

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes February 1, 2018

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, February 1, 2018, at 10:00 A.M. in the Boardroom on the 13th floor of the Berks County Services Center, pursuant to due notice to Board members and the public.

Commissioner Chair Christian Y. Leinbach called the meeting to order with Commissioner Kevin S. Barnhardt and Commissioner Mark C. Scott in attendance. Also present were County Solicitor Christine M. Sadler, Chief Administrative Officer Ronald R. Seaman and Chief Clerk Maryjo Gibson.

Commissioner Leinbach opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Presentation

Nick Hirick, Upper Merion Township Financial Director and President of Government Finance Officers Association ("GFOA") recognized Berks County Controller Sandy Graffius and her staff for the second year in a row receiving the Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 2016 CAFR ("Comprehensive Annual Financial Reporting") award.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of January 25, 2018 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Scott and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
 - 40.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2017 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$170,664; 2017 Appropriations in the amount of \$460,719, and 2018 Appropriations in the amount of \$4,225,149 per listing dated January 29, 2018.
 - 41.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated February 1, 2018 as follows:
 1. Authorize the promotion of Donna O'Donnell from PC010012 Account Clerk II to PC011646 Office Manager – Prothonotary Department, effective 2/7/2018. Rate of \$44,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$39,250; Midpoint \$52,333; Maximum \$65,417. Replacement for Cathryn Price who transferred to Chief Deputy Prothonotary. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11530.

2. Authorize the promotion of Ann Fitzgerald from PC011834 Office Support IV to PC010245 Chief Deputy Prothonotary – Prothonotary Department, effective 2/7/2018. Rate of \$54,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$46,685; Midpoint \$62,247; Maximum \$77,809. Replacement for Cathryn Price who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11530.
- 42.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Engineering Services Agreement #EA-210520-18 between the County of Berks and McCarthy Engineering Associates, Inc., Boyertown, Pennsylvania, to perform an analysis and assessment of existing sanitary/plumbing piping systems at buildings located at Gring's Mill, Red Bridge and The Heritage Center at a not to exceed cost of \$3,800 and estimated expenses not to exceed \$750.
 - 43.18 Adopt a resolution approving the Application for Reimbursement for a County Recycling Coordinator to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Waste Management for reimbursement of 50% of the salary, benefits and expenses paid to the Berks County Recycling Coordinator for calendar year 2017; and further authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the W-9 Form.
 - 44.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Engineering Services Agreement #EA-201675-18 between the County of Berks and Elliott, LeBoeuf & McElwain, Springfield, Virginia, to perform the annual structural engineering evaluation for the Berks County Fire Training Center Burn Building at a not to exceed cost of \$4,920.00.
 - 45.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment Tamara Smith, PhD, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Children and Youth Advisory Board for a term ending December 31, 2018.
 - 46.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Agreement between the County Commissioners of Berks County and Teamsters Local Union No. 429 for the term January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2019, as modified by the Interest Arbitration Award.
 - 47.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Release Agreement for Cheryl Munro, DON (“Director of Nursing”) at the Berks Heim, releasing Ms. Munro from Section 8(a) of the Management Services Agreement, allowing Ms. Munro to work as a nurse consultant for CHR upon her separation of employment from the County.

2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator per listing dated January 30, 2018. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 11 contracts and referenced the departments.
3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated January 30, 2018 for week ending January 31, 2018 and the payment of electronic transfers and employee payroll.

Reports

1. County Treasurer A. Dennis Adams, CPA submitted a prepared weekly Treasurer's report.
2. The Controller's weekly report was presented by County Controller Sandy Graffius.

REPORT OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Robert J. Patrizio reported there will be a presentation from Ken Pick, Berks County Redevelopment Authority, for a proposal for a Magisterial District Justice office; a three year cash flow update; a discussion on the Sheriff's Department K-9 purchase and an Oracle licensing update.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

None.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt

None.

Commissioner Scott

Commissioner Scott read an article from the August 28, 2017 Wall Street Journal about Powerball lottery tickets and who buys the tickets.

Commissioner Leinbach

Concerning the Berks Heim, Commissioner Leinbach stated that since the beginning, the core issue identified by the County was the decision by the State to flat fund Medicaid reimbursement, a huge part of the Berks Heim budget, adding the last four out of five years have been flat funded. In addition, Commissioner Leinbach advised the County was notified this past summer not to expect an increase in Medicaid reimbursement for the next five years. Commissioner Leinbach reported we have reached out to Senator Schwank to interface with the Office of Budget regarding the funding issue, and so far, we have been disappointed with the responses.

Commissioner Leinbach announced next Thursday, February 8, 2018, Kelly Andrisano, Executive Director of Pennsylvania Coalition of Affiliated Healthcare & Living

Communities ("PACAH") will attend the Commissioners' Meeting to discuss the State funding crisis relating to county nursing homes.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Mary Ellen Nussbetel, LPN, commented she cannot be silent about any consideration to sell the Berks Heim to a private organization or a non-profit. The facts remain the same, the Heim will lose the level of protection and oversight if the facility is not under County control and what happens to the residents matters to her as a caregiver.

Maria Sanchez, LPN, spoke on behalf of the residents and employees at the Heim, asking the Commissioners to keep the County Home in County hands.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:59 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk