

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes May 4, 2017

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, May 4, 2017, 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.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of April 27, 2017 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:
 - 134.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2017 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$5,126 and 2017 Appropriations in the amount of \$67,142 per listing dated May 1, 2017.
 - 135.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated May 4, 2017 as follows:
 1. Authorize the promotion of Edward Bamberger from PC013235 Correctional Officer to PC012260 Sergeant – Jail System, effective 5/17/2017. Rate of \$61,796/annually. Salary range Minimum \$46,146; Midpoint \$61,528; Maximum \$76,910. Replacement for Shawn Bauerle who was promoted. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 12090.
 2. Authorize the promotion of Rebecca Chambers from PC012153 RN Charge Nurse – Berks Heim Nursing to PC013233 Director of Infection Control/Wound Care Management – Berks Heim Nursing Administration, effective 5/17/2017. Rate of \$69,531/annually. Salary range Minimum \$55,642; Midpoint \$74,189; Maximum

\$92,736. New position created by Salary Board on 12/15/2016. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 53000 – 33390.

- 136.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Fiscal Year 2017-2022 Grant-In-Aid Funds Agreement (No. 06-17/22 CP) between the County of Berks, Adult Probation Department, and the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole. The Grant funds assists in pre-sentence investigations and for improved probation supervision and programs.
- 137.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Fiscal Year 2017-2022 Supervision Funds Agreement (No. 05-17/22 CP) between the County of Berks, Adult Probation Department, and the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole. The Grant returns to the County the pecuniary amount of funds equal to the County supervision fees received by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Department of Revenue from the County.
- 138.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Programs of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Grant Agreement by and between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Department of Education, and the Berks County Commissioners, to provide Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding in the amount of \$1,027.00 for the period January 15, 2017 to July 31, 2017, to cover continuing education conference expenses.
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 May 2, 2017. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 11 contracts and referenced the departments.
3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated May 2, 2017 for week ending May 3, 2017 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 Oliver Arthur, Manager of Auditing.

REPORT OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Robert J. Patrizio reported today there will be a discussion on COCA funding, Berks Women in Crisis ("BWIC") loan forgiveness request and a discussion on the 287(g) program with District Attorney John Adams and Sheriff Eric Weaknecht.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Ronald R. Seaman had no comments at this time.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt announced tomorrow afternoon, May 5th, at 1:00 p.m. at the Police Heroes Memorial located at the Berks County Heritage Center, there will be a dedication of two statues; one of an officer and another of a police canine, to memorialize those officers that have fallen in the line of duty. The statues were financed by both private and public funds.

Commissioner Scott commented on the Council on Chemical Abuse contract listed on the Contract Agenda, noting there seems to be a tremendous amount of overlapping, bureaucratic regulations and oversight in the number of pass-through agencies involved in administering these services.

Commissioner Scott commented on the discussion this afternoon of the loan to BWIC and their desire the County forgive the loan, stating in his opinion, if we forgive the loan it basically is a gift to the entity that built the low income housing.

Commissioner Leinbach agreed with Commissioner Scott's comments concerning BWIC, that is exactly what he thought after reviewing some of the details provided to him, and as a rule, county government should not be in the business of loaning money to anybody.

Commissioner Leinbach remarked on Commissioner Scott's comments on the COCA transaction, that it reminds him of his concerns to the proposed merger of all the Human Services Departments into one massive group.

Commissioner Leinbach commented on the 287(g) discussion that will take place later this afternoon, and referred to the demonstration that occurred Monday, May 1, stating May 1 is socialist holiday and event, and some of the organizers pushing for this nationwide boycott are largely from the left and misrepresented the entire issue.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Berks County Recorder of Deeds Fred Sheeler commented on the recent demonstrations and the 287(g) issue, and how it seems ok to bash immigrants. Mr. Sheeler observed this is not a new thing in the United States, and shared his experiences when he was a young child and how his family of immigrants was treated. Mr. Sheeler then read a quote from 1753 written by Benjamin Franklin about immigrants and how it could have been written about today's immigrant problem.

Mr. Joe Eicholz from Bernville, Pennsylvania, addressed the Board on the drug epidemic and the devastating effects it is having on his grandchildren, and his view of incarceration of drug offenders.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:44 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk