

**Commissioners' Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, January 17, 2012**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 10:30 A.M. in the 13th floor Boardroom 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 Alan S. Miller and Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk.

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

II. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Department

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2011 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$30,504.00, 2011 Budget Appropriations in the amount of \$3,015.00 and 2012 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$923,767.00 per listing dated January 13, 2012. Robert Patrizio, Budget and Finance Director, commented that the majority of the 2012 Budget Transfers relate to MH/MR, which items are a late change to the account structure to ease reporting.
- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing Budget and Finance Director Robert Patrizio to execute the Memorandum dated January 3, 2012 which authorizes an increase in Complete HealthCare Resources-Eastern, Inc. (CHRE) key personnel reimbursement pursuant to section 3(c) and 4(c) of the Agreement dated November 18, 2010 between the County of Berks and CHRE. Robert Patrizio, Budget and Finance Director, commented that on the anniversary of our Contract with CHRE there is a provision under the Contract to adjust the salary of key personnel. The salaries for key personnel are being adjusted by 1.1% and the fringe benefits are being adjusted by 1.06%, which is consistent with the Contract.

Human Resources

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated January 17, 2012. Commissioner Leinbach commented on the one recommendation.

Purchasing

- A. Motion authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach as Chair of the Board, to execute Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator,

per listing dated January 12, 2012. Commissioner Leinbach reviewed the five contracts listed.

Facilities

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of AIA Document B105 – 2007 between the County of Berks and Olsen Design Group Architects, Reading, Pennsylvania to provide architectural services for the Berks County Veterans' Affairs Office Fit-Out at the BARTA Transportation Center, 8th & Cherry Streets, Reading at a total fixed fee of \$10,700.00.
- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Supplemental General Reimbursement Agreement for Federal Aid Projects (No. 057032-A) between the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (Penn DOT) and the County of Berks for the Christman Road Bridge Project in Greenwich Township. This supplement provides the terms and guidelines that govern reimbursement to the County for 100 percent of costs up to a maximum of \$2,260,000.00 for the Final Design, Right-of-Way, Utility Relocation and Construction phases of the project.

Treasurer

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing Nelson Long, County Treasurer, to make twelve (12) monthly Retirement Fund (ARC) contributions to the Berks County Retirement Fund in the amount of \$793,334.00 each, totaling the budgeted amount of \$9,520,000.00 commencing January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012. Treasurer Long commented that the total amount of contributions will be adjusted in a few months. Commissioner Leinbach complimented SEI and the Pension Board for making sound decisions.
- B. Adopt a resolution authorizing Nelson Long, County Treasurer, as an "Authorized Signer" to transact financial business on behalf of the County of Berks with National Penn Investors Trust Company (NPITC).

Mental Health/Mental Retardation

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing a name change for the Berks County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Program to *Berks County Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities (MH/DD) Program* effective February 1, 2012. Edward Michalik, Psy.D, MH/MR Administrator, commented that the name change reflects a professional and international nomenclature, and for uniformity purposes.

Solicitor

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing tax forgiveness of 2011 County taxes including any penalty and interest for East Avenue, Borough of Strausstown (Parcel No. 82-4432-11-66-7412), owned by the Strausstown Volunteer Fire Company & Community Campus.

Sheriff

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute the Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification Report to the U.S. Department of the Treasury for fiscal year ending December 31, 2011.

III. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS*Commissioner Barnhardt**Commissioner Scott*

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Jeffrey Auman, West Lawn, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Council on Chemical Abuse Board for a three (3) year term ending February 2, 2015.

Commissioner Scott commented on the relocation of the Veteran's Affairs Office to the BARTA Transportation Center. He would like for the Board to revisit the decision to relocate at the BARTA Transportation Center. Commissioner Scott is getting cross-currents about the desirability of relocation. Commissioner Scott commended Commissioner Barnhardt for his work and efforts for finding a reasonably priced alternative to the present location. Commissioner Scott further stated he realizes the County has made a commitment to BARTA and may not be able to back out of the agreement.

Commissioner Barnhardt responded that the Director of Veterans Affairs has endorsed the relocation, and was part of the process of moving the Office to downtown. Commissioner Barnhardt further commented that there have been numerous meetings with Dale Derr and the Veterans groups, and there may be a few who don't want to come downtown, but the majority are satisfied with the relocation.

Commissioner Leinbach agreed to continue discussion of this issue, but his concern is the County has already signed a Lease with BARTA. Commissioner Leinbach commented he has had very little negative feedback from the Veterans' community.

James Troutman, Clerk of Courts, commented he thinks the position of the majority of veterans would prefer not to come downtown and would prefer to remain at the North Campus.

Commissioner Leinbach requested that before Thursday morning each Commissioner reach out to the parties involved and be ready to vote on this resolution.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach commented that a meeting was held last Wednesday with the RATS committee and representatives of Penn DOT where details were presented on the improvements for the intersection of Route 73, Genesis Drive and 662, and in less detail Long Lane. Commissioner Leinbach further commented the Committee reiterated what the letter from Secretary Schoch stated, that unless we are able to get a transportation funding bill through the House and Senate and signed by the Governor, there is no money available to do the realignment and upgrade. Commissioner Leinbach further commented that according to Senator Argall the votes are there, but the position of the Governor is not clear. Commissioner Leinbach further reported he had a conversation with the Governor at the Farm show Thursday, and specifically asked the Governor about the transportation funding bill. The Governor's response is he's working on it. Commissioner Leinbach made an additional public plea for voters, business and community leaders to ask the Governor to get behind a long term sustainable transportation funding bill. It is fundamental to our economy and public safety.

Commissioner Leinbach also reported that the County has been notified by the National Association of Counties that the discount drug prescription program is going to be changing. In the new format, counties that participate will be given a dollar reimbursement for every single prescription where the card is used. Commissioner Leinbach commented he will pass on to his colleagues any new details, and will ask the Solicitor to review the plan when it arrives.

IV. ELECTED OFFICIALS COMMENTS

Frederick Sheeler, Berks County Recorder of Deeds, commented he will deliver his annual report of 2011 real estate transactions for the County next week.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:20 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk