

## **Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes November 7, 2013**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, November 7, 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 Chair Christian Y. Leinbach called the meeting to order with Commissioner Kevin S. Barnhardt and Commissioner Mark C. Scott in attendance. Also present were Solicitor Alan Miller, 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. Commissioner Leinbach announced there was an Executive Session held Monday, November 4, 2013 dealing with litigation.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of October 31, 2013 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented. Commissioner Leinbach offered his congratulations to all candidates that ran for office and to those that won.

### **Agenda Items**

1. Enact Ordinance No. 02-13:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF BERKS 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

2. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Scott and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:

330.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2013 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$90,937.00 per listing dated November 1, 2013.

331.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing tax forgiveness of 2013 County taxes, including penalties and interest for Hill Road (PIN 48-4347-00-03-3027), Heidelberg Township owned by the Womelsdorf-Robeson Joint Authority.

332.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing tax forgiveness of 2013 County

taxes, including penalties and interest for the following properties located in Washington Township and owned by the Washington Township Municipal Authority:

1. Weinsteigher Road (PIN 89-5398-04-62-6899)
2. New Route 100 (PIN 89-5398-10-25-8434)
3. Niantic Road (PIN 89-6309-03-13-2127)

- 333.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Engineering Services Agreement between the County of Berks and N.E. Fisher & Associates, Boyertown, Pennsylvania, to provide professional services to design the upgrades to the existing sprinkler system at the Berks County Archives Office at a not to exceed fee of \$5,500.00, and a not to exceed fee of \$900.00 as a cost allowance for a flow test.
- 334.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the General Reimbursement Agreement for Federal Aid Projects (No. 057379) between the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) and the County of Berks for the Fisher Mill Road Bridge a/k/a Manatawny Bridge Replacement Project in Oley Township. This Agreement provides the terms and guidelines that govern reimbursement for funding for the Preliminary Engineering, Environmental Studies, Final Design, Utility, Right-of-Way acquisition and Construction phases of the Project.
- 335.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute an insurance application to the American Alternative Insurance Corporation on behalf of Berks County Children and Youth Services and Partners in Parenting.
- 336.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Lynn Millar, Fleetwood, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Children and Youth Advisory Board for a three (3) year term expiring December 31, 2016.
- 337.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Barbara Werner, Reading, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Children and Youth Advisory Board for a three (3) year term expiring December 31, 2016.
- 338.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Karen Fattore, Reading, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council for a two (2) year term expiring December 31, 2015.
- 339.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Patricia C. Giles, Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania to Berks County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council for a two (2) year term

expiring December 31, 2015.

- 340.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Robert R. Kreitz, Reading, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council for a two (2) year term expiring December 31, 2015.
  - 341.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Shirley Ludwig, Reading, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Redevelopment Authority for a five (5) year term expiring December 31, 2018.
  - 342.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Gregg Bogia, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania to the Berks Area Transportation Authority Board for a five (5) year term expiring December 31, 2018.
  - 343.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Brian Clements, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Solid Waste Authority for a four (4) year term expiring December 31, 2017.
3. Motion authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach as Chairman of the Board, to execute Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated November 4, 2013. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 13 contracts and referenced the departments.
  4. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated November 5, 2013 for week ending November 6, 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 First Deputy Controller Ronald Rutkowski.

### **REPORTS OF CHIEF OPERATING OFFICE/CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

1. Carl E. Geffken introduced Mary Picariello the new Risk and Safety Coordinator.
2. Robert J. Patrizio announced Budget is not quite ready for the CYS and JPO Cost Projection report, but there will be an update on the 2014 Budget.

**COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Barnhardt commented he is looking forward to the celebration of military veterans this weekend not only at the Veterans Dinner Dance at Wilson High School, but also on Monday, Veterans Day, at ceremonies taking place at Reading City Park and Reading Municipal Stadium

Commissioner Scott had no comments today.

Commissioner Leinbach commented that in observance of Veterans Day he has downloaded on his face book page songs dealing with Veterans Day each day for a week. Commissioner Leinbach reported he will be on WEEU later this morning with Dale Derr, Director of Veterans Affairs, discussing various veterans' issues.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

Susan Ensinger and Mary Due, both residents of Greenwich Township, Berks County, attended the meeting to comment on their opposition to the proposed demolition of Zettlemoyer Bridge in Greenwich. Ms. Ensinger commented she is one of 12 properties owners that would be affected by removal of the Bridge and their properties are located in a flood plain. Ms. Ensinger stated in the event of flooding or any type of emergency the bridge is their only way out. Ms. Due reiterated Ms. Ensinger's talking pointing adding their access is cut off when there is a flood. Ms. Due urged the Commissioners to reconsider the decision to remove the bridge. Ryan Hunter, Director of Facilities and Operations, provided a detailed update on the status of the project stating there was an extensive Feasibility Study performed by McCormick Taylor, the County's Bridge Consultants for this project. Mr. Hunter commented the Engineer has concluded there is no in between option, it's either full replacement or removal. Mr. Hunter briefly reviewed the three options offered by the Engineer. It should be noted that Ms. Ensinger did request and was provided a copy of the McCormick Taylor Feasibility Study. Mr. Hunter reported he has been involved in a number of conversations with the Township regarding improvements to the road in lieu of repairing the bridge. Commissioner Leinbach offered by way of further explanation that a possibility would be to take some of the money that would have gone to a repair and redirect it to make Long Road better and safer if that is legal. Commissioner Barnhardt commented, that as a member of the Board, and taking into consideration the number of residents affected and number of average daily vehicle trips recorded on the Bridge, it is difficult for him to justify the expenditure of \$600,000 to up to \$4,000,000 to replace the bridge. Commissioner Scott asked if an upgrade of Long Road would satisfy the residents. Mr. Ensinger and Ms. Due stated no. Commissioner Scott commented he concurs with his colleagues and is relying on the recommendation of the Engineer that the sporadic usage probably warrants demolition, further stating there are limited resources available for bridge maintenance projects. Commissioner Leinbach asked Mr. Hunter to follow-up with the residents affected by the demolition and keep them advised of future meetings with Township officials.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

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Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk