street, Room 210  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

Dear Ms. Smith

This communication is in response to your letter of December 17, 2009. I believe there are some clarifications that Peaceable Kingdom should make so that you will have a clearer picture of our organization and its efforts. As well, we have or will implement changes that you suggested to better qualify Peaceable Kingdom to become an animal control kennel.

You mention that licensed kennels that have been approved are humane societies or associations for prevention of cruelty to animals. Though our name does not include that nomenclature, that is indeed what we are, a humane organization that seeks to prevent cruelty to animals. The attached list of where Dog Wardens take strays in Pennsylvania does indeed contain a number of facilities that would be similar to our facility, even kennels that are not humane societies and that do not have extensive facilities or staff.

You referenced the humane society in Lehigh County. It is true that they have indeed taken stray dogs from law enforcement officials for many years. But no one knows how many animals they intake, or what happens to these animals, and for 2010 Lehigh County Humane Society chose to triple or quadruple their animal control fees. As an example, for one township, that last year sent 3 dogs to LCHS, the fee for 2010 would have been \$7000. At a time of economic downturn, indeed at any time, this would be an exorbitant fee structure for any municipality. Just today a borough came to us. In four years they have sent a **total** of 11 animals to LCHS. LCHS would charge them \$3000 this year alone for animal control. Having only one state approved dog control facility means the townships and boroughs of Lehigh County are captive to whatever fees LCHS chose to charge. It is the townships and boroughs of Lehigh County that seek an alternative.

A concern was expressed over our hours. In response, we will be posting both on our website and at our facility that we are open Monday – Friday, 9-12, Monday, Wednesday and Friday 4:30-6:30, and Saturday 11-4. We will also be open, by appointment, at any time the public would like to come, and in today's working environment where so many individuals work 8-5, we believe that this is very responsive to the needs of the public and thus to the needs of our animals. I am not aware of larger

humane societies that are accessible when the public wants to make an appointment. We will also make sure that the public is aware that strays are indeed brought to us by the public.

The average number of dogs housed at Peaceable Kingdom is approximately 12. We often have fewer than that in residence. But that is not because we lack the space or manpower to care for more. We are very proactive in finding new homes for these animals, utilizing frequent off-site adoption events, so that the average hold time for a dog is short. We also are proud of the fact that many people open their homes to offer to foster dogs, which is so wonderful for these animals, to be a part of loving families while waiting for their forever homes. Dogs remain at the shelter for the first few days we have them. During this time we assess them for their personality types and any special needs they may have. Then if at all possible they go to foster homes, homes that are willing to show them to potential new owners and to bring them to adoption days. They are posted on our web site and we have found many, many homes this way. But our kennel facility does not just hold dogs receiving medical care or awaiting an already arranged adoption. I am not sure why you made that assumption. If we do not have a foster home available, then dogs do stay at our facility and find homes from there. We are proud of the fact that volunteers come in and walk the dogs **at least** three times a day and some days even more frequently. How many shelters have that many people spending that much time with their canine residents? The dogs also spend time in outdoor pens, weather permitting, and time running around inside the shelter playing with the volunteers and other dogs. Does that not sound great for the dogs!!

This letter is longer than I like, but I am trying to address your concerns. You see, Peaceable Kingdom and its 140 volunteers really care about the animals they assist.

In 2009, during one inspection, a single dog was found with a hot spot one inch in diameter that had appeared overnight. This dog was already scheduled to go to the vet to be seen that evening. It was taken and was seen, and the veterinarian indicated that we needed to do nothing more than watch and make sure it went away. The other concern you raised during an inspection involved a volunteer refusing to sign an inspection. She was a 16 year old volunteer, who legally cannot sign.

You raised a concern over the fact that Peaceable Kingdom, while utilizing no kill concepts, does indeed euthanize. PK recognizes the reality that there will always be some need for euthanasia, and any organization that says they kill no animals is lying. We will be posting on our web site that we do indeed euthanize for unacceptable aggression and incurable illness. I have reviewed many of the web sites of present animal control facilities and find few that specifically state that they euthanize.

Peaceable Kingdom's offer to assist with animal control was not intended to take over the entire county of Lehigh. That is not necessary, as indeed LCHS does exist and would we assume continue to handle some animal control. We seek to supplement animal control options in Lehigh County. It is the number of animals in our facility that dictates the number of individuals who volunteer their time to give these animals personal care and attention. For instance, we received 40 dogs from puppy mills that are closing down. Within 10 days we were able to neuter and spay all 40 dogs, give them dental cleanings and extractions, vaccinate them, treat them for fleas, worm them, microchip them and test them all for heartworm. Many new volunteers came forward to help, many present volunteers gave of

their time, and the bottom line was that all but 6 of them are in new forever homes, receiving love, care and attention for the first time in their lives. How great is that! We had very little notice of this influx of 40 animals, but there was no problem with handling them, appropriately and with love.

I am concerned as to a comment made repeatedly by your bureau to our state representative's office, indicating a reluctance to have PK perform animal control due to the fact that I had been personally cited by LCHS for animal cruelty. These were trumped up charges brought by LCHS, an agency that views PK and Liz Jones as a threat. Bruce Fritch despises me. The charges were dropped due to "lack of foundation," which means there never were valid charges against me. In one instance, I was accused of starving a puppy. In the other instance, they claimed that "one black dog" did not have access to the 5 dog houses in my back yard, dog houses which none of the 5 dogs playing outside ever used. Comments like the one made by your bureau verge on defamation of character. I have always sought to be very cooperative with your bureau, but things were very difficult during the time that Rick Martrich was first my dog warden and then the regional dog warden. If you would like further details on that I would request a personal meeting with you, as the issue is very sensitive, and I have chosen to keep it to myself to this point.

Peaceable Kingdom has been in existence for 11 years. During that time we have facilitated over 30,000 neuter/spays, have found loving homes for over 8000 animals, and have been here to help the public, the townships, the county, the state and most importantly the animals. Our volunteer base continues to grow. We would love a new facility, so maybe it is even time for Peaceable Kingdom to seek funding pursuant to the dog law: "any humane society or association for the prevention of cruelty to animals may submit requests for funding to establish and maintain dog control facilities or other functions of dog control within the county to complement the Commonwealth dog law enforcement program. " Until we receive approval from your bureau, we will be utilizing the dog wardens for dogs that need to be held at other facilities for 48 hours while their owners search for them. We would be happy to take these animals back into our facility after the 48 hours.

I would love the opportunity to sit down with you and whoever else you feel appropriate to discuss these concerns and issues. We want to be there to help, as we have been all these years. Please let me know when that is possible. I believe that Peaceable Kingdom is well respected and that we have the support of many individuals and organizations.

Thank you once again for your time and attention.

Liz Jones  
CSS, Peaceable Kingdom  
1049 MacArthur Road  
Whitehall, PA 18052  
484-788-8062



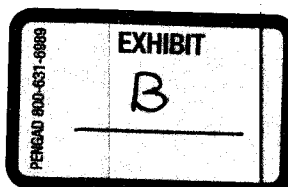
**Lehigh Valley**  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

**Update to the Lehigh County Commissioners**

**Phil's Speaking Points**

**Wednesday, January 13, 2010**

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- Thank you for the opportunity to address the Commissioners today. We recognize and appreciate all of the hard work our public, elected officials put in and are eager to share with you how LVEDC is a partner in your economic development goals for Lehigh County.
  - I am here today to give you an update on LVEDC's five-year focus as outlined in our 2009-2014 Strategic Plan and to show you the results we achieve with your funding assistance.
  - We've provided a packet of information for you that gives additional detail and information, and we invite you to ask us any questions along the way.
  - First, I'd like to outline for you the funding that LVEDC receives and how that's changed in 2009 and 2010 as a result of the economy that is hurting all of our budgets.
  - In your packet are the Revenue and Expenses charts for LVEDC comparing 2008 to 2009. When the state passed the budget late last year, the end result was a significant reduction in the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) budget which helped to fund some of our initiatives.
  - Funding for the Keystone Innovation Zone, which LVEDC manages for the Southside Bethlehem KIZ was zeroed out.
  - Funding for the Business Retention and Expansion Program (BREP) was also reduced. The State BREP funding allowed us to visit 800-900 companies a year to identify the needs of existing businesses and programs support that could provide assistance to them. We are



still visiting companies, but the number of visits we are paid to do through the state is reduced to 291 which does not allow us to pay a full-time person or contractors for additional visits.

- The financing and land development programs we administer also received significant reductions in the state budget. These reductions in programs affect our ability to help Lehigh Valley businesses expand through access to capital.
- And the Local Economic Development Assistance Program grant (LEDA) from DCED that helped fund our marketing efforts to attract and retain business and jobs in the region were cut completely. We do still receive a portion of the Hotel Tax to support our Marketing and Regional Development work, but those numbers were also down 28% due to reduced occupancy. We do not expect them to rise in 2010.
- LVEDC did what every company is doing in this economy – we examined all areas of our spending and made adjustments in operating procedures where possible, without significantly reducing services.
- We've restructured staff positions to address the retirement of Bob Wendt who operated BREP and now serves in a part-time capacity in the research function. And we cut one staff position in the Marketing and Communications Department to address the loss of DCED marketing funds and lower hotel tax collections.
- For the first time, the LVEDC officers, executive committee and board voted to utilize \$220,000 from the Reserve Contingency Fund to ensure a strong and progressive 2010 budget and a plan of action.
- I want to go over some of the highlights of how LVEDC used the Hotel Tax, Lehigh County LEDA funding, and LVLRI funding in 2009. Again, please refer to the packet of information for complete details on our work.
- In 2009, LVEDC spent a significant amount of our Hotel Tax and LEDA marketing funds on raising awareness of our finance programs in order to help retain our Lehigh Valley employers through access to capital that will help them grow.

- We updated our Finance Program Matrix for distribution at events, presentations and meetings and sent a direct mail package with the Matrix to 850 targeted Lehigh Valley industrial and manufacturing companies who may not be aware of these services.
- We also focused all of our print and online, local advertising on the finance programs in 2009, and we held several events, and made presentations to groups across the Lehigh Valley, to educate business owners and partners on the programs we have available.
- Our marketing program includes strong public relations through social and new media sites, as well as print and broadcast media. A major print victory for the region in 2009 was the Lehigh Valley profile story by US Airways Magazine in their April 2009 issue.
- US Airways operates a massive amount of daily flights – more than 3,500 to 235 destinations – across the United States and the globe, boasting a monthly readership of more than three million people.
- LVEDC is also seen regularly in daily and weekly regional newspapers and monthly and bi-monthly magazines.
- Not surprisingly, our website is the most important and usually the first thing that a site selector sees when researching an area for a client and it also is a useful tool for marketing our finance programs and other services.
- LVEDC began the process of redesigning and updating our current website in 2009 for completion in 2010. We continue to focus funding and manpower to regular updates to the current site throughout this redesign process.



- Now, to share some results with you as a result of the marketing and the hard work of our Regional Development and Finance teams. We are happy to report that LVEDC has closed 10 financing projects in Lehigh County in 2009.

- Total loan amount: \$6,675,348
- Total Project cost: \$15,551,915
- Estimated job creation: 154
- Estimated job retention: 413

COMPANY	MUNICIPALITY	PROGRAM
Protica	Whitehall	Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority
Penetron	Allentown	Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority
Penetron		Machinery and Equipment Loan Fund
William Elek Plumbing	Allentown	Small Business Administration
AM Millworks	Lehigh	Small Business First Fund
TC Salon & Spa	Allentown	Small Business Administration 504
Gillespie Printing	Catasauqua	Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority
Infradapt, LLC	Upper Macungie	Small Business First Fund
Cedar Crest College	Allentown	Tax Exempt
Loikits Industrial Services, Inc.	Coplay	Small Business Administration 504

- A summary of these projects is in your packet.
- Because the financing for local businesses is so important, in April of 2009, LVEDC brought together 13 of the region's top lenders to a discussion with the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia and the Lehigh Valley's partners and community leaders on how LVEDC and lenders can collaborate to assist smaller and medium-sized businesses and entrepreneurial start-ups with their financing needs.
- As a result of this Bank Summit, member banks formed a Task Force that would allow LVEDC to host ongoing discussions and monitor recent developments in the lending environment with local lenders and economic development financing agencies so we can continually improve and expand the LVEDC Loan Pool and create additional like-kind financing vehicles.

- During 2009, LVEDC's Regional Development Team headed by Pete Reinke conducted meetings and visits with prospects that resulted in 9 new companies locating to Lehigh County and an estimated 833 new jobs for the County.

COMPANY	CITY	PRODUCT	TYPE
Ozburn-Hessey (Kehe Foods)	Upper Macungie	Food Products	Distribution/Warehouse
Warehouse Services	Upper Macungie	3PL	Distribution/Warehouse
Smuckers	Upper Macungie	Food Products	Distribution/Warehouse
Tree of Life	Upper Macungie	Food Products	Distribution/Warehouse
Nielsen Bainbridge	Upper Macungie	Frames	Distribution/Warehouse
BMS Warehouse	Upper Macungie	Contract Packaging	Distribution/Warehouse
Zep	Upper Macungie	Industrial Cleaners	Manufacturing
Wacker	Upper Macungie	Chemicals	Research & Development
fiberAmerica	Upper Macungie	Cellulose Insulation	Manufacturing

- The majority of these new companies were in the Distribution / Warehouse industry, but they were also heavily focused in the Food and Beverage industry cluster which is incredibly strong in this region due to our natural resources, location, and the presence of other companies like Kraft and Niagra Bottling.
- In fact, one major factor for Tree of Life relocating to Upper Macungie was because they supply products to Kraft Foods.
- The attraction projects are certainly an important job creator for the region, but we are also focused on smaller businesses.
- During 2009, under the guidance of Director Eduardo Eichenwald, the Office of Minority and Women-Owned Business assisted in creating or retaining 38 positions. OMWOB assisted a total of 120 businesses and prospective entrepreneurs and helped 11 new businesses open their doors. 40 of those businesses were in the inner-city.
- Another way that LVEDC's Regional Development team aggressively markets the region is through the Priority Projects Process.
- Since Gov. Rendell's administration announced the Economic Stimulus Plan in 2003, LVEDC has helped better position the Lehigh Valley to receive state money through the Priority Projects Process, that engages both counties, and the three cities. Together, we come up

with the top projects that we present to both PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) and U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration for funding.

- Since 2003, the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) has funded 27 projects, putting over \$87 million of public money to work in the Lehigh Valley. These projects have created hundreds of jobs and leveraged hundreds of millions in direct and indirect investment, including the Coca-Cola Park, home of the Lehigh Valley IronPigs, located in Lehigh County.
- Another important initiative that we are grateful for Lehigh County's support is the Lehigh Valley Land Recycling Initiative headed by Holly Edinger.
- In 2009 LVLRI had some key achievements. These range from meetings with Lehigh County Council of Government to successfully applying for ARRA funds for Lehigh County to support remediation at Martin Towers in Bethlehem.
- This year we also used 2001 EPA Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund as a subgrant and a loan for cleanup of the Calo Building in Allentown.
- The former Lehigh Structural Steel site received the final portion of the Phase II ESA in 2009. And we did significant work on the FL Smidth Property in Catasauqua.
- LVLRI met with EPA, DEP and DCED staff about energy projects during 2009 and will continue those efforts this year.
- All of these projects, and more, are outlined in your packet.
- These are just some of the highlights of our work in 2009. The document in your packet outlines our Strategic Plan that is heavily focused on retaining the businesses we have here in the Lehigh Valley and growing new companies and ventures.

- The Strategic Plan is our blueprint for a vibrant economic future that advances LVEDC's core mission summarized in five strategic priorities – Cultivate Business, Advance Sustainable Development Themes, Intensify Regional Partnerships, Boost Innovation and Talents, and Create the Capacity to Succeed.
- We look forward to continuing our strong partnership with Lehigh County as we carry out the initiatives in the Strategic Plan in 2010.
- Thank you for your time tonight.