

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes September 13, 2018

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, September 13, 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.

Presentation

Pamela J. Shupp, Executive Vice President of the Greater Reading Chamber Alliance ("GRCA"), attended the meeting to provide an update on the Chamber's current economic development activities, and submitted a 2018 Key Strategies Report addressing the needs and challenges in trying to attract international and domestic prospects in locating businesses to Berks County. Ms. Shupp reported she will be meeting later today with the Pennsylvania International Trade Representatives. Ms. Shupp remarked attracting and retaining talent is one of the biggest issues for Berks County businesses, and the goal for 2018 is to visit at least 100 Berks County local companies; so far this year they have visited 62. Ms. Shupp mentioned GRCA will be investigating the possibility of restoring passenger rail service to Berks County as part of their economic development strategy, and has also reached out to the Reading Regional Airport Director to produce information specifically targeting developable land 'inside' the fenced area at the Airport Park. Ms. Shupp reported their next update will include highlights of small businesses, their projects and expansion efforts, and addressing agriculture business financing structures.

Responding to Ms. Shupp's comments on the passenger rail service, Commissioner Scott was flabbergasted to see renewed efforts to restore passenger rail service to Berks County. Commissioner Scott is still of the opinion and belief that money and ridership is too low to support the return of that service.

Commissioner Leinbach responded he still believes passenger rail service to Reading and Wyomissing is a possibility, and it would be a big lift for Berks County.

Commissioner Barnhardt commented Berks County cannot remain economically isolated and must become part of the big picture. There is a need to improve and maintain rail, air and highway transportation services, and this should be part of the economic development plan because businesses will not locate here without those types of improvements.

Commissioner Leinbach announced there were three Executive Sessions; September 6, 2018 to discuss personnel and litigation; September 7, 2018 to discuss litigation, and September 12, 2018 to discuss contract negotiations.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of September 6, 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, and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:

Enactment of County Ordinance:

07-2018 ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF BERKS AMENDING AND MODIFYING ORDINANCE NO. 3-08 PROVIDING FOR THE RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF THE BERKS COUNTY PARK SYSTEM AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THE SAME; AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2-04 AUTHORIZING COUNTY PARK RANGERS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES.

Adoption of County Resolutions:

249.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2018 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$711,450 and 2018 Appropriations in the amount of \$6,735 per listing dated September 10, 2018.

250.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated September 13, 2018 as follows:

1. Authorize the promotion of John Moser from PC010316 Contract Administration and Monitoring Manager to Assistant Director – Workforce Development Board Department, effective 9/12/2018. Rate of \$71,300/annually. Salary range Minimum \$54,548; Midpoint \$72,730; Maximum \$90,913. New position created by Salary Board on 9/6/2018. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 25000 – 26660.

2. Authorize the promotion of Brendan Lederer from PC013167 Resource Manager to Assistant Director – Parks & Recreation Department, effective 9/12/2018. Rate of \$62,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$47,571; Midpoint \$63,428; Maximum \$79,285. New position created by Salary Board on 9/6/2018. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 16070.
3. Authorize the promotion of Kari Bollinger from PC012347 Senior Governmental Accountant to Senior Governmental Accountant – Team Lead – Office of Controller, effective 9/12/2018. Rate of \$67,510/annually. Salary range Minimum \$45,194; Midpoint \$60,258; Maximum \$75,323. New position created by Salary Board on 9/6/2018. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11120.
4. Authorize the promotion of Jacob Pyne from PC011414 Network Administrator to PC013172 Oracle Database Administrator – Information Systems Department, effective 9/12/2018. Rate of \$64,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$56,684; Midpoint \$75,579; Maximum \$94,474. New position created by Salary Board on 12/17/2015. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11170.
5. Authorize the promotion of Asa Robbins from PC013174 Enterprise Support Technician to PC011414 Network Administrator – Information Systems Department, effective 9/12/2018. Rate of \$53,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$49,629; Midpoint \$66,172; Maximum \$82,715. Replacement for Jake Pyne who was promoted. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11170.
6. Authorize a salary increase for Ann Ernst, PC010125 Assistant Mapping Manager – Assessment Department, effective 9/12/2018. Rate of \$62,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$46,643; Midpoint \$62,190; Maximum \$77,738. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11070.

7. Authorize a salary increase for Brian Kistler, PC011952 Park Maintenance Supervisor – Parks & Recreation Department, effective 9/12/2018. Rate of \$55,006/annually. Salary range Minimum \$38,631; Midpoint \$51,508; Maximum \$64,385. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 16070.
 8. Authorize a salary increase for Rebecca Richards, PC012351 Recreation Program Supervisor – Parks & Recreation Department, effective 9/12/2018. Rate of \$54,823/annually. Salary range Minimum \$38,992; Midpoint \$51,989; Maximum \$64,986. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 16070.
 9. Authorize a salary increase for Eric Seidel, PC013178 Park Ranger Supervisor – Parks & Recreation Department, effective 9/12/2018. Rate of \$50,200/annually. Salary range Minimum \$38,992; Midpoint \$51,989; Maximum \$64,986. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 16070.
 10. Authorize \$250 uniform/clothing allowance for Lieutenants and Sergeants – Jail System, per attached listing, effective for the pay of 10/2/2018. Budget 10000 – 12090.
- 251.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute Agreement #VC-209765-18 between the County of Berks and SplashBI Business Intelligence, Inc. for a three (3) year term to provide licenses, installation, configuration, report conversion and support services for the County's ERP System, Oracle EBS and replaces Oracle Discover. Licensing implementation and first year maintenance shall not exceed \$138,775.07, and does not include travel costs estimated at \$1,154.00. Costs for year two (2) and three (3) support shall be limited to a 2% year over year increase.
- 252.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Self-Insurance Application certification renewal for workers' compensation insurance for submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

- 253.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Cathy Wegener, Director of Berks County Parks & Recreation Department, to execute the Agreement of Waiver Liability with the Muhlenberg Township Parks & Recreation Department for temporary use of a wagon and/or wooden steps owned by Muhlenberg Township for a hayride scheduled October 20, 2018 at the Angora Fruit Farm.
- 254.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing the award and execution by Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, of a Contract between the County of Berks and RBA Professional Data Systems, Inc., State College, Pennsylvania, for the Tax Billing & Collection and Tax Claim Software System at an approximate not to exceed ten (10) year amount price of \$645,350.00 for licensing and annual maintenance, subject to final review and approval by the County Solicitor's Office.

Note: There was no contract agenda this week.

2. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated September 11, 2018 for week ending September 12, 2018 and the payment of electronic transfers and employee payroll.

Reports

1. County Treasurer A. Dennis Adams, CPA was absent. Linda Weaver, Chief Deputy Treasurer, submitted the 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 the Budget Meeting begins at 2:15 today, and there will be a brief discussion by Facilities regarding pressure washing and sealing at the Berks Heim; a discussion regarding vacation/sick time revisions and an update from Mike Vind and Mr. Patrizio regarding bond compliance.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Ronald R. Seaman reported he attended the Bern Township Planning Commission meeting this week to discuss the first review of the sketch plan for a parcel of land from the Essick Tract where the Berks Heim is located. Mr. Seaman stated as a result of that meeting, there are several minor revisions that are needed to conform with the Township's ordinance and for the successful submission of a final plan. Mr. Seaman reminded the audience this is not pursuant to an eminent sale, but to provide flexibility to this Board and future Boards.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTSCommissioner Barnhardt

Commissioner Barnhardt announced he attended DUI Treatment Court Graduation ceremonies this morning for 40 individuals. Commissioner Barnhardt cited in the past five years, 106 individuals have graduated from this program, and only 1 person has reoffended. Commissioner Barnhardt mentioned Berks County was one of the first in the nation to have treatment courts set up, and thought the approach and innovations implemented by the Courts, Judge Johnson and Judge Geishauser produced successful programs.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported the Opioid Coalition will be doing more public outreach and education programs. Commissioner Barnhardt mentioned they have identified the BARTA Transportation Center as one of the most frequented areas for overdoses, and reported that through the efforts of BARTA, SGI Security, Inc. and COCA, eleven SGI Security Guards are currently being trained at Level 1 to administer Narcan.

Commissioner Scott

None.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach also attended DUI Treatment Court Graduation, and was pleased and impressed that Judge Geishauser took the time to provide the data that compared prior data showing the DUI Treatment Court programs have saved over 14,000 jail days which equates to over \$800,000 in taxpayer dollars.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Crystal Kowalski, Wyomissing, asked for the names of the five bidders and the date the hold to resume the bid process is complete, and whether Stevens & Lee exceeded their scope in looking for bidders. Commissioner Leinbach asked Ms. Kowalski to see Solicitor Sadler after the meeting.

Claudia Strauss, Berkshire Heights, asked if we knew when the next Township meeting would be, and if any of the bids submitted were from commonwealth or federal agencies. Ms. Strauss was advised we do not know when the next Township meeting will be. Regarding the bids, Solicitor Sadler commented we are still in the process of going through preliminary non-binding bids or estimates, and this process has been put on hold. If the Commissioners proceed with this process after the 60 day hold to negotiate with the unions, then the County will engage in various visitations at the Heim as well as the bidder's facilities.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk