

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes August 20, 2015

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, August 20, 2015, 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 and Commissioner Mark C. Scott in attendance. Also present were First Assistant County Solicitor Christine M. Sadler, Chief Operating Officer Carl E. Geffken 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 August 13, 2015 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented. Commissioner Leinbach announced there was an Executive Session held Monday, August 17, 2015 to discuss real estate and potential litigation.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Scott and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
 - 219.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2015 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$3,902,307.00 and 2015 Appropriations in the amount of \$1,754,634.00 per listing dated August 18, 2015.
 - 220.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated August 20, 2015 as follows:
 1. Authorize the utilization of a temporary agency for the Internal Auditor position – Controller's Office, effective 8/21/2015. Rate not to exceed \$28.48/hr. Utilization of the temporary agency will cease when a candidate is hired to fill the Internal Auditor position. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11120.
 - 221.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing of the Engineering Services Agreement with SSM Group, Inc., Reading, Pennsylvania to provide engineering services for the review of sanitary sewer service option and design of the sanitary sewer service connection for the Gring's Mill Office at a not to exceed amount of \$6,000.00 excluding reimbursable expenses.

- 222.15 Adopt a resolution rescinding Resolution No. 163.15 which authorized execution of a Roof Top Lease for the Berks County Services Center with Limitless Mobile, LLC, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; and further authorizes the execution of a revised Roof Top Lease for the Berks County Services Center with Limitless Mobile, LLC, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, reflecting an effective date of August 14, 2015 for a five (5) year period and annual rent amount of \$42,000.00.
- 223.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of Michael Kaucher, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania to the Council on Chemical Abuse for a term ending February 1, 2018, to fill the unexpired term of Scott Rehr.
- 224.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of Jobany Bedoya, Ephrata, Pennsylvania to Council on Chemical Abuse Advisory Board for a term expiring February 1, 2017. This is a replacement for Juanita Morales, who resigned.
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 18, 2015. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 4 contracts and referenced the departments.
3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated August 18, 2015 for week ending August 19, 2015 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.

REPORTS OF CHIEF OPERATING OFFICE/CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

1. Carl E. Geffken reported the Children & Youth Services Needs Based Budget for 2016/2017 was submitted on Friday, August 17, 2015, and today will be the first of two bidders' conferences for the elevator project with Ryan Hunter.
2. Robert J. Patrizio reported at the Budget Meeting today the Commissioners will make a recommendation to award a contract for the Waste Water Treatment Plant; receive a benefit update; discuss a request for funding from the Conservation District; and receive a call from CCAP regarding the new funding proposal for Nursing Homes (IGT Funding).

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt reported BARTA will be curtailing the park and ride shuttle service from the R.J Willouby's parking lot to downtown Reading due to low ridership, but one positive outcome is people have found other ways to drive into the City.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported BARTA will be starting Sunday bus service August 30, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. running the 8 most utilized routes.

Commissioner Barnhardt commented that for the last year and a half he has been reporting on the possibility that RSI Home Products, a manufacturer of home building products, might locate in the greater Reading Area, but he has recently been made aware they will not be relocating in area anymore. RSI has decided not to build in the northeast region at this time; but he has met with representatives of another firm who probably will be relocating to the Reading area and will be keeping 60 existing jobs and possibly adding more jobs, and hopes to be operational this time next year.

Commissioner Barnhardt mentioned that he and representatives from South Central Transit Authority will be meeting tomorrow with folks from other surrounding counties who are interested in consolidations or mergers similar to what Berks County and Lancaster County have done concerning the merging of Red Rose and BARTA.

Commissioner Barnhardt commented the day will include tours of Red Rose and BARTA.

Commissioner Scott made an observation and remarked on the extraordinary recent decline in the price of commodities and how it is affecting the price on the national and local economies and interest rates.

Commissioner Leinbach announced that last evening his parents became great grandparents, he and his wife became grandparents and his daughter and son-in-law became parents to a beautiful baby girl, Gracie Lee Pruiit.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Berks County Controller Sandy Graffius reported her office is in the process of sending letters out to individuals who have not yet cashed checks from the County. Ms. Graffius commented it is her firm rule to make every effort to return the money to the individual before she must turn it over to the State.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk