

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes August 24, 2017

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, August 24, 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 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.

Presentation

Dr. Betsy Adams, Coordinator of the Berks Institute for School Attendance, presented a PowerPoint program on the Truancy Reduction Initiative. Dr. Adams stated the goal of the Institute is to improve school attendance and decrease the number of students who are truant. Dr. Adams has made this presentation to all Berks County Principals, and this summer is making the Presentation to all Berks County schools. Dr. Adams reported they are also partnering with Reading Area Community College to offer a college and career seminar beginning this fall, as well as implementing a media campaign.

Dr. Adams then introduced, District Attorney John Adams, her brother, who spoke on the impact of truancy and absenteeism on the criminal justice system.

Commissioner Leinbach remarked in addition to the impact on the criminal justice system, there is also a financial impact on Berks County taxpayers, and reported the funding for this program is primarily through funds from Berks County Children and Youth Service specifically designated for truancy. The initiative is implemented by SAM, a primary provider for this initiative.

Stephanie Esser, Director of the Advancing School Attendance Program, spoke on how they are addressing the truancy issue in high school and explained some of the many issues why children are not going to school and how they are implementing the program in Berks County Schools.

Commissioner Leinbach announced there was an Executive Session yesterday, August 23, 2017 dealing with personnel and litigation regarding the Jail.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of August 17, 2017 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Scott and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
 - 234.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2017 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$201,767 and 2017 Appropriations in the amount of (\$93,240) per listing dated August 21, 2017.
 - 235.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Amendment #2 to the Title XIX Medicaid Grant Agreement No. 4100058024 between the Pennsylvania Department of Aging ("PDA"), Pennsylvania Department of Human Services ("DHS") and the Berks County Area Agency on Aging ("AAA") for the provision of federal and state funding for PDA services to AAA beginning July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018; and further provides documentation on the rates used for payments during the period beginning January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017.
 - 236.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Edward B. Michalik, MH/DD Administrator, to accept the revised capitation rates offered by the Department of Human Services for the HealthChoices Program for the July 2017 through June 2018 Fiscal Year as outlined in Appendix attached hereto.
 - 237.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the Berks County Workforce Development Board ("WDB") and PA CareerLink® Berks County One-Stop Partners effective July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2019 to comply with new Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act ("WIOA") federal and state requirement concerning the operation of the one-stop delivery system.
 - 238.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Berks and the City of Reading for the allocation of \$16,920.00 from the 2017 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant. This is an annual grant applied for by the City of Reading and shared with the District Attorney's Office. The funds will be used for special overtime details for Problem Oriented Policing.
 - 239.17 Adopt a resolution ratifying, approving and authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to certify electronically the Annual Certification Report to the U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Treasury Department of the federal drug forfeiture money received and spent by the District Attorney's Office for fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

District Attorney Adams commented this money is obtained through numerous relationships with federal authorities and joint investigations, and is shared with the District Attorney's Office.

- 240.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Lawrence J. Medaglia, Jr. to the Reading Area Community College Board of Trustees for a six (6) year term expiring June 30, 2023.
- 241.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the following Policies at the Berks Heim Nursing and Rehabilitation:
 1. Open Employment & Volunteer Policy
 2. Equal Opportunity For Staff Development
 3. Open Admission Policy Statement
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 22, 2017. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 13 contracts and referenced the departments.
3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated August 22, 2017 for week ending August 23, 2017 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 today there would be a discussion by CHR ("Complete Healthcare Resources"); a report from the Director of Veterans Affairs on budget saving opportunities; and a discussion on 211 regarding phone calls for social services.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

None.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt

Commissioner Barnhardt commented on Sunday he participated in the annual Run4Sam event at Gring's Mill which had record attendance, and mentioned all the things Peggy Reed has done for the Parks from the proceeds of the Run.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported on Tuesday, August 22, 2017 he, his Executive Assistant and Bob Patrizio traveled to Cumberland County to discuss finances at the Cumberland County Nursing Home.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported tonight he will be attending a meeting at Lower Alsace Township regarding the Mt. Penn Preserve to discuss the potential of the Township joining the formation of the Council of Governments ("COG"), and focusing on uniform patrols of the mountain.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported tomorrow he will be traveling to Harrisburg to a meeting with members of the Capital Area Transit Authority to discuss transportation issues.

Commissioner Scott

Commissioner Scott made observations on truancy and mentioned a criminal case that occurred in Reading many years ago that had aspects of chronic truancy, and hopes the Truancy Initiative brings some measure of safety.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach commented that the meeting this afternoon on the Berks Heim will be a very important discussion on the five year revenue projection.

Commissioner Leinbach announced this Sunday morning through afternoon he will be participating in the Annual Ride for Freedom from Womelsdorf to the Veterans Grove Memorial in Reading City Park. It is expected to draw 1,000 to 2,000 participants.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Crystal Kozlowski, Wyomissing, attended the meeting and responded to the Truancy initiative and the new *Eileen Dinino Law* and the number of youth being sent to District Justice court for truancy.

Tracy Krause, St. Lawrence, attended the meeting to speak about the privatization of the Jail, and read a few quotes from the Bible.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:49 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk