

## **Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes March 20, 2014**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, March 20, 2014, 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 Solicitor Alan Miller, Chief Operating Officer Carl E. Geffken and Chief Clerk Maryjo Gibson.

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

### **Presentation**

Dr. Anna Weitz, President of Reading Area Community College (RACC), provided a presentation on enrollment patterns and related issues as part of RACC's quarterly update. Dr. Weitz provided a Summary of Ethnicity Diversity of RACC's Credit Students to the Board. Dr. Weitz commented that it is no secret that there are real challenges in higher education as it relates to enrollment. Dr. Weitz stated there are certain factors that are beyond the control of RACC administration, but the good news is they are trying to be more aggressive in recruiting efforts, and are trying to recruit more young people under the transfer possibility. Dr. Weitz commented RACC has created a new academic scholarship program to attract students who made be in need and have performed well in high school. Dr. Weitz mentioned that RACC is reaching out and working with local economic agencies, including GREP (Greater Reading Economic Partnership) and the Chamber of Commerce. Commissioner Leinbach commented that declining enrollment in higher education is a national phenomenon stating that there aren't as many students entering higher education as there used to be. Commissioner Barnhardt commented that this past Monday he attended a meeting at the Community Corrections Center in Wernersville with Pennsylvania Secretary of Corrections John Wetzel, where the subject of the influx of parolees going to RACC to apply for loans and grants was discussed. Dr. Weitz commented RACC is willing to help the parolees entering programs at RACC, adding there will be some cross-training of RACC counselors who will be sent to the Center for guidance to the parolees.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of March 13, 2014 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented. Commissioner Leinbach announced there were 2 Executive Sessions held; one March 18, 2014 to discuss real estate and one held March 19, 2014 to discuss litigation.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Scott and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
  - 73.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2013 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$44,625,740.00, 2013 Appropriations in the amount of \$95,949.00, 2014 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$15,690.00 and 2014 Appropriations in the amount of \$5,781.00 per listing dated March 14, 2014. Chief Financial Officer Robert Patrizio commented that the 2013 Budget Transfers are related to HealthChoices and is a redesign of the chart of accounts for accounting purposes.
  - 74.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated March 20, 2014 as follows:
    1. Authorize the appointment of Claudia Ferko, PC011648 Office Supervisor – District Attorney, effective 4/2/14. Rate of \$57,000/annually. Salary budgeted \$61,243/annually. Salary range Minimum \$40,928; Midpoint \$54,571; Maximum \$68,214. Replacement for Michael Natole who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11580.
    2. Authorize the utilization of a temporary agency for the Contract Coordinator position – Purchasing Department, effective 3/24/14. Rate not to exceed \$21.50/hr. Utilization of the temporary agency will cease upon the appointment of a Contract Coordinator. This request was reviewed and has met the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11800.
  - 75.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute the Application for a Dental Contract and Delta Dental Service Contract from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014, for all county employees, excluding full-time employees represented by UFCW and Teamsters, who are covered by their health and welfare funds.
  - 76.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Agreement for Engineering Services #EA-152129-13 between the County of Berks and the SSM Group, Inc., Reading, Pennsylvania, for the Design for Sanitary Replacement – North Campus at a not to exceed amount of \$27,800.00.

- 77.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing the execution of the Certification Statement for County Children & Youth Social Service Programs to the Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF), Department of Public Welfare for the submission of FY 2012/2013- 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, revision #2. The Revision is needed due to supplemental IV-E invoices and revision of the Indirect Cost Allocation Plan.
- 78.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Change Order No. 009 to the Motorola Solutions Contract in the amount of \$127,799.11. This Change Order addresses implementation costs for the Berks County Emergency Radio Project. Chief Operating Office Carl Geffken commented there are 3 components to this change order; 1) the need to have programming cables for application deployment; 2) extending licensing in asset management application; and 3) the purchase of radio hardware for training of end users.
- 79.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Mary Rieser, Reading, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council, for a two (2) year term expiring March 17, 2015.
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 18, 2014. Commissioner Leinbach commented there are 5 contracts a referenced the departments.
3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated March 18, 2014 for week ending March 19, 2014 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 on Monday, he, Commissioner Barnhardt and his assistant Karen Barsoum attended the Aging Advisory Board Meeting, which was the first meeting with Acting Director Dr. Michalik and Acting Deputy Director Jessica Jones. Mr. Geffken commented that one of the Board members John Vogel, of SMP (Senior Medicare Patrol) presented very good information on protection, detection and reporting of Medicare fraud.

2. Robert J. Patrizio announced the Budget meeting will start at 3:00 p.m. where there will be a discussion on select financial information.

### **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Barnhardt had no further comments.

Commissioner Scott had no additional comments.

Commissioner Leinbach reported that last Thursday evening the U.S. Senate overwhelmingly passed House Resolution 3370, the reform of the Biggert-Waters Bill. Commissioner Leinbach commented this was generated and accomplished mainly through Pennsylvania counties Lycoming, Dauphin and Beaver. Commissioner Leinbach commented he was told that the President will sign the bill this week. Commissioner Leinbach shared more information on a session he sat in on while attending the NACo conference in Washington regarding the Cadillac tax, and the key point coming out of the national review by Counties is that eventually all traditional health care plans will cross the threshold into the Cadillac tax. Commissioner Leinbach stated that this Board of Commissioners is committed to do what they can to continue to provide the level of health insurance to county employees but still keep the plan under the Cadillac tax level.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk