

## **Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes March 12, 2015**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, March 12, 2015, 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 Vice Chair Kevin S. Barnhardt called the meeting to order with Commissioner Mark C. Scott in attendance. Commissioner Leinbach was absent due to illness. Also present were Solicitor Alan Miller, Chief Operating Officer Carl E. Geffken and Chief Clerk Maryjo Gibson.

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

### **Presentation**

Craig Peiffer, Division Manager and Zoning Administrator with the City of Reading's Department of Community Development and a member of ReDesign Reading and John Eustace, Reading 120 Race Director presented information on "The Reading 120 Bicycle Race", a professional bike race scheduled to take place in September 2015. Mr. Peiffer commented he is here today on behalf of Reading 120 Race which has been going on for 18 years in Pennsylvania, and has become available to Reading, Berks County this year. Mr. Peiffer stated the Race will start and end in the City. John Eustice, President of Sparta Cycling, Inc. commented his company will organize and run the Race. Mr. Eustice mentioned he was the radio commentator for WEEU when the race was held in Reading in 2006. Mr. Eustice provided a brief history of the race and commented it is key and a goal to keep this race in Reading for many years to come. Mr. Eustice also stated the champion will be named in Reading after the race. Mr. Eustice commented the Race will bring people from all over the country and world and offers many opportunities to Reading and Berks County. Commissioner Barnhardt thanked Mr. Peiffer and Mr. Eustice for bringing this great event back to Reading and Berks County and hopes the Race is here for many years to come.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of March 5, 2015 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

### **Agenda Items**

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Scott to approve the Agenda as published, was seconded by Commissioner Barnhardt, and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
  - 66.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2014 Appropriations in the amount of \$89,907.00, 2015 Budget Transfers in the amount of

\$46,972.00 and 2015 Appropriations in the amount of \$1,028,862.00 per listing dated March 9, 2015. Mr. Patrizio commented the 2015 Appropriations are almost exclusively related to 5 capital projects that thought would be completed in 2014, but were carried over to 2015. Mr. Patrizio mentioned the projects were related to Berks Heim generator project, the Services Center Lobby renovation project, the Annex Shower room exhaust, the APO/JPO Security project and the Annex Envelope project.

- 67.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated March 12, 2015 as follows:
1. Authorize salary increase for Todd Reinert, PC013033 Contract Manager – Area Agency on Aging, effective 3/11/2015. Rate of \$57,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$41,501; Midpoint \$55,335; Maximum \$69,168. Salary increase is the result of the assignment of additional responsibilities from the vacant Fiscal Officer position in Children and Youth Services. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 28000 – 23150.
- 68.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing the award and the Director of Contracts & Procurement to execute as a result of Invitation to Bid #15-01-LE a contract for Tree Pruning and Removal Services as identified herein:
- The F.A. Bartlett Tree Expert Company  
1480 Phoenixville Pike  
West Chester, PA 19380  
Line items 1 thru 61 : \$45,869.00 Total  
Line Items 1a. thru 9a.: \$14,868.00 Estimated Total  
**Grand Total: \$60,737.00**
- Carl Geffken mentioned most of the trees are located at the North Campus, Angora Fruit Farm and Antietam Lake Park.
- 69.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Change Order 012 to the Motorola Solutions Agreement in the amount of \$21,875.00. This Change Order is to add miscellaneous parts and services and incorporate the option for 10 years of maintenance and upgrade to the Public Radio Safety system site.
- 70.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Services Agreement for Decommissioning of County of Berks Public Safety Radio Equipment between the County of Berks and Radio Maintenance, Inc., Reading, Pennsylvania for the decommissioning and removal of legacy public safety radio

equipment located at various sites in Berks County.

- 71.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute Utility Agreement 10713U-2 between the County of Berks and Frontier Communications, 100 CTE Drive, Dallas, PA, 18612, required to incorporate the adjustment and relocation of the Utility's facilities, including those outside of the public right of way, as part of the Buttonwood Street Bridge Rehabilitation Project in the City of Reading and West Reading Borough as well as reimbursement to the County by the Utility for construction and installation costs related to the same. The estimated cost of this reimbursement is \$18,000.00.
- 72.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of a CJAB (Criminal Justice Advisory Board) Reentry Planning Grant application to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. This grant would be in an amount up to \$10,000 with no County match and would be used to hire/contract with a consultant to facilitate strategic planning with the Reentry subcommittee. Peggy Kershner, Berks County Pre-Trial Services (BCPS), and Trista Oxenreider with the CJAB Committee, attended the Meeting. Peggy Kershner spoke of the importance of reentry into the community and that PCCD is providing funding for which the County is applying. Ms. Kershner commented it is important to have a reentry strategic plan, which the County currently doesn't have, and the money would be used to hire a consultant to gather stakeholders and community members to come up with a multi-year plan for the reentry program. In a related matter, Mr. Kershner commented that Dr. Edward Letessa, Director of the School of Criminal Justice and the Director of the Corrections Institute at the University of Cincinnati was in town Tuesday to attend the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Berks County Pre-Trial Connections. Ms. Kershner commented that Dr. Letessa provided a 2 hour lecture on reentry and is considered an expert on reentry. Ms. Kershner mentioned that if BCPS receives the grant, they would like to hire the Corrections Institute as the consultant for this project. Commissioner Barnhardt commented we must place more focus on the people coming out of jail to cut down on recidivism, which is the core of the whole mission.
- 73.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of an Institutional Investment Agreement between the County of Berks and National Penn Investors Trust Company to implement and manage the Investment Policy Statement of the County of Berks dated February 26, 2015. County Solicitor Miller commented the Agreement will be dated today as it is important that the County sign the Agreement before any investments are made.

2. Motion authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach as Chairman of the Board, to execute Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated March 10, 2015. Commissioner Barnhardt reported there are 7 contracts and referenced the departments.
3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated March 10, 2015 for week ending March 11, 2015 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.

### **REPORTS OF CHIEF OPERATING OFFICE/CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

1. Carl E. Geffken reported that next Wednesday, March 18 is National Agriculture Day, and there will be a ribbon cutting at the new Berks County Department of Agriculture followed by an Open House. Mr. Geffken reported the new Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture, Russell Redding, will give the keynote address.
2. Robert J. Patrizio reported the Board will receive the January cash flow, a follow-up on the cash investment plan and investment debt analysis.

### **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Scott commented he is looking forward to meeting with National Penn Bank this afternoon. Commissioner Scott mentioned that as all 3 Commissioners accumulated enough signatures to run for reelection, they will no longer serve as the Board of Elections. Commissioner Scott reported one of the Board's last actions was to seek clarification from the Vaughn Spencer campaign regarding some campaign expenditures reported by the McCord campaign, and it has been clarified there is no major big deal with the findings of the report.

Commissioner Barnhardt commented on Monday he attended the funeral for "Big" John Ulrich, and was part of the Masonic funeral service for Big John, who was a Masonic brother. Commissioner Barnhardt reported this morning he was at Dairy Queen in Kenhorst for a new effort put forth by Crime Alert Berks County called Ribbons of Respect. Commissioner Barnhardt commented there are about 2500 blue ribbons available, and the community is being asked to show support for the law enforcement community by displaying a blue ribbon on mailboxes, front doors or at places of businesses.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

Evelyn Morrison, a Reading Pastor, attended the meeting to speak on several issues that concern her. Pastor Morrison mentioned we are celebrating Women's History Month, and she is also concerned with the families. Pastor Morrison stated she is also concerned with the reentry of men and women back to the community; that they need to be prepared through education to return to the workforce. Pastor Morrison suggested that CareerLink and the Workforce Investment Board get involved in this process. Pastor Morrison also expressed her concern with Berks County Children & Youth Services ("BCCYS") and the placement of children of color with the Amish community, and feels BCCYS is not meeting its reunification goals as far as bringing families back together. Ms. Morrison commented we need to look at the expenditures and the strategies and create strategies that reinforce the original family.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:48 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk