

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes November 2, 2017

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, November 2, 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 Vice Chair Kevin S. Barnhardt called the meeting to order with Commissioner Mark C. Scott in attendance. Commissioner Leinbach was attending a NACo meeting in Washington, D.C. Also present were County Solicitor Christine M. Sadler, Chief Administrative Officer Ronald R. Seaman and Chief Clerk Maryjo Gibson.

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

Commissioner Barnhardt announced there was an Executive Session yesterday to discuss contract negotiations, personnel and Berks Heim litigation.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 26, 2017 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

SPECIAL PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and due notice to the public, Commissioner Barnhardt convened a hearing to take public comment, and adopt a resolution approving the financing of a project by Safe Berks (formerly Berks County Women in Crisis) modifying the repayment terms of an existing loan of Safe Berks, the proceeds of which were used to refinance a construction loan used for the planning, design, construction, furnishing and equipping of a new women's shelter located in the City of Reading.

Douglas Rauch, Esq., counsel for Safe Berks, commented that Fulton Bank, holder of the loan, has offered to extend the interest only period, and because this is a technical matter for federal tax purposes, approval must be obtained from the highest applicable elected officials.

Commissioner Barnhardt commented this is a procedural matter and has no financial impact on the County or taxpayers.

Commissioner Barnhardt asked for questions or public comment. Seeing there were none, a motion was made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Barnhardt, to close the public hearing.

On motion of Commissioner Scott, and seconded by Commissioner Barnhardt, all voted unanimously to approve the following Resolution:

- 310.17 Adopt a resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Berks, approving, pursuant to the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, the financing of a project by Safe Berks (formerly Berks County Women In Crises d/b/a Berks Women In Crisis) (the "Company"), a nonprofit corporation serving the public in the County of Berks, which project consists of among other things, the modification of the repayment terms of an existing loan of the Company, the proceeds of which were used to refinance a construction loan used for the planning, design, construction, furnishing and equipping of a new women's shelter, daycare and housing facility, which facility also contains the administration offices of the Company, all located at 255 Chestnut Street in the City of Reading; designating the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the County (the "Board") or in his absence, any other member of the Board as the person to act on behalf of the Board as the "applicable elected representative" within the meaning of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; and further authorizing such Chairman or any such member of the Board to take certain actions on behalf of the Board as such "applicable elected representative" and other necessary and appropriate action as required.

Public Comment On Agenda Items

None.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Scott to approve the Agenda as published. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Barnhardt, and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
 - 311.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2017 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$1,450,000 and 2017 Appropriations in the amount of \$1,199,776 per listing dated October 30, 2017.
 - 312.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute Change Order No. 45M dated October 27, 2017 to the contract with Pyramid Network Services, LLC, East Syracuse, New York, for the Berks County Public Safety Radio Project. This Change Order will delete Exhibit K of the original Agreement dated August 11, 2011 in its entirety, and replace it with a new Exhibit K dated October 27, 2017. This is a zero dollar change order, and will add over winter road marking services at the Centre Township radio site.

- 313.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency State Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Hazardous Material Response Fund Grant Agreement in the amount of \$54,406.91. This is an annual recurring grant agreement used to manage, update and perform hazardous response reports, requirements and training.
- 314.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Amendment #1 to Grant Agreement #27476 approved October 13, 2016 by Resolution No. 292.16 with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency ("PCCD") for Lab and Analyst Accreditation. As a result of lower than expected costs as compared to the estimates when the Grant was created, there is a surplus that will be applied to additional certification training for a Digital Evidence Analyst, and is within the scope of the initial Grant.
- 315.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Marcia Goodman-Hinnershitz, Reading, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Children & Youth Services Advisory Board for a three (3) year term expiring December 31, 2020.
- 316.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Joan Lewis, Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Children & Youth Services Advisory Board for a three (3) year term expiring December 31, 2020.
- 317.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Dr. Mark Reuben, Reading, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Children & Youth Services Advisory Board for a three (3) year term expiring December 31, 2020.
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 31, 2017. Commissioner Barnhardt reported there are 11 contracts and referenced the departments.
2. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated October 31, 2017 for week ending November 1, 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 Grazyna Nykiel, Senior Governmental Accountant.

REPORT OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Robert J. Patrizio reported there will be an update on the 2018 Budget.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

None.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt

Commissioner Barnhardt reported yesterday he, Ken Pick and Jess Seidel went to Oley Valley High School, and visited with FFA students to look at their Grow Rooms and aquaponics lab. Commissioner Barnhardt commented it is an amazing program, and it is good to know the future of farming is in good hands.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported he attended the COCA Annual Conference this morning at the Crowne Plaza Hotel where the Keynote Speaker was Marty Boldin who spoke about recovery.

Commissioner Barnhardt announced there would be an Election Board Meeting today at 11:00 a.m. where poll workers will be appointed. Commissioner Barnhardt encouraged everyone to vote, and noted the ballot question regarding Homestead Exemption.

Commissioner Barnhardt announced the Election Services Department is still looking for poll workers.

Commissioner Scott

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Kathryn Anderson, Exeter Township, and a RN at Berks Heim talked about the proposal to sell the Berks Heim. Ms. Anderson asked the Commissioners to wait a year or two, as there may be other options that are available to keep the Heim open. Ms. Anderson stated she has some ideas for cost cutting she would like to share with the Commissioners.

Commissioner Barnhardt responded a decision could still be months away, and the Board is still looking at all options, and eventually will be meeting with staff to get their thoughts.

Commissioner Scott suggested Ms. Anderson reach out to Terry Brennan with her suggestions, unless she is not allowed by the union.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:28 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk