

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes October 31, 2013

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, October 31, 2013, 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 Vice Chair Kevin S. Barnhardt called the meeting to order with Commissioner Mark C. Scott in attendance. Commissioner Leinbach was absent. Also present were Solicitor Alan Miller, Chief Operating Officer Carl E. Geffken and Chief Clerk Maryjo Gibson.

Commissioner Barnhardt opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and announced there was an Executive Session held October 28, 2013 to discuss litigation and personnel issues.

Presentations

1. Peter T. Edelman, Esq., Bond Counsel to Albright College (College), attended the meeting and requested the Board of Commissioners approve by Resolution the remarketing of the College's Variable Rate Revenue Bonds, Series of 2008 ("2008 Bonds") previously issued by The Berks County Municipal Authority (Authority). Mr. Edelman clarified for the Board the remarketing is a two part financing package, and is a standard approval process for 501 (3)(c) corporations. Mr. Edelman stated in accordance with the law, the Authority conducted the required public meeting Tuesday evening where no one from the public attended. Mr. Edelman stated this is restructuring an existing debt where no new money is being requested, and the County's approval does not obligate the County in any way and is merely a requirement under the Internal Revenue Service Code. On Motion of Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Barnhardt, all voted unanimously to approve the following Resolution:
 - 325.13 A. Adopt a resolution of the Berks County Board of Commissioners approving the financing by the Berks County Municipal Authority of a project for the benefit of Albright College, which project consists, generally, of the refunding of certain outstanding indebtedness of the College, declaring that it is desirable for the health, safety and welfare of the people in the area served by Albright College for the Authority to participate in the financing of the project; authorizing the approval of the project for Federal Internal Revenue Code purposes; and authorizing other necessary and appropriate action.
2. George Vogel, Executive Director of Berks County Council on Chemical Abuse, presented a short program for Red Ribbon Week, which promotes drug free

- lifestyles for elementary and middle school students. Mr. Vogel commented his agency is actively involved in the Red Ribbon program, stating its origin dates back to 1985 when a drug enforcement agent was killed in Mexico trying to interrupt a drug manufacturing operation. Also attending the meeting was mascot, Captain Courage, who visits different Berks County school classrooms and talks about drug prevention and making better choices. Mr. Vogel stated they distribute 30,000 to 40,000 red ribbons to elementary school students, with the goal to help kids make better decisions and maintain a drug free life. Commissioner Scott questioned how does this interact with the DARE program. Mr. Vogel replied they are two separate campaigns, with the Red Ribbon Week being the oldest national campaign in the U.S, but the messages are consistent.
3. Robert Patrizio, Berks County Chief Financial Officer, presented a very high level overview and power point on the Berks Heim Financial Update. Mr. Patrizio commented the prime purpose is to see what drives the costs and revenue and to see where are going. Mr. Patrizio commented we do perform multiyear financial planning which is the primary tool that enables the Board of Commissioners and Budget to make very informed decisions and helps to be proactive in financial planning and is a key in managing the property tax burden. Mr. Patrizio commented this financial information has been shared with all stake holders involved in management of the Berks Heim. Mr. Patrizio commented that by 2018 the operating costs of the Berks Heim are expected to exceed the revenue, which is one of the reasons we are looking ahead, and the goal is to look at ways to change that footprint. Commissioner Barnhardt commented it is a good thing we are out there looking at this now so we have a plan looking ahead. Commissioner Scott commented this is only a projection and is more subject to variations than the more recent figures that are projected. Commissioner Scott commented that in 2017 it could be materially worse or materially better, but it is a forecast and is well done.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 24, 2013 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Barnhardt, and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
 - 326.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2013 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$91,121.00 and 2013 Appropriations in the amount of \$186,881.00 per listing dated October 28, 2013.
 - 327.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated October 31, 2013 as follows:
 1. Authorize the appointment of Shane Waddy to

PC011174 Judicial Coordinator – Court Administration, effective 11/13/13. Rate of \$29,440/annually plus a stipend in the amount of \$850. Salary budgeted \$39,253/annually. Salary range Minimum \$29,440; Midpoint \$39,253; Maximum \$49,066. The stipend is for additional duties and responsibilities specifically associated with the Dependency Court module of CPCMS. Replacement for Royce Spadt who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 - 11600.

2. Authorize transfer of Todd Reinert, PC011100 Fiscal Operations Manager – Domestic Relations to PC010318 Contract Monitor – Area Agency on Aging, effective 11/6/13. Rate of \$46,036/annually. Salary budgeted \$45,990/annually. Salary range Minimum \$37,687; Midpoint \$50,249; Maximum \$62,811. Replacement for Cynthia Morgan who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 28100 – 23150.
3. Authorize the appointment of Kristine Camacho to PC012947 Human Resources Assistant – Human Resources, effective 11/13/13. Rate of \$32,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$28,772; Midpoint \$38,363; Maximum \$47,953. New position created by Salary Board on 5/16/13. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11410.

328.13 Adopt a resolution ratifying, confirming and approving the County Solicitor to take the necessary steps to advertise Ordinance No. 02-13 which authorizes the Berks County Board of Commissioners to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Corrections, the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole and the County of Berks for the purpose of providing programming and full custody residential services to technical parole violators under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Commissioner Barnhardt commented this is an arrangement the County has with the State for technical parole violators to be housed at the Jail at \$70 per day, and because it is an intermunicipal arrangement it must be advertised and approved as an Ordinance.

329.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute the Disposal Capacity Agreement between the Berks County Solid Waste Authority, the County of Berks and the York County Resource Recovery Center,

York, Pennsylvania for a ten (10) year period beginning October 31, 2013.

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 October 28, 2013. Commissioner Barnhardt reported there are 22 contracts and referenced the departments.
2. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated October 29, 2013 for week ending October 30, 2013 and the payment of electronic transfers and employee payroll.

Reports

1. County Treasurer Nelson Long, 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 mentioned this Tuesday is Election Day and please go out and vote. Mr. Geffken thanked Debbie Olivieri and her staff for all the hard work as well as the poll workers. Mr. Geffken reported that in conjunction with City and Reading Parking Authority parking restrictions and fines will be lifted at 3 City polling places. There will signs posted stating parking enforcement will be waived for voting purposes. Mr. Geffken reported this week he met with consultants involved in a sponsorship program of the Parks and Recreation Department to see how best we can utilize the Parks in the County and to better market them to County residents. Mr. Geffken reported there are 14 Aging contacts to be approved today with resolution of the remainder to be generated by Aging, stating all but 5 are completed and signed. Mr. Geffken thanked Aging and Procurement for completing this project so quickly. Mr. Geffken announced the County's new Risk and Safety Coordinator, Mary Picariello, will be starting next Wednesday.
2. Robert J. Patrizio announced there will be no Budget Meeting today.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt mentioned a few months back he discussed the potential of Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) in Leesport called the Canal Street TIF which would have provided additional access to Route 61 . Commissioner Barnhardt stated unfortunately he is recommending to the Board we do not go forward because Ontlelaunee Township, who would be one of the players, did not want to partake in the TIF, and the Schuylkill Valley School District also did not want to participate. Only Leesport wished to proceed. Commissioner Barnhardt commented he appreciated the newspaper for the editorial on the cooperative effort between Red Rose Transit Authority and BARTA, and as a

member of the BARTA Board, it is a good opportunity to share management resources. Commissioner Barnhardt commented the Agreement is for 6 months but hopes it will go longer as we see the benefits in sharing management duties.

Commissioner Scott reported on the good news again that the annual required contribution (ARC) came in even lower than predicted. Commissioner Scott, on behalf of the Board of Elections, encouraged everyone to get out and vote in this so called off year election. Commissioner Scott commented that sometimes local elected officials have a big impact on the quality of our lives. Commissioner Scott commented there will be an article appearing in Monday's Reading Eagle written by Mary Young highlighting the importance of local elections.

Comments from Floor

County Controller Sandy Graffius reported through the hard work and diligence of her First Deputy Ronald Rutkowski, they were able to recoup \$14,244.33 of unclaimed County property involving 18 County Departments.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:14 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk