

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes **August 11, 2022**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Thursday, August 11, 2022, at 10:00 A.M. in the Commissioners' Boardroom, 13th floor of the Berks County Services Center, and via Microsoft Teams Live, 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 Michael S. Rivera, in attendance. Also present were Christine Sadler, Solicitor, Ronald R. Seaman, Chief Administrative Officer.

Commissioner Leinbach opened the meeting with a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESENTATION

Peter T. Edelman, Sevens & Lee was present to discuss the Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries housed in Topton and other Communities. Daikon Ministries is moving forward with a project in Maxatawny Township totaling up to 57,000,000 dollars of tax-free bonds. Mr. Edelman is asking the Board to approve the project on behalf of Diakon and to find that this project benefits the health, safety, and welfare of the community.

Commissioner Barnhardt motioned to approve agenda item 268.2022 and was seconded by Commissioner Rivera; there being no further discussion, the motion was carried.

- 268.2022 A. Adopt a resolution authorizing the Board of Commissioners to approve financing by the Maxatawny Township Municipal Authority of a project for the benefit of Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries which project consists of, among other things, the construction of new capital improvements for the use of Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries; declaring that it is desirable for the health, safety and welfare of the people in the areas served by Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries, to have the project provided by and financed through the Authority; designating the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, or in his absence, any other member of the Board of Commissioners as the person to act on behalf of the Board of Commissioners as the "applicable elected representative" within the meaning of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as Amended; authorizing such Chairman or any such member of the Board of Commissioners to take certspecifications on behalf of the Board of Commissioners as such "applicable representative;" and authorizing other necessary and appropriate action.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Commissioners' meeting minutes of August 4, 2022, were approved as presented.

Commissioner Leinbach noted an Executive Session held on August 10, 2022, dealing with personnel.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments

AGENDA ITEMS

A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt and seconded by Commissioner Rivera, to approve the agenda as presented, except for item # 275.2022, which was removed from the agenda at the request of the Commissioners.

1. Authorizing:

269.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2022 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$246,642 per listing dated August 5, 2022.

270.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing the award, and the Director of Contracts and Procurement to execute, a contract as a result of ITB # 22-13-HA, Tree Pruning and Removal Services for a period of two (2) years for Parks & Recreation and Facilities & Operations as follows:

The F.A. Bartlett Tree Expert Company
101 N Carroll St. Suite B
Reading, PA 19611

Estimated Annual Expenditure: \$91,650.00
Estimated Two Year Expenditure: \$183,300.00

The County reserves the right to extend the agreements for three additional one-year terms upon mutual agreement of both parties at the unit prices herein.

271.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the County of Berks and Union Township concerning sharing of Payment in Lieu of Taxes program funds for federally owned land located in Union Township.

272.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christine M. Sadler, Berks County Solicitor, to execute the Waiver of Conflict letter for Stevens & Lee to represent the Reading Hospital in applications for the exemption of real estate filed with the Berks County Board of Assessment Appeals, and potential appeals therefrom to the Berks County Court of Common Pleas.

- 273.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christine M. Sadler, Berks County Solicitor, to execute the Waiver of Conflict letter for Stevens & Lee to represent the Wyomissing Square Commercial LLC for the exemption of real estate filed with the Berks County Board of Assessment Appeals, and potential appeals therefrom to the Berks County Court of Common Pleas.
 - 274.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification to the Department of Justice and U.S. Treasury Department reporting the federal drug forfeiture money received and spent by the District Attorney's Office for fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.
 - ~~275.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute agreement between the County of Berks ("County") and Aaron G. Sheasley ("Vendor") to provide independent contractor consulting services to the Berks County Election Services Department effective through November 30, 2022.~~
 - 276.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair to execute letter to Martin Petherbridge, Internal Audit Manager, to conduct the ALGA Standard Peer Review of the Berks County Controller's Office in accordance with the Government Auditing Standards (GAS), for the period of January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2021.
- 2. Motion to authorize execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as set forth on the attached listing dated August 8, 2022. There was a total of 9 contracts, and the departments were listed.
 - 3. Motion to authorize execution of the payments and electronic transfers as set forth on Controller's Office vouchers listing dated August 11, 2022.
 - 4. Motion to authorize execution of employee payroll disbursements dated August 16, 2022.

REPORTS OF TREASURER AND CONTROLLER

- 1. The weekly Treasurer's report was read by Linda Weaver, Chief Deputy Treasurer.
- 2. Sandy Graffius, Controller, presented the weekly Controller's report.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER – Ronald R. Seaman
He highlighted upcoming events in our Parks & Recreation department.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Rivera

He shared that all three Commissioners attended the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania annual conference. He congratulated Commissioner Leinbach for receiving the President's Award at the CCAP conference. He invited everyone to come out and enjoy the festivities of the Star City Boxing Peace & Gloves block party Saturday, August 13, 2022, starting at 1:00 PM at the corner of 5th and Penn streets.

Commissioner Barnhardt

He also congratulated Commissioner Leinbach on receiving the Presidential Award at CCAP conference. He announced that the Elections Communication Committee continues to meet and will put out positive information to further improve our ability to communicate to the polls to move forward to November 8th.

Commissioner Leinbach

He gave a brief breakdown of the topic of discussions of the breakout sessions at the CCAP annual conference. He mentioned taking students from Oley Valley High School to the Ag Progress Days and gave a list of the activities that took place during their visit.

ROW OFFICERS' COMMENTS

Sandy Graffius discussed the process of the audit review, which was voted on during today's meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Comments

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner Leinbach adjourned the meeting at 10:26 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carmen Torres, Chief Clerk