

## **Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes August 18, 2022**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Thursday, August 18, 2022, at 10:00 A.M. in the Commissioners' Boardroom, 13<sup>th</sup> 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 and Carmen Torres, Chief Clerk.

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

### **PRESENTATION**

Dr. Stacia Visgarda, Dean of Health Professions, was present and gave an update on RACC's Registered Nurse, Licensed Practical Nurse, Respiratory Care, and non-credit health care programs offered at RACC.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Commissioners' meeting minutes of August 11, 2022, were approved as presented.

Commissioner Leinbach noted two Executive Sessions were held; one session was held on August 17, 2022, dealing with litigation, and one session on August 18, 2022, dealing with personnel and litigation.

### **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.

1. Authorizing:

- 277.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2022 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$381,882 and 2022 Appropriations in the amount of \$413,145 per listing dated August 12, 2022.
- 278.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Pamela Seaman, Administrator Berks County MH/DD Program, to execute the Agreement with Teresa Weaver, registered therapy pet handler, for the use of therapy dogs to assist with Emergency Behavioral Health Team responses.

- 279.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing a letter of support to PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for Chester County Economic Development Council's (CCEDC) application for State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) funding which will be used to create the Pennsylvania Catalyst Fund (PCF) – a regional Revolving Loan Fund that will serve growing businesses in Berks, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, and Perry Counties.
  
  - 280.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Agreement between the County of Berks and The Berks County Industrial Development Authority, to assist the Reading Historic Properties, LP, with funding and other assistance for the development of the Trexler Mansion.
  
  - 281.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Certification of Use of Funds for the National Opioid Settlement funds.
  
  - 282.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute a right of way agreement between UGI Utilities, Inc. (“UGI”) and the County of Berks (“County”) to allow UGI to install an eight-inch (8”) underground gas main on County-owned property on the shoulder adjacent to approximately 1.2 miles of County Welfare Road in Bern Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.
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- 2. Motion to authorize execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as set forth on the attached listing dated August 15, 2022. A total of 9 contracts and 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 18, 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 called attention to the presentation of the Return of the Bats taking place this evening at the Berks County Heritage Center at 7:00 PM.

**COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Rivera

He stated that he toured Berks Nature, their rooftop patio, and the Berks Nature Preschool, which focuses on outdoor activities for kids, teaching them about nature. He congratulated Len Carmen, a Broadcaster who retired after 25 years broadcasting at WEEU. He encouraged all to participate in the Dairy Twilight tour in Kutztown at the Corner View Dairy Farm from 6-9 PM. He announced some of the groundbreaking projects that are taking place in the community this upcoming weekend. He reminded everyone of the Annual Berks County Latino Chamber Night Out at First Energy Stadium.

Commissioner Barnhardt

He gave an update on the ongoing public outreach efforts for the Berks County Correctional Facility plans. They had an in-person meeting at the Hope Rescue Mission and Berks Community Foundation, where they had impactful discussions about the new Correctional Facility. He indicated that the in-person visits will continue and will do some virtual visits if necessary. He is looking forward to the town hall meeting sometime in the fall to continue discussing the need for a new Correctional Facility. He stated that the second Elections Communication Meeting took place, and they are continuing to look for more effective methods of communication to/from Elections and the poll workers in the general public.

Commissioner Leinbach

He commented on the Berks Nature tour and the retirement gathering for Len Carmen. He spoke about the GRCA Homerun Derby and the Commissioners' participation in the event. He announced that he would be attending some groundbreaking projects over the weekend.

**ROW OFFICERS' COMMENTS**

No comments

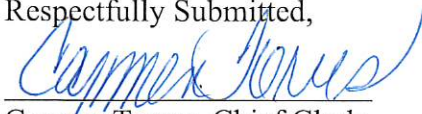
**PUBLIC COMMENT**

See attached

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Commissioner Leinbach adjourned the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carmen Torres, Chief Clerk