

## **Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes April 24, 2014**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, April 24, 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 First Assistant County Solicitor Christine M. Sadler, 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.

### **Presentations**

1. Today was *Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day*. Commissioner Leinbach welcomed the group of parents, grandparents and children to the Meeting. Prior to the start of the Meeting, the Commissioners were assembled and spoke to the youth on different perspectives of County government, on what the county does as well as answered a few questions.
  
2. Shannon Rossman, Planner III, Intergovernmental Affairs, Berks County Planning Commission, and Brad Shirey, GIS Manager, presented a power point presentation on *E-Flash: County Launches Floodplain Viewer*. Commissioner Leinbach commented this presentation is a result of a federal law passed in early 2012 that dealt with flood plains. Commissioner Leinbach commented that recently the Berks County Planning Department and GIS put together an online tool that allows the public to find out if their property is in a floodplain. Mr. Shirey explained GIS is digital mapping. Ms. Rossman commented that the floodplain maps are prepared by FEMA and are linked to your mortgage, and if you have a federally subsidized mortgage, refinance your home or buy a home and your home falls with the floodplain, you must disclose this to your lender. Mr. Shirey commented that over the years many things change in the landscape and that is another reason his office and the Planning Commission put together this new on-line feature. Mr. Shirey took the audience through the process on how to search to see if your property is in a floodplain.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of April 17, 2014 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Scott and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
  - 107.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2014 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$50,050.00 per listing dated April 18, 2014.
  - 108.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated April 24, 2014 as follows:
    1. Authorize the appointment of Caterina Amoroso to PC011922 Office Support IV M/C – Court Administration, effective 5/7/2014. Rate of \$34,500/annually. Salary budgeted \$38,901/annually. Salary range Minimum \$28,585; Midpoint \$38,113; Maximum \$47,641. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11600.
    2. Authorize the utilization of a temporary agency for Part-time Office Support – Veteran's Affairs, effective 4/25/2014. Rate not to exceed \$16.50/hour. Temporary position to cover for an employee on a leave of absence. Utilization of the temporary agency will cease upon the employee's return from leave. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 16030.
  - 109.14 Adopt a resolution amending Resolution No. 105.14 adopted April 17, 2014 clarifying the services that Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc., Harrisburg shall provide are for design and engineering services for the demolition of the Anthony's Mill Road Bridge subsequent roadway reconstruction in Washington Township. The not to exceed amount \$81,950.00 does not change. There are no services in Addendum No. 3 (#EA-113013-10) that pertain to the development of the County Bridge Capital Improvement Program.
  - 110.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of Nancy Campbell, West Reading, Pennsylvania, to the Reading Public Library Board to fill the unexpired term of Robin Costenbader-Jacobson who resigned. This term will expire December 31, 2014.
  - 111.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Parking Facilities Agreement between the Reading Parking Authority and the County of Berks for the Poplar and Walnut Parking Garage, Reading, Pennsylvania for use by County employees and other representatives of the County for a term commencing May 1, 2014 and expiring April 30, 2016.

- 112.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach Chair, to execute a Certificate of Approval relative to the approval of the issuance of one or more series of Revenue Bonds, Series 2014 of the Lehigh County General Purpose Authority for funding of various projects for KidsPeace Corporation facilities, one of which is located in Berks County at 704 Hay Road, Temple, Pennsylvania. Attorney Andrew Maher, bond counsel for the Lehigh County General Purpose Authority, commented this approval relates to the TEFRA hearing which took place last week in Lehigh County and this approval by Berks County is to satisfy IRS requirements that the facilities which the 501(3)(C) tax exempt bonds are issued for are actually located in Berks County. Commissioner Scott commented on an issue the County is recently dealing with having to do with a new program entailing the housing the children of illegal immigrant children who have been detained by the federal government and where the children can be placed in homes across the County, and in Pennsylvania, KidsPeace is one of the facilities that is seeking to house the children. Commissioner Scott commented this matter is now being evaluated by the Courts and Berks County Children & Youth Services to determine the impact this program might have on County finances. Commissioner Scott stated he is concerned about the County's limited resources to house the illegal alien children. Mr. Isemann, President and CEO of KidsPeace attended the meeting and commented that program is actually in Lehigh County and KidPeace is trying to get the children placed with relatives or people they know. Mr. Isemann did concede to Commissioners' Scott's comments that because of the large Hispanic population in Berks County some children might wind up in Berks County.
- 113.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of the following members to the Berks County Workforce Investment Board for three (3) year terms ending June 30, 2017:
1. Mark Schlott, Executive Vice President of Operations/COO, R.M. Palmer Company
  2. Steve Letcavage, HR Director, Cambridge-Lee Industries LLC
  3. Patricia Murr, Customer Information and Resources Team Manager PA CareerLink® Berks County, County of Berks.
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 April 22, 2014. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 6 contracts and referenced the departments.

2. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated April 22, 2014 for week ending April 23, 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 William T. Consugar, Manager of Accounting & Financial Report.

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

1. Carl E. Geffken announced the Parks Department was awarded a mini-grant with a letter from Governor Corbett in an amount of \$3,000.00 to be used for the *Children's Gardens and Seasonal Butterfly House*. Mr. Geffken announced the Parks Department issued the 2014 Calendar of Events, and next week, on April 30<sup>th</sup>, PCN (Pennsylvania Cable Network) will be filming the history of the Berks County Courthouse.
2. Robert J. Patrizio reported the Commissioners will be reviewing construction projects status and a brief discussion on natural gas, electricity and an energy update. Mr. Patrizio announced that tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. will be the 2015 Budget Kickoff meeting.

### **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Barnhardt addressed the children in the audience on how important the work that their parents and grandparents do. Commissioner Barnhardt commented he is proud and supportive of what their parents do for the County and it is always heartening when we have quarterly recognitions which acknowledges the hard work and dedication they do day in and day out. Commissioner Barnhardt thanked the children for spending part of their day with them.

Commissioner Scott commented that whether you are a child, parent, taxpayer or citizen there are some good things to remember about Berks County. Commissioner Scott commented that Berks County has been a leader in many ways and has been winning awards at the State level for regional cooperation through the leadership of the Planning Commission and its Director, Glenn Knoblauch. Commissioner Scott reported Berks County is ranked #3 in the United States in farmland preservation with close to 70,000 acres of farmland preserved, and the Berks County Pension Fund for County employees has reached another record of over \$400 million in assets, and is one of the best funded pension funds in the State.

Commissioner Leinbach recognized it is the employees that make a difference on a daily basis in providing services to constituents throughout Berks County. Commissioner Leinbach commented we have great employees that work and do the job of county governance and are not thanked enough for doing their jobs day in and day out.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:55 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk