

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes February 15, 2018

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, February 15, 2018, at 10:00 A.M. in the Boardroom, 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.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of February 8, 2018 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Commissioner Leinbach announced there was an Executive Session held Tuesday, February 12, 2018 to discuss personnel.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Scott and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
 - 52.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2017 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$454,888; 2017 Appropriations in the amount of \$37,795; 2018 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$21,362 and 2018 Appropriations in the amount of \$118,315 per listing dated February 12, 2018.
 - 53.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated February 15, 2018 as follows:
 1. Authorize the appointment of Carmen White to PC010123 Assistant County Solicitor - CYS – Solicitor's Office, effective 2/28/2018. Rate of \$56,500/annually. Salary range Minimum \$40,078; Midpoint \$53,437; Maximum \$66,796. Replacement for Susan Quirits who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 –11020.
 - 54.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing the following appointments to the County of Berks Alternative Dispute Resolution Panel pursuant to the Agreement dated November 16, 2009 between the County of

Berks and the Department of Public Welfare:

- Faye Fisher - one (1) year term ending February, 2019
- Robert Orzechowski – one (1) year term ending February, 2019
- Bethann Shartle - one (1) year term ending February 2019

55.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing the award and the Director of Contracts and Procurement to execute a one (1) year contract as a result of ITB# 17-32-JR, for Firearms and Accessories to be utilized by the Berks County Jail System as follows:

ShotSpot, LLC

970 Hays Mill Road, Building 200

Carrollton, GA 30117

Estimated expenditure: \$11,769.12

56.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Access to Property Agreement with Verizon Pennsylvania, LLC, to provide an access easement for installation of fiber infrastructure at the Berks County Agricultural Center, County Welfare Road, Bern Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

57.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing the Board of Commissioners to execute the Title Page of the Drawings for Construction as prepared by professional engineers with C.C. Johnson & Malhotra, PC, pertaining to the Fisher Mill Road Bridge a/k/a Manatawny Bridge (County Bridge #58B) Replacement Project, Oley Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

58.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Settlement Agreement and Release with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Labor and Industry (“L&I”), where L&I shall pay to Berks County the sum of \$965.00 relating to operating costs for State Unemployment Compensation programs for program fiscal year July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017 for Pa. CareerLink® locations administered by the Berks County Workforce Development Board.

2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator per listing dated February 13, 2018. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 8 contracts and referenced the departments.
3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller’s Office vouchers payable listing dated February 13, 2018 for week ending February 14, 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 the Budget Meeting will begin at 2:15 p.m. and there will be a Jail/BCPS training discussion and a presentation by CGL.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Ronald R. Seaman reported in order to be recertified as an authorized pesticide applicator, he completed his continuing education credits yesterday. Mr. Seaman mentioned a great deal of time was spent talking about the spotted lanternfly, announcing there now are permanent signs available through the Extension Office that the Department of Agriculture is requesting being placed at all parks and recreation areas. Mr. Seaman reported there will also be required training and will provide updates as he receives them.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**Commissioner Barnhardt**

Commissioner Barnhardt thanked the RACC Board of Trustees ("Reading Area Community College") Board for selecting Dr. Susan Looney, a graduate of RACC, as the next President, replacing Dr. Anna Weitz.

Commissioner Barnhardt announced there will be a String Band Concert this Sunday at 2:00 p.m. at the Scottish Rite Cathedral, which will benefit the Children's Dyslexia Center.

Commissioner Barnhardt asked everyone to keep the students and families at Parkland High School in our thoughts and prayers.

Commissioner Scott

Commissioner Scott commented it's been widely reported in the newspaper we are in the midst of congressional redistricting process mandated by the Supreme Court, and the recent proposal made by the Republican Party was met with disapproval primarily by Democrats. Commissioner Scott looked at the map and thinks it's a vast improvement, and it's difficult to get a perfect map that pleases everyone.

Commissioner Scott mentioned the recent passing of Tim Riever, a County Commissioner from 2000 to 2003. Commissioner Scott paid homage to and provided a retrospect and overlay of Commissioner Riever's accomplishments during his term as Commissioner.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach offered his prayers and thoughts to all the people impacted by the Parkland High School shooting in Florida.

Commissioner Leinbach offered his congratulations to Dr. Susan Looney and is thrilled with the choice.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

James Oswald, Chair of the Lower Alsace Township Board of Supervisors ("Township"), read a prepared statement regarding an agreement he said the Township had with County in 2005 for the purchase of Antietam Lake Park, and part of that agreement was a verbal agreement to give the Township a small parcel of land for recycling purposes.

Mr. Oswald stated the Township is having difficulty in meeting obligations of the debt from that purchase, and suggested various options to the County that included consideration by the County to assume the debt partially or in whole, and allow the Township to make interest-free payments to the County.

Commissioner Scott recalled his recollection of the agreement and the purchase of Antietam Lake Park, and had heard of the verbal promise, but stated the County didn't have the authority to make that promise.

Homer Williams, Lower Alsace Township Planning Commission Chair, read a prepared statement recognizing the County is doing a great job with development of the Park, but feels the Township is shouldering many of the costs for the recent purchase by the County of parcels of land. Mr. Williams suggested perhaps the County would consider accepting a payment in lieu of taxes. To that suggestion, the Board asked Mr. Oswald to present a figure for payment in lieu of taxes.

Patrick Murray, Sinking Spring, distributed black balloons to the Board in recognition of Opioid Awareness Day which is being observed March 6, 2018. Mr. Murray remarked we need to do a better job working with opioid addiction.

Commissioner Barnhardt invited Mr. Murray to join a sub-committee on the Opioid Task Force Committee.

Commissioner Leinbach reported on a positive note, Purdue Pharma announced last week they will no longer be marketing OxyContin to physicians.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:08 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk