

## **Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes September 15, 2022**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Thursday, September 15, 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 Commissioners Kevin S. Barnhardt and Michael S. Rivera in attendance. Also present were Cody L. Kauffman, First Assistant Solicitor, Ronald R. Seaman, Chief Operating 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**

Stanley Papademetriou, Executive Director of the Berks County Council on Chemical Abuse ("COCA") thanked the Commissioners for again recognizing National Recovery Month, as it's always a pleasure to bring the voices and faces of those going through recovery. Mr. Papademetriou introduced Kathleen Noll as the next Executive Director of the Council on Chemical Abuse, taking over for him when he retires in December. Ms. Noll thanked the Board and is excited and honored to take on this new role and to serve and help others with their treatment and recovery.

Yvonne Stroman, Community Programs Specialist, was introduced and shared that she has been in recovery for 32 years, and it wouldn't have been possible without the financial assistance of the County. Kimberly Carlance, Community Outreach Coordinator of Easy Does It, Inc., thanked the Board for supporting and participating in their events. Judge Eleni Gaieshauser was present to support those individuals in their journey to recovery. Judge Geishauser spoke proudly of the Treatment Court programs and stated that Berks County has one of the best Treatment Courts in the Commonwealth. Ryan Herrera, Executive Director of Social Services at the Reading YMCA, gave an update on their programs and spoke highly of Camp Joy. He is thankful for the Commissioners and their participation in the Community.

Five individuals in recovery, Kayla Tanner, Carl Metzger, Colin Jordan, Donna Floyd, and Don Meck, shared their stories and thanked the Commissioners for providing public funding, which allows them to focus on their recoveries.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The September 8, 2022, Commissioners' meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Commissioner Leinbach noted that an Executive Session was held on September 14, 2022, dealing with personnel, litigation, and real estate.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

See attached

AGENDA ITEMS

A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt and seconded by Commissioner Rivera to approve the agenda as presented.

## 1. Authorizing:

309.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2022 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$32,380 and 2022 Appropriations in the amount of \$1,562,631 per listing dated September 9, 2022.

310.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations dated September 15, 2022, as follows:

1. Authorize the appointment of Colleen Painter to PC011981 Payroll Analyst, Human Resources Department, effective 09/28/2022. Rate of \$49,500/annually. Salary range Minimum \$37,114; Midpoint \$49,485; Maximum \$61,856. Replacing Debra Miller who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11410.
2. Authorize the appointment of John Greiner to Certified Legal Intern, Public Defender's Office, effective 09/28/2022. Rate of \$50,800/annually. Replacing Roarke Aston who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11570.
3. Authorize the appointment of Mary Stelmach to PC013445 Senior Governmental Accountant – Team Lead, Controller's Office, effective 10/05/2022. Rate of \$80,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$61,126; Midpoint \$81,502; Maximum \$101,877. Replacing Joseph Famiglietti who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11120.
4. Authorize the promotion of Silvia Gutierrez from PC010214 HAVA Support Coordinator to PC010260 Chief Registrar, Election Services, effective 09/16/2022. Rate of \$63,344/annually. This salary amount includes a temporary compensation received for additional duties that was approved by the Commissioners on 08/05/2022. Salary range Minimum \$41,168; Midpoint \$54,890; Maximum \$68,613. Replacing Delia Ruffner who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11050.
5. Authorize the promotion of Ibeth Ramirez from PC011020 Election Service Coordinator to PC010214 HAVA Support Coordinator, Election Services, effective 09/16/2022. Rate

of \$53,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$41,715; Midpoint \$55,620; Maximum \$69,525. Replacing Silvia Gutierrez who was promoted. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11050.

- 6. Authorize the promotion of Kathryn Calpino from PC012852 Part-time RN Staff Nurse to PC011630 Nursing Supervisor, Berks Heim Nursing, effective 09/28/2022. Rate of \$80,230/annually. Salary range Minimum \$56,769; Midpoint \$75,693; Maximum \$94,616. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 53000 – 33090.
- 7. Authorize a salary adjustment for Siara Wolf PC011634 Nursing Supervisor, Berks Heim Nursing, effective 09/16/2022. Rate of \$80,230/annually. Salary range Minimum \$56,769; Midpoint \$75,693; Maximum \$94,616. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 53000 – 33090.
- 8. Authorize salary adjustments effective 09/16/2022 for the Commissioner's Department per the attached Salary Adjustment memorandum.

311.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing the recommendation to award and the Director of Contracts and Procurement to execute, a contract as a result of ITB # 22-20-KS, Propane for a period of three (3) years for various County departments as follows:

**Sharp Energy**  
7205 Kernsville Road  
Orefield, PA 18069

Fixed Rate of Overhead Per Gallon (1.a.2 & 2.a.2): \$1.30  
Total Estimated Annual Expenditure: **\$45,581.15**  
Total Estimated Three years Expenditure: **\$136,743.45**

\*This is the Mont Belvieu Non-TET price on August 1, 2022, as reported by the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

The County reserves the right to extend the contract for two additional one-year terms upon mutual agreement of both parties in accordance with the terms of the contract governing the unit prices.

312.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing the recommendation to award and the Director of Contracts & Procurement to execute as a result of Invitation to Bid #22-15-GR a contract for the BCRC

Salt Shed and Jail Courtyard Paving Improvements as identified herein:

**New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc.**

167 New Enterprise Drive  
Leesport, PA 19533

**Total Bid Amount - Not to Exceed: \$392,730.00**

BCRC Salt Shed – Not to Exceed \$ 126,795.00

Jail Courtyard #1 – Not to Exceed \$ 132,515.00

Jail Courtyard #2 – Not to Exceed \$ 133,420.00

- 313.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Cody L. Kauffman, First Assistant County Solicitor, to execute the Stipulation for an Agreement for Payment in Lieu of Taxes By and Between Callan Housing, LLC, Supportive Concepts for Families, Inc., Antietam School District, and Berks County:
  - o Berks County Docket Number 17-21612
  
- 314.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Cody L. Kauffman, First Assistant County Solicitor, to execute three Stipulations for an Agreement for Payment in Lieu of Taxes By and Between Callan Housing, LLC, Supportive Concepts for Families, Inc., Twin Valley School District, and Berks County:
  - o Berks County Docket Number 17-21615
  - o Berks County Docket Number 17-21616
  - o Berks County Docket Number 17-21617
  
- 315.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the 2022 Help America Vote Act of 2002 (“HAVA”) Agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Department of State (“DOS”) and the County of Berks, for grant funds awarded in the amount of \$33,180.12.
  
- 316.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Department of the Army License for Blue Marsh Lake, Reading, Pennsylvania, with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Berks County for the use of a barn structure on a portion of Tract No. 300 by the Berks County Parks Department for a five (5) year term beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2027 in the amount of \$600.00 for the five (5) year term.
  
- 317.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair to execute an amended agreement of sale between AGR133, LLC, as Seller, and the County of Berks, as Purchaser, and related documents necessary to acquire a right of way, a utility easement, and a temporary construction easement relating to

the Spring Valley Road (Ebling Memorial Bridge) Bridge Replacement Project over Bernharts Creek, Muhlenberg Township, Berks County.

- 318.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair to execute an amended agreement of sale between Jay S. Baller and Theresa A. Baller, as Sellers, and the County of Berks, as Purchaser, and related documents necessary to a right of way and a slope easement relating to the Spring Valley Road (Ebling Memorial Bridge) Bridge Replacement Project over Bernharts Creek, Muhlenberg Township, Berks County.
- 319.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair to execute an amended agreement of sale between the City of Reading, as Seller, and the County of Berks, as Purchaser, and related documents necessary to acquire a right of way and a utility easement relating to the Spring Valley Road (Ebling Memorial Bridge) Bridge Replacement Project over Bernharts Creek, Muhlenberg Township, Berks County.
- 320.2022 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair to execute an amended agreement of sale between Eric K. Talford and Julian Talford, as Sellers, and the County of Berks, as Purchaser, and related documents necessary to acquire a right of way, a utility easement and a temporary construction easement relating to the Spring Valley Road (Ebling Memorial Bridge) Bridge Replacement Project over Bernharts Creek, Muhlenberg Township, Berks County.
2. Motion to authorize execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as set forth on the attached listing dated September 12, 2022. 8 Contracts
3. Motion to authorize execution of the payments and electronic transfers as set forth on Controller's Office vouchers listing dated September 15, 2022.

**REPORTS OF TREASURER AND CONTROLLER**

1. Linda Weaver, Chief Deputy Treasurer, presented the weekly Treasurer's report.
2. Grazyna Nykiel, First Deputy Controller, presented the weekly Controller's report.

**REPORT OF CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER** – Ronald R. Seaman

He called attention to a special event at the Berks Heritage Center, Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> from 12-4 PM.

**COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Rivera

He announced that September 15 - October 15 is National Hispanic Heritage month and detailed some of the events taking place throughout the community. He also revealed some of the other events taking place in Berks County throughout September.

Commissioner Barnhardt

He gave a list of the upcoming meetings for the Elections Board and the Berks County Correctional Facility Steering Committee. He reminded everyone of the upcoming Town Hall meeting scheduled for September 22nd starting at 5:30 PM to discuss the status of the new Correctional Facility. He announced the On the Road meeting in Birdsboro Borough Hall on September 29th.

Commissioner Leinbach

He announced that he participated in a visit from Dr. Miguel Cardona, Secretary of Education, who visited Reading Area Community College. He said he would visit the Scattered Acres Farm with Ed and Diane Hartman in Sinking Spring along with Russell Redding, PA Department of Agriculture Secretary.

**ROW OFFICERS' COMMENTS**

No Comments

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

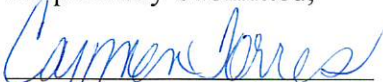
Adrian Jadic, Wyomissing, spoke about his concerns with the increase in prices from haulers for waste and recycling. He also noted that he has concerns with the billing practices from haulers.

Cody L. Kauffman, First Assistant Solicitor responded to a previous comment from Dwayne made during the September 8, 2022, meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Commissioner Leinbach adjourned the meeting at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carmen Torres, Chief Clerk

Source	Type	Identity	Timestamp	Conversation Id	Content
Moderator	Announcement	IS Production (SProduction@countyofberks.com)	9/7/2022 14:12	dbd1804e-4561-45ac-9724-c6092a4621f5	Public comment will be accepted in person and through the Q&A function. Please include your first name, last name and municipality for all comments. Any comments without name and municipality will not be considered. Each citizen can submit one comment. Comment length is dictated by limitations of the platform being used (Teams Q&A, Facebook, YouTube). In person comments will be accepted first, followed by comments submitted virtually. The meeting comment period is limited to a total of 30 minutes including both in person and virtual comments. This time period may be extended at the discretion of the Board. Please be concise. Comments that are germane to County business will be read during the meeting and should not be considered to be interactive dialog with the Commissioners. The County Solicitor shall be the final arbiter of whether a comment is germane and should be read. Any Commissioner response to public comment will be done at the discretion of the Commissioners. For more information on the Council on Chemical Abuse please call (610) 376-8669 or go to <a href="https://ccabberks.org/">https://ccabberks.org/</a>
Moderator	Announcement	Berger, Heather (HBerger@countyofberks.com)	9/15/2022 14:09	18ca1c52-13d7-4d85-961c-abe385ea4e9	
Attendee	Question	Scott Althouse - EDI (Unverified)	9/15/2022 14:16	0067b029-37b2-43b5-8a45-03c2d665e872	Thank you the Chairman Leinbach, Commissioner Barnhardt, and Commissioner Rivera. I am sorry I cannot be there in person today, but I salute the County's support for recovery housing and support services!
Moderator	Response	Leinbach, Christian Y (CLeinbach@countyofberks.com)	9/15/2022 14:39	0067b029-37b2-43b5-8a45-03c2d665e872	You're here in spirit!(Scott: Althouse - EDI (Unverified) asked "Thank you the Chairman Leinbach, Commissioner Barnhardt, and Commissioner Rivera. I am sorry I cannot be there in person today, but I salute the County's support for recovery housing and support services!")
Moderator	Announcement	Berger, Heather (HBerger@countyofberks.com)	9/15/2022 14:19	2e41489e-3fd6f-41d5-999a-dc16778f34f8	Easy Does It, inc. provides recovery services in Berks. To learn more, call (610) 373-2463 or go to <a href="https://easydoesitinc.org/">https://easydoesitinc.org/</a>
Moderator	Announcement	Berger, Heather (HBerger@countyofberks.com)	9/15/2022 14:20	075b91ef-9489-408e-ba61-4257e87d2c2c	To learn more about YMCA of Reading and Berks and their services please call (610) 378-4700 or go to <a href="https://www.ymcaofbc.org/">https://www.ymcaofbc.org/</a>
Moderator	Announcement (Archived)	Berger, Heather (HBerger@countyofberks.com)	9/15/2022 14:44	291511e0-3b40-4756-b07c-17591f4f05e3	See more about the Berks Parks Programs at <a href="https://www.co.berks.pa.us/Dept/Parks/Pages/Programs-and-Events.aspx">https://www.co.berks.pa.us/Dept/Parks/Pages/Programs-and-Events.aspx</a>
Moderator	Announcement (Archived)	Berger, Heather (HBerger@countyofberks.com)	9/15/2022 14:57	b469cb3f-1960-45b6-a13a-5689ceeeccf8	See more about the Berks Parks Programs at <a href="https://www.co.berks.pa.us/.../Pages/Programs-and-Events.aspx">https://www.co.berks.pa.us/.../Pages/Programs-and-Events.aspx</a> Reply 12m Edited
Moderator	Announcement	Berger, Heather (HBerger@countyofberks.com)	9/15/2022 14:57	295475c-78bc-471e-968d-4c9481557596	See more about the Berks Parks Programs at <a href="http://www.co.berks.pa.us/.../Pages/Programs-and-Events.aspx">http://www.co.berks.pa.us/.../Pages/Programs-and-Events.aspx</a>
Moderator	Announcement	Berger, Heather (HBerger@countyofberks.com)	9/15/2022 14:58	a0f80ec5-ded0-44ac-a1a4-9062ddcb91af	Thank you for your questions and comments. This Q&A is closed as the public comments have been addressed.