

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes January 30, 2020

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, January 30, 2020, at 10:00 A.M. in the Commissioners' Boardroom, 13th floor 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 Michael S. Rivera in attendance. Also present were County Solicitor Christine M. Sadler, Chief Administrative Officer Ronald R. Seaman and Chief Clerk Maryjo Gibson.

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

Presentation

Commissioner Kevin S. Barnhardt, Chair of the Census 2020 - Berks Complete Count Committee, and Michael Golembiewski, Planner III, Transportation Planner, Berks County Planning Commission, presented a PowerPoint update on the 2020 Census. Commissioner Barnhardt pointed out that an undercount for Berks County will severely limit the amount of federal funds available to Berks County.

Commissioner Barnhardt noted different areas of Berks County will be receiving different variations of postcards and paper forms, noting some will be in English only while other areas will receive postcards and/or paper in English and Spanish. The PowerPoint presentation will be posted today or tomorrow on the County's homepage.

Mr. Golembiewski reported filling out the Census form will also be available via internet, and the Census Bureau is strongly encouraging the public to use the internet.

Mr. Golembiewski commented not everyone will be receiving the same form, and they are uniquely identified to your address.

The postcards will be appearing in mailboxes about a week before April 1, 2020.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of January 23, 2020 Commissioners' Board Meeting and January 23, 2020 Budget/Operations Meeting were approved as presented.

Commissioner Leinbach announced there were three Executive Sessions held; January 28, 2020; January 29, 2020 and this morning, January 30, 2020, all dealing with personnel.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Jess Royer, Spring Township, mentioned the Agenda for today's Meeting was not posted on the County's homepage. Chief Clerk Maryjo Gibson acknowledged there were technical issues last evening, but those issues have been resolved and the Agenda is now posted.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt to approve the Agenda as presented. Said motion was seconded by Commissioner Rivera, and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
 - 42.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2019 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$10,301; 2019 Appropriations in the amount of \$8,218; and 2020 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$68,262 per listing dated January 27, 2020.
 - 43.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated January 30, 2020 as follows:
 1. Authorize the appointment of Nicole Schwamberger to PC012326 Social Worker – Berks Heim Social Services, effective 02/19/2020. Rate of \$37,050/annually. Salary range Minimum \$33,744; Midpoint \$44,991; Maximum \$56,239. Replacement for Helene Salgado who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 53000 – 33140.
 2. Authorize the promotion of Ashley Showers from PC011993 Planner II to PC013418 Assistant Director of Planning – Planning Commission, effective 02/05/2020. Rate of \$72,046/annually. Salary range Minimum \$52,428; Midpoint \$69,905; Maximum \$87,381. Position created by Salary Board on 01/06/2020. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11140.
 3. Authorize salary adjustment for Katelyn Rentschler PC012773 Senior Financial Analyst – Budget and Finance Department, effective 02/05/2020. Rate of \$57,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$43,333; Midpoint \$57,778; Maximum \$72,222. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11400.
 - 44.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of Donald Moll, Reading, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Solid Waste Authority to fill the unexpired term of Dale-Ann Farina. This term will expire December 31, 2021.

- 45.2020 Adopt a resolution of the Board of Commissioners declaring an emergency to exist with respect to defective sewage pump electrical equipment at the Berks County Jail, and authorizing acceptance of the proposal by Pagoda Electrical, Inc., Reading, Pennsylvania, in the not to exceed amount of \$26,911 to replace and repair the faulty equipment.
- 46.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute a letter to McTish-Kunkel and Associates, 3500 Winchester Road, Suite 300, Allentown, PA 18104, granting an extension of time of five and one-half (5.5) months for completion of Construction Inspection Services of the Dreibelbis Station Covered Wooden Bridge rehabilitation project until July 31, 2020. This extension is required match the Contractor's time extension previously granted through PennDOT to complete the physical work and finalize all records supporting this project. There are no additional costs associated with this extension of time. This extension has been reviewed and endorsed by the PennDOT District 5-0 project manager.
- 47.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute a letter to P. Joseph Lehman, Inc. Olde Farm Office Center, P.O. Box 419, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648, granting an extension of time of twelve (12) months for completion of Part IV (Services During Construction) of the Dreibelbis Station Covered Wooden Bridge rehabilitation project until November 30, 2020. This extension is required to answer any questions the Contractor may have in completing this project. There are no additional costs associated with this extension of time. This extension has been reviewed and endorsed by the PennDOT District 5-0 project manager.
- 48.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Organizational/Facility Credentialing Application and W-9 form for AmeriHealth Caritas regarding the Berks Heim Nursing and Rehabilitation.
- 49.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Memorandum of Agreement Regarding One-Year Contract Extensions between the County of Berks and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, District Council 88, Local 462, on behalf of Court Appointed/Court Related and Residual Bargaining Unit employees expiring December 31, 2020.

January 30, 2020

2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator per listing dated January 28, 2020. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 9 contracts and referenced the departments.
3. Motion authorizing payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated January 28, 2020 for week ending January 29, 2020 and the payment of electronic transfers and employee payroll.

Reports

1. County Treasurer A. Dennis Adams, CPA submitted a prepared weekly Treasurer's report.
2. County Controller Sandy Graffius was absent. The Controller's weekly report was presented by Deputy Controller Ronald Rutkowski.

REPORT OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Commissioner Leinbach reported there would not be a Budget/Ops Meeting this afternoon

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Ronald R. Seaman shared an article written by Amy Duke he received this morning from Penn State Extension Service highlighting a study of the economic impact of the Spotted Lanternfly on Berks County. Mr. Seaman advised the Commissioners he will add a link to the article along additional information on the County's homepage. Mr. Seaman also reported there will be a public meeting regarding the Spotted Lanternfly April 14, 2020 at the Lebanon County Penn State Extension Office.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt

Commissioner Barnhardt reported he still has some Census rack cards available for the 2020 Census and is hoping to shortly be receiving some in Spanish.

Commissioner Barnhardt introduced Josh Adams, a student at the Janus School in Mt. Joy, Lancaster County, who is job shadowing Commissioner Barnhardt, Recorder of Deeds Mary Kozak and will be visiting the Assessment Office.

Commissioner Rivera

Commissioner Rivera reported last evening he attended along with Commissioner Barnhardt, the Berks County Libraries Award Ceremony and congratulated all the Library employees who received an award.

Commissioner Rivera reported last Friday he attended the 2020 Greater Reading Chamber Alliance Commissioners' Update Breakfast, and congratulated Gail Landis, who recently retired as Sr. Vice President, Government & Community Relations from the Chamber, and was a great asset to the Chamber and to the County.

Commissioner Leinbach

No comments currently.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Jess Royer, Spring Township, talked about the ever-growing problem of youth homelessness, and referenced the recent article in the Reading Eagle concerning the large number of homeless young people in Berks County. Mr. Royer suggested the Commissioners divert County funding from the Berks County Residential Center to fight youth homelessness.

Reverend Evelyn Morrison, Reading, asked the Commissioners if they would perform an evaluation of compliance or monitor how families of color are being impacted in Berks County Children and Youth Services. Ms. Morrison also expressed her concern over the low number of people of color in human resources, management and supervisory positions in local partnerships and businesses in Berks County, and asked the County to review it's EEOC, 02, 03, 04 regarding people of color.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:29 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk