

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes July 19, 2018

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, July 19, 2018, 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.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of July 12, 2018 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

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 with a request for discussion. Request for discussion granted by the Chair.
Commissioner Scott commented on Item 208.18, a resolution granting a Waiver for Clare of Assisi House having to do with a program for rehabilitation of female inmates after they leave prison. After looking into this matter, Commissioner Scott feels Berks County has more than enough facilities to provide this type of rehabilitation, and based on his understanding this program will accept people from outside Berks County, and until some of his questions to the District Attorney can be clarified, he cannot support this resolution and will be a No vote to Item 208.18.
Commissioner Barnhardt responded this facility will not import individuals from outside the area, but focuses on females coming from federal and state penal institutions, and there are not a lot of facilities in Berks County for this purpose. Commissioner Barnhardt reported Clare of Assisi House has also received a letter of support from the Criminal Justice Advisory Board, and will not impact the funds either the District Attorney or PreTrial Services receives from the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant. Commissioner Barnhardt fully supports this action and will be a Yes vote.
Commissioner Leinbach fully supports this program, believing it is not only appropriate but necessary for the community.

There being no further comments, Commissioner Leinbach called for a vote. All voted unanimously to approve the items listed below with the exception of Commissioner Scott's No vote to Items 208.18.

- 203.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2018 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$8,600 and 2018 Appropriations in the amount of \$31,077 per listing dated July 16 2018.
- 204.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Addendum to Lease Agreement between Dierolf Enterprise, Oley, Pennsylvania and the County of Berks for office space located at 26 Scholl Drive, Oley, Pennsylvania, for use by Magisterial District Court 23-3-03 (MDJ Steven Chieffo) that extends the original Lease Agreement for a three (3) year period beginning December 1, 2018 and ending November 30, 2021.
- 205.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Addendum to Lease Agreement between the Township of Cumru and the County of Berks for office space located at 1786 Welsh Road, Mohnton, Pennsylvania for use by Magisterial District Court 23-2-04 (MDJ David Yoch) that extends the original Lease Agreement for a three (3) year period beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2021.
- 206.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Automobile Theft/Motor Vehicle Insurance Fraud Intergovernmental Agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Police ("PSP") and Berks County for participation by Berks County in the Municipal Automobile Theft/Motor Vehicle Insurance Fraud Task Force Program, and the reimbursement of certain county expenses by the PSP from the Automobile Theft Prevention Trust Fund, as authorized by Berks County Ordinance No. 02-2016.
- 207.18 Adopt a resolution of the Berks County Board of Commissioners approving the 2018 Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Plan Update.
- 208.18 Adopt a resolution ratifying, confirming and approving Kevin S. Barnhardt, Commissioner, to execute the JAG Local Jurisdiction Waiver for Clare of Assisi House for their application of 2017/18 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program, for funding under Objective 4.
- 209.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of John Ernesto, Reading, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Convention Center Authority Board for a four (4) year term expiring August 29, 2022.

2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator per listing dated July 17, 2018. Commissioner Leinbach announced there are 16 contracts and referenced the departments.
3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated July 17, 2018 for week ending July 18, 2018 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 County Controller Sandy Graffius.

REPORT OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Robert J. Patrizio reported at the Budget Meeting this afternoon there will be a follow-up discussion on the CGL proposal to perform maintenance functions at the Jail; an update on the Berks Heim with Mike Vind, and an update from Facilities and the Solicitor regarding damage to the sewer line at Camp Joy.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Ronald R. Seaman announced this Sunday, July 22, 2018 the annual *Step Back in Time* event will be held at the Berks County Heritage Center.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt

Commissioner Barnhardt reported on the following activities he and his Executive Assistant Jessica Blausner will attend, or have attended recently. They will be visiting the prison in Frackville Friday to see the differences in county jails; on Tuesday they were invited to attend the Science Research Center at Conrad Weiser High School where students in grades 6 through 12 are engaged in science learning experiences, and where some students have won national awards. Yesterday they traveled to Dauphin County to observe a Prison Board Meeting to see similarities and differences, and will report his findings at the next Berks County Prison Board Meeting.

Commissioner Barnhardt announced next Tuesday at the Reading Phillies will be Opioid Awareness night where they will be handing out S.O.S. pins and the recently released magazine, *The Response*.

Commissioner Scott

Commissioner Scott reported he attended the latest protest Sunday at the Berks County Residential Center and provided some observations and comments.

Commissioner Scott arrived around 4:00 p.m. and observed the protestors using the Berks Heim Parking Lot and the Berks Heim restrooms. Commissioner Scott remarked the parking lot and Berks Heim should be restricted to caregivers, employees and visitors, not protestors, and suggested enacting an ordinance to restrict parking and use of the facilities with the possibility of ticketing people.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach announced the Reading Rad Sport Festival is scheduled August 4th and 5th, mentioning there is a need for volunteers and people to host the riders, and if interested to contact the organizers at ReadingRadSport.com.

Commissioner Leinbach reported on his attendance at the annual NACo Conference he attended last week in Nashville. Commissioner Leinbach reported he was reelected as the Northeast U.S. regional representative. Commissioner Leinbach mentioned the following highlights from the conference; House Bill 50, the Unfunded Mandate Reform Act (UMRA) that NACo has been pushing for some time was passed by the House and now moves on to the Senate; he was able to have two resolutions passed, one on the Spotted Lanternfly (passed unanimously) and a resolution on the Cadillac Tax which has been moved off to 2022. Commissioner Leinbach mentioned he will be receiving information on a new financial wellness program for employees he will share, and mentioned some of the legislative issues discussed were the Farm Bill status, Opioids, PILT (Payment In Lieu of Taxes) and the impact of the recent Supreme Court decision on sales tax on online purchase.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Attending from the public to voice support against selling the Berks Heim were Harlan Kutscher, Exeter Township, and Crystal Kowalski, Wyomissing.

Mr. Kutscher asked what the big rush was in selling the Berks Heim because he heard the State was providing additional funds.

Commissioner Leinbach responded there is no big rush, the County has been very methodical in the process, and is look at the possibility of renegotiating with one or both of the unions, and agreed there has been some positive movement in the IGT funds and an increase in Medicaid reimbursements.

Ms. Kowalski commented there is a perceived rush to sell in the community and asked the Commissioners to be proactive.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:02 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk