

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes May 23, 2019

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, May 23, 2019, at 10:00 A.M. in the Commissioners' Boardroom, 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.

Presentations

1. Dale Derr, Director of the Berks County Department of Veterans Affairs, presented the "Ambassador for Peace" medal to U.S. Army Veteran Anastacio Gonzalez. The medal is provided by the Republic of Korea, Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs from the South Korean government to those who served during the Korean War. Mr. Gonzalez served in Korea from 1950 to 1954.
2. Bruce Koller, President of the Pennsylvania Government Finance Officers Association ("GFOA") presented via video presentation the GFOA Certificate of Excellence Award to the Berks County Controller's Office staff for the 2017 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of May 16, 2019 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Commissioner Leinbach announced there was an Executive Session held this morning dealing with personnel.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

None.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt to approve the Agenda as presented. Said motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott, and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:

173.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2018 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$154,000; 2018 Appropriations in the amount of \$1,942; 2019 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$5,299 and 2019 Appropriations in the amount of \$1,500 per listing dated May 20, 2019.

174.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated May 23, 2019 as follows:

1. Authorize the appointment of Kirby Gordon to PC010169 Assistant Public Defender I – Public Defender's Office, effective 5/29/2019. Rate of \$48,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$44,690; Midpoint \$59,587; Maximum \$74,483. Replacement for Kristine Cahill who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11570.
2. Authorize the appointment of Joseph Sitcosky to PC011074 Facilities and Operations Director – Facilities and Operations Department, effective 6/5/2019. Rate of \$105,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$69,793; Midpoint \$93,057; Maximum \$116,322. Replacement for Ryan Hunter who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11030.
3. Authorize the appointment of Matthew Salkowski to PC010806 Deputy Director of Facilities and Operations – Facilities and Operations Department, effective 6/5/2019. Rate of \$90,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$55,682; Midpoint \$74,243; Maximum \$92,804. Replacement for Douglass Kenwood who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11030.
4. Authorize the promotion of Jennifer Brooks from PC012973 Environmental Educator to PC013388 Environmental Education Supervisor – Parks and Recreation Department, effective 5/15/2019. Rate of \$45,229/annually. Salary range Minimum \$38,992; Midpoint \$51,989; Maximum \$64,986. Position created by Salary Board on 5/9/2019. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 16070.
5. Authorize a promotion of Tracey Krause from PC010464 Correctional Officer to PC012266 Sergeant – Jail System, effective 6/12/2019. Rate of \$64,924/annually. Salary range Minimum \$46,146; Midpoint \$61,528; Maximum \$76,910. Replacement for Bradley Roberts

who was promoted. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 12090.

6. Authorize a promotion of Trevor Pavalko from PC010480 Correctional Officer to PC012254 Sergeant – Jail System, effective 6/12/2019. Rate of \$64,924/annually. Salary range Minimum \$46,146; Midpoint \$61,528; Maximum \$76,910. Replacement for Gregory Deiterich who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 12090.
 7. Authorize a salary adjustment for Michael Wieder, PC011257 Law Clerk I – Court Administration, effective 5/15/2019. Rate of \$50,724/annually, not including stipend. Salary range Minimum \$40,078; Midpoint \$53,438; Maximum \$66,797. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11600.
- 175.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Blue Cross Administrative Services Group Contracts letter for 2019 health insurance benefits.
- 176.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development Grant Resolution Page for the Gring's Mill Trailhead Improvement Project. The estimated total cost of the project is \$143,085, and the grant is a 15% match in the amount of \$21,462.75.
- 177.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the 2019-2020 Renewal Quotation to PCoRP (Pennsylvania Counties Risk Pool, a program of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania, the Special Risk Accident Coverage for County and County-related entity Volunteers and Excess Crime coverage with Travelers Insurance, as presented by EH&D. This includes the appropriate quarterly compensation agreement presented by EH&D who charges a fee in lieu of accepting carrier commissions. Michael Malinowski, Vice President and Branch Manager at EH&D, reported this is the County's annual renewal and is the 7th year with PCoRP and CCAP. The process began in June with meetings with Ron Seaman and Bob Patrizio. Mr. Malinowski noted this year the increase is only 1.5% over budget.

2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator per listing dated May 21, 2019. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 10 contracts and referenced the departments.
3. Motion authorizing payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated May 21, 2019 for week ending May 22, 2019 and the payment of electronic transfers and employee payroll, and for the week ending May 29, 2019 due the May 30, 2019 Commissioners' Meeting being cancelled.

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 Patrizio reported the Budget Meeting will begin at 2:00 p.m., and there will be an asset transfer discussion with Ken Pick regarding transition to the Reading Redevelopment Authority; Dan Fogarty, Director of Workforce Development/Career Link, will discuss an administrative position.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Ronald R. Seaman announced the following programs sponsored by Penn State Extension Service; June 3, 2019 a Jam and Jelly Making Workshop, and on June 18 to June 21, 2019 the 4-H Camp Manatawny, Douglassville for youth 8-14.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt

Commissioner Barnhardt commented on the low voter turnout on Election Day despite perfect weather conditions.

In recognition of Memorial Day, Commissioner Barnhardt thanked all those who sacrificed, serve and gave their lives for our freedoms.

Commissioner Scott

Commissioner Scott reported he will be absent Wednesday, May 29, 2019 as he will be sitting for depositions regarding the Colebrookdale, n/k/a Rolling Hills Landfill, which is a very important legal matter for Earl Township and the County.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach thanked everyone who came out to vote on Tuesday but was also disappointed in the low voter turnout.

Commissioner Leinbach mentioned next Saturday, June 1, 2019 the Red Bridge Fiddle Festival will be held at the Berks County Heritage Center.

Commissioner Leinbach is concerned about the major announcement concerning the status of WEEU and is hopeful for a solution.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

Berks County Recorder of Deeds Fred Sheeler presented a PowerPoint of a letter he found about ten years ago from Major General James Gavin, U.S. Army, a Pennsylvania native, to Mrs. Della White, Reading, Pennsylvania, notifying her of the death of her son, Private First-Class Donald L. White. The letter was read by Josh Chambers, an old-time radio re-enactor.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Crystal Kowalski, Wyomissing, commented on the criminal justice system stating it needs to be fixed.

Evelyn Morrison, Reading, followed up on her comments about the recent RATS meeting she attended at the Berks County Services Center, and requested more minority vendors be given the opportunity to participate in the contracting process.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk