

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting Tuesday, May 8, 2012

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at 10:30 A.M. in the 13th floor Boardroom 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 in Haiti and did not attend the meeting. Also present were County Solicitor Alan S. Miller, Chief Operating Officer Carl E. Geffken and Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk.

Commissioner Barnhardt opened the meeting with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and announced that the Board met in Executive Session on May 2, 2012 to discuss litigation matters.

II. PRESENTATIONS

Commissioner Barnhardt presented and read a Proclamation declaring May 2012 as Foster Care Month. George Kovarie, Executive Director of Berks County Children and Youth Services, thanked the Commissioners for the Proclamation and commented he will be attending an appreciation dinner for foster parents and will present the Proclamation at the dinner.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Department

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2011 Appropriations in the amount of \$43,420.00 and 2012 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$113,199.00 per listing dated May 4, 2012.

Human Resources

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated May 8, 2012. Commissioner Barnhardt reviewed the recommendations listed for approval.

Purchasing

- A. Motion authorizing Kevin S. Barnhardt, Vice Chairman of the Board, to execute Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated May 4, 2012.

Facilities

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Addendum No. 3 to Agreement No. 116349-10 between the County of Berks and High Safety Consulting

Services, Ltd., to provide indoor environmental services in occupied spaces at the Old Berks Heim Building for the month of May, June and July of 2012 and to reduce the assessment to one time per month at the same rate of \$4,250.00 per assessment. Commissioner Barnhardt commented this deals with the old Nursing Home and is slated for demolition the end of this year, and is currently occupied by the Coroner, Veterans Affairs, Archives and the ICE program.

- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Engineering Services Agreement No. 134627 between the County of Berks and McCormick Taylor, Inc. of Exton, Pennsylvania, to provide engineering design, environmental permitting, right-of-way, construction management and construction inspection services for the removal of the DeTurks Bridge and the restoration of the Sacony Creek embankment and permanent closure of Long Dam Road at the intersection with Krumsville Road, Maxatawny Township at a not to exceed amount of \$35,977.00. Commissioner Barnhardt commented this has been an ongoing process for 2 years. PennDOT has required the County to blockade the bridge due to safety issues. Commissioner Barnhardt further commented the County is in the process of completing an Agreement of Sale with Anita Burkhart an adjacent property owner. The bridge is slated to be removed in the fall of this year.

Solicitor

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of two deeds between the County of Berks as grantor and the Borough of Leesport as grantee, for 27 and 37 East Wall Street, Leesport, in order to transfer the Leesport Lock House property to the Borough of Leesport. Commissioner Barnhardt commented this has been a 2-year process. The County has been successful in negotiating the purchase of the adjacent car wash, had it demolished, and the properties are now ready to be turned over to the Borough of Leesport.
- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing the change of the name of the Berks Heim from "County of Berks, Berks County Home-Berks Heim" to "County of Berks, Berks Heim Nursing and Rehabilitation".
- C. Adopt a resolution authorizing tax forgiveness of 2011 County Interim taxes, including any penalties and interest for 140 Chestnut Street, Mohnton, Pennsylvania (PIN 65-4395-17-12-7433-B01) owned by the Mifflin Area YMCA.

Emergency Services

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Memoranda of Leases with the following parties, in regard to the Berks County Emergency Response Radio Project:
1. Horvath Towers II, LLC (Alsace Site)
 2. Bruce J. Moll (Bally Site)
 3. Douglas N. Donley and Annette M. Donley (Bethel Site)

4. PA Game Commission (Blue Mountain Site)
5. Borough of Boyertown (Earl Site)
6. Hamburg Area School District (HASD Site)
7. Borough of Kutztown (Kutztown Site)
8. James W. Heeps (Longswamp Site)
9. City of Reading (Mt. Penn Site)
10. Eugene A. Swope (North Heidelberg Site)
11. Cambridge-Lee Industries, LLC (Ontelaunee Site)
12. Borough of Hamburg (Pulpit Rock Site)
13. Gibraltar Estates, LLC (Robeson Site)
14. PA Turnpike Commission (Turnpike Site)

- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Stormwater Best Management Practices Operations and Maintenance Agreement between the County of Berks and Hereford Township, Berks County, in regard to the Berks County Emergency Response Radio Project.

Berks County Jail

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution the Intergovernmental Agreement letter with the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections – Commencement of Parolee Transfers, which modifies the original Intergovernmental Agreement allowing the County to accept State parolees at the County's Reentry Center. Commissioner Scott motioned to approve this item by resolution and was seconded by Commissioner Barnhardt and all voted to approve.

- No. 148.12** Adopt a resolution authorizing Kevin S. Barnhardt, Vice Chair, to execute the Intergovernmental Agreement letter dated April 4, 2012 with the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections-Commencement of Parolee Transfers, which modifies the original Intergovernmental Agreement allowing the County to accept State parolees at the County's Reentry Center.

IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Barnhardt

Commissioner Scott

Commissioner Scott commented on the DeTurks Bridge. Ms. Burkhart is very fortunate to reach the outcome she has with the County. Mr. Scott complimented Commissioner Barnhardt with his efforts in bringing about a reasonable and affordable conclusion which is fair to all parties. Commissioner Scott offered his praise to Commissioner Barnhardt concerning the Leesport Lockhouse and transferring ownership to the appropriate party. Commissioner Scott also commented on the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Jail and that according to comments from the Warden, which indicates that preliminary results are very encouraging with respect to the CRC's efforts to reduce recidivism.

Commissioner Scott commented that the name change of the Berks Heim to include Rehabilitation is entirely appropriate and complimented the management firm of CHR for doing a great job and increasing the occupancy numbers. Commissioner Scott's final comment was on correspondence he received from the District Attorney and Chief Detective Gombar outlining an increase in caseloads that are handled by the County Detective Force, and because of the increase in caseloads, they are requesting 2 additional positions which will cost the County approximately \$150,000 to \$200,000 per year if no contributions of drug forfeiture money are put into the funding of those 2 positions.

Commissioner Leinbach

V. *COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR*

Mr. Franklin L. Lorah, Jr., President of Berks Photographic Society, commented that he is representing about 250 photographers from the Berks County area, and read a prepared statement voicing his and the group's opposition regarding the possibility of implementing photography fees being imposed at the Berks County Parks System. Commissioner Barnhardt commented that he appreciated Mr. Lorah's comments and that the fee schedule was not properly presented to the Board of Commissioners for approval. Commissioner Barnhardt further commented he is currently not in favor of imposing the fee. Commissioner Barnhardt asked that as a courtesy large groups contact the Parks Department and inform the Office when they intend to take pictures. Commissioner Scott commented this is a non-issue at this point in time as it has not come before the Board for review and approval.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:10 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk