

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes February 22, 2018

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, February 22, 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 in attendance. Commissioner Mark C. Scott was absent. 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 15, 2018 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Commissioner Leinbach announced there were two Executive Sessions held; one February 15, 2018 to discuss personnel and yesterday, February 21, 2018 to discuss personnel and real estate.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
 - 59.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2018 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$837 and 2018 Appropriations in the amount of \$(139,111) per listing dated February 19, 2018.
Mr. Patrizio reported the negative 2018 appropriations is the moving of funds from different Parks projects.
 - 60.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated February 22, 2018 as follows:
 1. Authorize the appointment of Cathy Wegener to Interim Director of Parks – Parks Department, effective 2/16/2018. Rate of \$69,049/annually. The working out of classification compensation will cease upon the appointment of a Director of Parks. Salary range Minimum \$43,437; Midpoint \$57,916; Maximum \$72,395. Replacement for Christopher Stress who separated. Budget 10000 – 16070.

2. Authorize the appointment of Doris Logan to PC011004 Director of Nursing – Berks Heim Nursing Administration, effective 3/21/2018. Rate of \$95,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$64,884; Midpoint \$86,512; Maximum \$108,140. Replacement for Cheryl Munro who will retire. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 53000 – 33390.
- 61.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Local Workforce Development Grant Application/Agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry for the purposes of carrying out Pennsylvania Workforce Development Services pursuant to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and other applicable federal and state programs for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021.
- 62.18 Adopt a resolution ratifying, confirming and approving Ryan Hunter, Director of Facilities and Operations, executing the Utility Clearance Data Form D-419 pertaining to the Manatawny Bridge (County Bridge 58B) replacement project. This document certifies that all known utilities within the project limits have been accounted for and provides specific direction and coordination for the placement, replacement, relocation, adjustment or reconstruction of their structures and facilities during construction.
2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator per listing dated February 20, 2018. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 4 contracts and referenced the departments.
 3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated February 20, 2018 for week ending February 21, 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

Mr. Patrizio reported Chad Schnee, First Assistant County Solicitor, will discuss a collection services opportunity for outstanding debts at the Berks Heim.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

None.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**Commissioner Barnhardt**

Commissioner Barnhardt was pleased to report South Central Transit Authority ("SCTA") and BARTA has secured a tenant for the Franklin Street Station, and approved a five (5) lease with Saucony Creek Brewing Co., Kutztown. Commissioner Barnhardt commented this will be a good thing for downtown Reading. Commissioner Barnhardt also reported SCTA has sent a letter of support to SEPTA asking that Reading not be left off the radar with respect to commuter rail service coming from Philadelphia to Reading.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach participated in a conference call yesterday with a number of counties who have nursing homes, and found out that York County has entered into an agreement similar to what Berks did, to look at the possibility of selling their nursing home, and also discussed the data that has been shared with the public.

Commissioner Leinbach continues to stand by his statement he made that the State intends to put county nursing homes out of business.

Commissioner Leinbach complimented Senator Schwank and Senator Argall in working with the County and DHS since early last fall, and believes through their efforts, \$1 million has been added to the IGT (intergovernmental transfer agreement); and reported he will participate in a conference call tomorrow morning at 8:30 a.m. with DHS, Office of Long-Term Living, to discuss the funding of county nursing homes.

Commissioner Leinbach again urged employees, residents of the Heim, taxpayers and anyone who cares about the Berks Heim to contact Governor Wolfe, DHS Secretary Miller and their legislators that we need a long term solution to Medicaid reimbursement rates as it relates to nursing homes, and it should be performance based.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Patrick Murray, Shillington, spoke about two recent drug cases in Berks County that shows how the sentences being handed out for drug crimes are too low and lenient. Mr. Murray announced that on March 12, 2018, in memory of his brother Christopher, who died of an opioid overdose, there will be a Black Balloon Benefit Buffet at the Wyomissing Family Restaurant where 100% of the proceeds will be donated to the Council on Chemical Abuse to help combat the opioid epidemic.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:35 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk

