

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes March 29, 2018

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, March 29, 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

Rick Periandi, President of Crime Alert Berks County ("Crime Alert"), and Barry Rohrbach, past President, attended the meeting to report on the current activities of Crime Alert. Mr. Periandi reported Crime Alert will be completing its 20th year this coming August, and is considered the highest paying crime stoppers organization in Pennsylvania. Mr. Periandi reported in September 2017, Crime Alert set a one month record by paying out \$10,900 in a reward, and to date, Crime Alert has received tips that have led to 675 arrests, and has paid out a little over \$489,000.

District Attorney John Adams recognized Crime Alert as a great partner with Berks County law enforcement, assisting in solving many crimes, identifying and locating many fugitives, and for those efforts, presented a \$15,000 check from the District Attorney's Drug and Forfeiture fund to Crime Alert.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of March 22, 2018 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

None.

Agenda Items

1. Commissioner Barnhardt motioned to approve the Agenda as presented, with the exception of two No votes. Commissioner Barnhardt voted No to #3 under Human Resources, which he didn't comment on because it is personnel related, and voted No to Item A under Purchasing, stating this company has sued the County in the past under a different division, and shouldn't benefit from the County.

Commissioner Scott and Solicitor Sadler stated they were not aware of this information. Commissioner Leinbach requested tabling this item for further discussion, and asked for a motion.

Commissioner Barnhardt motioned to table Item 94.18 under Purchasing. Said motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott, and all voted unanimously to pull Item 94.18 for further discussion.

The motion to approve the remainder of the Agenda, with the exception of Commissioner Barnhardt's No vote #3 under Item 93.18, was made and seconded, and the motion carried.

92.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2017 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$963,456; 2017 Appropriations in the amount of \$451,803, and 2018 Appropriations in the amount of \$33,744 per listing dated March 26, 2018.

93.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated March 29, 2018 as follows:

1. Authorize the appointment of Jennifer Thomas to PC011634 Nursing Supervisor – Berks Heim Nursing, effective 4/11/2018. Rate of \$71,270/annually. Salary range Minimum \$53,556; Midpoint \$71,408; Maximum \$89,260. Replacement for Deborah Angstadt who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 53000 – 33090.
2. Authorize the appointment of Camille Romig to Interim Library System Administrator – County Library Systems, effective 4/2/2018. Rate of \$63,057/annually. The working out of classification compensation will cease upon the appointment of a Library System Administrator. Salary range Minimum \$45,814; Midpoint \$61,086; Maximum \$76,357. Replacement for Denise Sticha who will be separating. Budget 10000 – 16050.
3. Authorize the transfer of H. Daniel Degler, PC011271 Law Clerk III to PC011113 Guardian Ad Litem – Court Administration, effective 4/11/2018. Rate of \$56,764/annually. Salary range Minimum \$49,121; Midpoint \$65,495; Maximum \$81,869. Replacement for J. Kathleen Marcus who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11600.

- 94.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing the award and the Director of Contracts & Procurement to execute as a result of Invitation to Bid #18-05-KO, a contract for the Berks Heim & Services Annex Parking Lot Improvements Project as identified herein:
Reamstown Excavating, Inc.
P.O. Box 147
560 N. 5th Street
Denver, PA 17517
Total - \$474,472.50 (Not to Exceed)
- 95.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute Utility Relocation Reimbursement Agreement No. 05U323 between the County of Berks and the Metropolitan Edison Company ("MetEd"), 2800 Pottsville Pike, Reading, Pennsylvania, required to incorporate the adjustment and relocation of the MetEd's facilities, including those outside of the public right of way, as part of the Fisher Mill Road a/k/a Manatawny Bridge Replacement Project in Oley Township, as well as reimbursement to MetEd by the County for construction and installation costs related to the same. The estimated cost of this reimbursement is \$43,175.80.
- 96.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the 2017 Senior Judge Reimbursable Costs Grant from the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts ("AOPC") in the reimbursement request amount of \$126,720, to offset the costs of Senior Judges and their staff.
- 97.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the 2017 Court Interpreter Services Grant from the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts ("AOPC") in the reimbursement request amount of \$386,147.36, to provide on-site interpretation, deaf and hard of hearing services, and telephonic interpretation at the Court of Common Pleas and Magisterial District Judge levels.
- 98.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Grant Application to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency for the County Intermediate Punishment Programs in the amount of \$764,306 for Fiscal Year 2018 – 2020.
2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator per listing dated March 27, 2018. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 16 contracts and referenced the departments.

3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated March 27, 2018 for week ending March 28, 2018 and the payment of electronic transfers and employee payroll, as well as for the weeks ending April 4, 2018 and April 11, 2018. The Commissioners' Meetings for April 5 and April 12, 2018 have been cancelled due to scheduling conflicts among the Commissioners.

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 Schuylkill County Board of Commissioners will be attending this afternoon's Budget/Operations Meeting to have a discussion regarding jail needs in both Schuylkill County and Berks County.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

None.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt

Referencing the two items listed under Courts, Commissioner Barnhardt remarked these are good examples of unfunded mandates the state and federal government impose on local governments, where often times the grant money falls short and the taxpayer has to pay the difference.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported the public/private partnership comprising the Reading Bridges.net committee is now working collectively with PennDOT to inform and educate the public about the impending 422 By-Pass improvement project anticipated to begin in 2022 after the Penn Street Bridge project is complete. Commissioner Barnhardt reported the project will include 5.3 miles of roadway, 18 bridges, 19 retaining walls, and at the end of the project, the Bingaman Street Bridge will be removed and replaced. The estimated cost of the project at this time is \$600 million. Commissioner Barnhardt also reported for now, the RACC Bridge is expected to remain, noting MetEd has huge transmission lines running across the Bridge.

Commissioner Barnhardt announced Denise Sticha, Berks County Libraries Director, is leaving Berks County to become Director of Libraries in Centre County, noting Denise has done a tremendous job bringing the local libraries in Berks County together, and wished Denise good luck.

Commissioner Scott

Following up on Commissioner Barnhardt's comments regarding the RACC Bridge, Commissioner Scott questioned if the County should sell the RACC Bridge to MetEd. Commissioner Barnhardt responded that is a possibility, and has been discussed with MetEd.

Commissioner Scott asked the Solicitor if there was an ordinance with respect to personal behavior and decorum in this building and the Courthouse. Commissioner Scott has recently witnessed visitors entering the buildings and elevators whose attire borders on very inappropriate. Commissioner Scott asked the Solicitor, if there is support, to research this issue.

Commissioner Scott is looking forward to the meeting this afternoon with the Schuylkill County Commissioners. Commissioner Scott visited with Commissioner Halcavage, Schuylkill County Chair, last year to tour the Schuylkill County Prison, and brought a copy of a map he had the Berks County Planning Commission put together of potential sites properly zoned for institutional uses near the border of both counties.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach offered best wishes to Denise Sticha, and thanked Denise for doing a fantastic job leading the County's Library System.

Commissioner Leinbach reported he has two new documents on Berks Heim, one from the Budget Department regarding Medicaid reimbursement rates, and a report from Kelly Andrisano showing the rate given to each participating county, and will share the reports if requested.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Crystal Kowalski, Wyomissing, asked if the public is invited to attend the Budget/Operations Meeting this afternoon. Commissioner Leinbach replied yes.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk