

Operations Minutes
January 5, 2021

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. via Microsoft Teams Live pursuant to due notice to Board members and the public.

The following matter was discussed:

1. Mid-Action Review – Department of Emergency Services – Brian Gottschall

Mr. Gottschall began with a brief explanation of these types of reports that are generally prepared in connection with events handled by DES or some other agency. This Mid-Action Report is a preliminary report of the County’s response to the COVID Pandemic to date. The report indicates things that were done well and also things that could be improved upon. It is anticipated that this will provide a foundation moving forward as the Pandemic continues or the County is required to provide an expanded role in its management. Each Commissioner offered their own comments relative to the report and thanked the staff of the Department of Emergency Services for their input and completion of the report.

On motion by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Rivera, it was unanimously voted to publicly present and take a more in-depth look at the report at the January 13, 2021, Commissioners’ Weekly Update. In preparation for that, Stephanie Weaver, Public Information Officer, in her press release about the presentation on the 13th, will include a copy of the report as well as place it on the “Do Your Part” webpage and the DES and County webpages.

Following the presentation, Commissioner Barnhardt offered these two items for informational purposes from the floor:

- A. The CARES Fund Team agreed to propose an increase in the Administrative Fees for Co-County Wellness from 8% to 18% and remove the cap on those fees and incorporate those proposals in an Amendment to their Contract to be acted on at the January 7, 2021 Commissioners’ Meeting.
- B. The ES&S Electronic Poll Books are slated to begin their State Certification process tomorrow, January 6, 2021. Depending on the time it takes to complete the Certification process will determine if the County will be able to purchase and implement them in time for the 2021 Primary Election or if their use will be delayed to the Municipal Election or beyond.

Since this was informational only, there was no formal action needed nor taken.

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was on motion by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Rivera, unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:59 AM,

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Comments - None

Please note: The January 12th Operations meeting has been cancelled.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ronald R. Seaman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Ronald R. Seaman, Deputy Chief Clerk