

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes August 10, 2017

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, August 10, 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 in attendance. Also present were Assistant County Solicitor Chad Schnee and Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Chief Clerk Ronald R. Seaman.

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

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of August 3, 2017 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Presentation

Shannon L. Rossman, Executive Director of the Berks County Planning Commission, narrated a PowerPoint presentation on the current status of the Berks County Comprehensive Plan 2030 Update. The presentation included PA Municipalities Planning Code requirements about plan updates and also noted a desire to incorporate the Long Range Transportation Plan, adopted in 2016, the Expanded Economic Development Section of the Future Land Use Plan for Berks County and incorporate new data recently received by the Commission. Following the presentation, both Commissioners Leinbach and Barnhardt offered comments relative to the Berks County economic climate and thanked Shannon and her staff for their continued good work in these areas.

There was no public comment on specific agenda items.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach and both voted to approve the items listed below:
 - 218.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2017 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$299,122. and 2017 Appropriations in the amount of \$40,000. per listing dated August 7, 2017.

- 219.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated August 10, 2017 as follows:
1. Appointment of Jessica Albright to PC013257 Paralegal, Solicitor's Office, effective 8/23/2017. Rate of \$47,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$34,445; Midpoint \$45,927; Maximum \$57,409. New position created by Salary Board on 6/15/2017. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11020.
- 220.17 Adopt a Resolution authorizing the award and Director of Contracts and Procurement to execute, a one year contract as a result of ITB #17-17-PB, for compact track loader attachments to be utilized by the County of Berks' Parks Department as follows:

Highway Equipment and Supply Company
P. O. Box 127
15 Honey Hole Road
Drums, PA 18222

Total Expenditure: \$21,502.08

Item Description	Unit Price
1. Bradco GSS72A Rotary Cutter	\$ 4,777.95
2. Bradco Root Rake 72"	\$ 4,182.90
3. Bradco Dozer 84" Blade	\$ 4,751.14
4. EH Standard Attachment Control Kit, AT427986	\$ 495.00
5. FFC Preparator 76", FFC LAF3576	\$ 7,295.09

The County reserves the right to extend the contract for two additional one-year terms upon mutual agreement of both parties at the unit prices herein.

- 221.17 Adopt a Resolution authorizing the award and the Director of Contracts and Procurement to execute, a one year contract as a result of ITB# 17-25-JR, for Firearms, Rifles, inclusive of Trade-Ins to be utilized by the Berks County Jail as follows:

Witmer Public Safety Group Inc.
104 Independence Way
Coatesville, PA 19320

Line Items: 7,8,9,10,13,14,15,16

Total Estimated Expenditure less Trade-Ins: \$46,212.18

Estimated Expenditure: \$53,999.68
 Estimated Trade-Ins: (\$7,787.50)

LINE	DESCRIPTION	Unit Price
7	Sons of Liberty Gunworks M4	\$1,399.99
8	Scope, Vortex Razor HD Gen II	\$1,299.00
9	Scope Mount, Recon H, American Defense Mfg	\$174.99
10	Suppressor, SilencerCo Specwar 556K	\$501.00
	TRADE-INS	
13	Bushmaster 9mm c15 type 21s sbr	-\$325.00
14	Bushmaster 9mm c15 type 21s sbr, cracked lower receiver	-\$135.00
15	DPMS A15 A2 Classic, .223/5.56	-\$275.00
16	9mm smg magazines	-\$3.50

The County reserves the right to extend the contract for two additional one-year terms upon mutual agreement of both parties at the unit prices herein.

- 222.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Amendment No. 1 to Agreement to Utilize Premises between the County of Berks and the Reading Liederkrantz, Reading, Pennsylvania, to change the designated premises from the tract of land formerly known as "Victory Garden", along Hill Road, to the tract of land located across Hill Road, Lower Alsace Township as more fully set forth in the drawing attached to the Agreement. All other terms of the Agreement remain in full force and effect.
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 August 8, 2017.
 3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated August 8, 2017 for week ending August 9, 2017 and the payment of electronic transfers and employee payroll.

Reports

1. Deputy County Treasurer Linda Weaver submitted a prepared weekly Treasurer's report.
2. The Controller's weekly report was presented by 1st Deputy County Controller Ron Rutkowski.

REPORT OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

There was no report given due to Mr. Patrizio being on vacation and the cancellation of today's Budget/Operations Meeting.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Ronald R. Seaman, CAO, had nothing further to offer.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt again referred to the recent, *This Is Reading* production and the success it had, which has led to BARTA, the owner of the Franklin Street Station Building, issuing an RFP to see if there are other viable options for using the building.

He next reported on the recent meeting of the Opioid Coalition, which meets the 1st Friday of each month, at the McGlinn Conference Center. He also cited several statistics relative to Berks County and the Commonwealth with respect to the Opioid problem and their use.

Commissioner Leinbach reported on his time spent at the CCAP Annual Conference in Erie, PA. With respect to the Opioid Epidemic, CCAP is considering joining the PA Attorney General, Josh Shapiro, in litigation against Big Pharma.

CCAP has compiled a listing of County unfunded mandates, which has been sent to the Budget office to determine their fiscal impact on the County.

While at the Conference, Commissioner Leinbach had a discussion with Schuylkill County relative to their interest in looking at a joint jail venture and had a positive response. He also spoke to representatives of Kimball relative to the report they presented last week on the Berks County Prison options and requested that whatever information contained in that report that was not a possible security breach be shared publicly and on the County Web Page.

He also spoke on a Dauphin County project to rehab a building across from the Farm Show Complex to serve as a regional mental health facility. This would be a tremendous help to Berks County in providing an alternative to dealing with the individuals housed at the Berks County Prison suffering from severe mental illness. Dauphin County is also involved in a study of dealing with mental health issues as part of the "Stepping Up" initiative.

Commissioner Barnhardt reminded Commissioner Leinbach that Berks County was one of twelve across the country to be invited to participate in a Data Driven Justice Program to be held in Maryland.

Commissioner Leinbach then asked if any of the Row Officers had any comments. Clerk of Courts Troutman asked if a company approached Berks County requesting several hundred acres to site a new manufacturing or other large facility, could they be accommodated? Commissioner Leinbach replied that acreage was available but not "shovel ready" acreage, which is being requested by companies looking to locate here. A corollary issue is the availability of an available work force to fill jobs those companies would be looking to fill.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Shannon Kozik, West Reading, attended the meeting and first thanked Commissioner Leinbach for his transparency in looking at the issues with respect to the Berks County Prison facility. She then read a prepared statement relative to incidents that have occurred at privately run prison facilities.

Rob Haeusler, Akron, PA, spoke on the lack of concern for jail diversionary initiatives and inmate reform programs in privately run prison operations.

Pat Murray, Sinking Spring, spoke on private jail operations and his opposition to them.

Stephani Drosdak invited the Board Members to spend a shift with one of the County Correctional Officers and observe what they encounter and the professionalism with which incidents are handled.

Commissioner Leinbach thanked each individual for their comments and the professional manner in which those speaking conduct themselves in addressing the Board.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Ronald R. Seaman, Deputy Chief Clerk