

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting Tuesday, May 15, 2012

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 15, 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 Chair Christian Y. Leinbach called the meeting to order with Commissioner Kevin S. Barnhardt in attendance. Commissioner Scott was out of town and did not attend the meeting. Also present were County Solicitor Alan S. Miller, Carl E. Geffken, Chief Operating Officer and Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk.

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

II. PRESENTATIONS

1. Dr. Yamil Sanchez, Head of the I-LEAD Charter School, and Angel Figueroa, Vice President of Resource Development of I-LEAD, attended the meeting and updated the Commissioners on the progress of the I-LEAD Charter School located in the City of Reading. Mr. Figueroa commented on the on the I-LEAD organization which has been doing work in the community for 12 years. Their mission is to change the community through education. Dr. Sanchez commented that the purpose of the I-LEAD School is to motivate and remotivate the students to become engaged in the school and the community, and succeed in the work force. Justin Colon commented on the JPO Empowerment Camp he started at the I-LEAD School, which teach the students how to interview for jobs and eventually participate in intern programs in the community.
2. Diane Price, Chairperson of the Berks County Armed Forces Advisory Committee, presented information on the 2012 Berks County Armed Forces Day Parade that is scheduled Saturday, May 19, 2012 in the Borough of Wyomissing and Borough of West Reading. Ms. Price commented this is the 64th Annual Parade and is the oldest Armed Forces Parade in the country.

III. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Department

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2012 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$66,659.00 and 2012 Appropriations in the amount \$46,356.00 per listing dated May 11, 2012. Kimberly Grinage, Deputy Director of Budget and Finance, commented the two transfers involve wages for temporary personnel in the Controllers Office and moving dollars in wage categories. Ms. Grinage reported the appropriation is for a medical computer software program at the Berks Heim.

Human Resources

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated May 15, 2012. Commissioner Leinbach commented on the one recommendation.

Purchasing

- A. 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 14, 2012. Commissioner Leinbach reviewed the contracts listed for approval.

Emergency Services

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of a Subordination, Non-Disturbance and Attornment Agreement between Bruce Moll and the County of Berks for the Bally Site in regard to the Berks County Emergency Response Radio Project.

Facilities

Commissioner Leinbach commented there are two items on the Agenda and one item being brought up from the floor. Ryan Hunter, Director of Facilities and Operations, commented the first item is for the installation of additional equipment to alleviate some clogging from the Berks County Jail. Mr. Hunter commented the second item is regarding the closed County Bridge 55A (DeTurks Bridge) and the landlocked landowner. This is the preliminary step required prior to acquisition of the property. The third item, which was not listed on the printed Agenda, is part of the bridge maintenance services McCormick Taylor provides the County as part of our Engineering Services Agreement for bridge maintenance. Commissioner Barnhardt commented that due to time constraints and the emergency nature of these projects, they should be approved today. On motion of Kevin Barnhardt and seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, all voted unanimously to approve the three items listed under Facilities as Resolution Nos. 159-12, 158-12 and 160-12 as follows:

- A. **No. 159-12** Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Engineering Services Agreement No. EA-134477-12 between the County of Berks and Boucher & James, Inc., of Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, to provide comprehensive design and oversight of the installation of an in-line or channel grinder to alleviate the buildup of institutional solids originating from the Berks County Jail at a not to exceed amount of \$21,500.00.
- B. **No. 158-12** Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of an Engineering Services Agreement between the County of Berks and SSM Group, Inc., Engineering and Environmental Services, Reading, Pennsylvania, to provide a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment of the Burkhart Property,

Long Dam Road, Maxatawny Township at a not to exceed cost of \$2,800.00.

- C. **No. 160-12** Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Engineering Services Agreement No. 134626 between the County of Berks and McCormick Taylor, Inc. of Exton, Pennsylvania, to provide engineering design, construction consultation and construction inspection services for the superstructure replacement required for Berks County Bridge No. 24A – Temple Bridge (Water Street over Laurel Run) Muhlenberg Township, Berks County at a not to exceed amount of \$111,603.32.

Children and Youth Services

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Certification Statement for the County Children & Youth Social Services Programs to the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare for FY 11/12 – January through March 2012 – 3rd Quarter.

IV. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS

- A. Adopt a resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Berks, Pennsylvania, approving the financing by the Berks County Municipal Authority of a project for the benefit of the Reading Hospital and the Reading Hospital and Medical Center, which project consists, generally, of the refunding of certain outstanding indebtedness of the Reading Hospital and the Reading Hospital and Medical Center, declaring that it is desirable for the health, safety and welfare of the people in the area served by the Reading Hospital and the Reading Hospital and Medical Center for the authority to participate in the financing of the project; authorizing the approval of the project for federal internal revenue code purposes; and authorizing other necessary and appropriate action. Peter Edelman, Esquire, of Stevens & Lee, County bond counsel, commented that with the low interest rate environment he is recommending the refunding and restructuring of the Reading Hospital's outstanding debt through the issuance of these tax exempt Revenue Bonds. Mr. Edelman stated a public hearing will be held in accordance with the law.
- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing the approval of the Services Center Garage Parking Policy. Chief Clerk Maryjo Gibson read a prepared statement submitted by Commissioner Scott stating his opposition to the adoption of the Services Center Garage Parking Policy. The statement reads as follows: "I wish the minutes to reflect that had I been in attendance, I would have voted in opposition to the proposed new parking policy now before the Board. The Services Center garage is a business asset, in which parking spaces should be allocated to minimize commuting time for employees who travel on County business or who otherwise deserve or have earned special accommodation. Fees currently charged are adequate to pay for its maintenance. Allocating spaces based upon seniority and raising fees, the new policy deprives the Commissioners of the important responsibility to maximize the efficient deployment of our workforce, while penalizing

employees and elected officials whose inflation adjusted incomes are flat or falling. This to me is no improvement over the status quo.”

Commissioner Barnhardt motioned to approve the Parking Policy as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leinbach and all voted in favor to adopt the Services Center Garage Parking Policy as **No. 161.12**. Commissioner Barnhardt thanked Ryan Hunter and Carl Geffken for their input and modifications of this Policy. Commissioner Barnhardt further commented the amount of money to be assessed will help offset the ongoing maintenance of the garage. Commissioner Leinbach believes it is fundamentally fair for everyone to pay. The \$43.00 was established by looking at the number of spaces and the annual cost of maintenance projected in a recent study.

- C. Adopt a resolution authorizing the approval by the Berks County Board of Commissioners of a letter of support to the State legislature keeping the \$20.5 million of Pennsylvania's cigarette tax revenue dedicated to farmland preservation.

Commissioner Barnhardt

Commissioner Barnhardt commented that today at lunch he will be attending the Centenarians of Berks County Luncheon sponsored by the Office Aging at the Inn at Reading.

Commissioner Barnhardt advised the public that tonight there is an important meeting at Antietam Junior Senior High School at 6:30 to discuss the preliminary potential merger or consolidation between Lower Alsace Township and Mt. Penn.

Commissioner Scott

Commissioner Leinbach

Comments from the Floor

James Troutman, Berks County Clerk of Courts, questioned when the actual policy will be printed. Carl Geffken, Chief Operating Officer, commented he would be sending the approved policy out soon.

Marianne Sutton, Berks County Prothonotary, offered her comments and opposition to the Parking Policy.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk