

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes January 31, 2019

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, January 31, 2019, 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 Mark C. Scott 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.

Commissioner Leinbach announced there was an Executive Session held yesterday, January 30, 2019 regarding contract negotiations and personnel.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of January 24, 2019 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

None.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt to approve the Agenda as presented. Commissioner Scott seconded the motion with a request to comment. Request granted by the Chair.

Commissioner Scott stated he will be voting in favor of Item 47.19 A, the appointment of Andy Muller to the Reading Regional Airport Authority for another five year term. Commissioner Scott acknowledged Mr. Muller is an accomplished, talented entrepreneur, but is concerned that sometimes these individuals have conflicts of interest that could inhibit their ability to fully participate in Boards, and is concerned this could be the case with Mr. Muller. Commissioner Scott noted Mr. Muller has contributed significantly to the Airport Board and on that basis; he will be supporting his reappointment.

Commissioner Leinbach noted Mr. Muller is his appointment, and has met with Mr. Muller before he made the appointment, and looked into the potential of any conflicts. Commissioner Leinbach stated Mr. Muller does not participate in any discussions or votes in any matter where a conflict exists, including matters relative to any fixed based operations.

Seeing no further comments, all voted unanimously to approve the Agenda items as presented.

41.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2018 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$466,090; 2018 Appropriations in the amount of \$110,849; 2019 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$132,429 and 2019 Appropriations in the amount of \$1,239,983 per listing dated January 28, 2019.

42.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated January 31, 2019 as follows:

1. Authorize the appointment of Alison Trautmann to PC011947 Outreach Services Coordinator – Library Systems, effective 3/6/2019. Rate of \$50,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$43,539; Midpoint \$58,053; Maximum \$72,566. Replacement for Erin Hauenstein who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 16050.
2. Authorize the transfer of Jennifer Marks from PC012455 Watch Officer to PC011019 Training & Education Manager – Department of Emergency Services, effective 1/30/2019. Rate of \$65,600/annually. Salary range Minimum \$49,363; Midpoint \$65,817; Maximum \$82,271. Replacement for Kevin Neiswender who transferred. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 16020.
3. Authorize the promotion of Gary Bair from PC010225 Carpenter to PC011076 Facilities Manager – Facilities & Operations, effective 1/30/2019. Rate of \$60,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$49,516; Midpoint \$66,021; Maximum \$82,526. Replacement for James Moorman who retired. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11030.
4. Authorize the promotion of Cindy Milian from PC010540 County Caseworker II to PC013124 County Caseworker Supervisor – Children & Youth Services, effective 2/6/2019. Rate of \$53,500/annually. Salary range Minimum \$43,747; Midpoint \$58,329; Maximum \$72,912. Replacement for Brandon Clinton who transferred. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 22000 – 23200.
5. Authorize salary increase for Stacey Martz, PC011152 Judicial Administrative Assistant – Court Administration, effective 1/23/2019. Rate of \$50,368/annually. Salary range Minimum \$33,721; Midpoint \$44,961; Maximum \$56,202.

The requested salary increase is based on the Judicial Administrative Assistant compensation structure previously approved by Salary Board. Budget 10000 – 11600.

- 43.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Proposed Program Costs for Capital Blue effective January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019. The only change was to lower the Out of Pocket Maximums for the UFCW plan on the health care portion to be in compliance with the law.
- 44.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing the award and the Director of Contracts & Procurement to execute, as a result of Invitation to Bid #18-22-GR, two (2) contracts for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Capital Improvements Project as identified herein:
- LB Industries, Inc.**
2290 Wassergass Road
Hellertown, PA 18055
Total Bid Not to Exceed Amount for Contract #1
General/Mechanical: \$2,658,040.00 (Item Numbers 1-13)
- H.B. Frazer Company - Pennsylvania**
3 Morgan Drive
Reading, PA 19608
Total Bid Not to Exceed Amount for Contract #2
Electrical: \$104,494.00
- 45.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Agreement for Temporary Use of Premises between the Reading Area Water Authority (“RAWA”) and the County of Berks to allow temporary use by RAWA to utilize County Bridge 59C, Berkley Bridge over the Willow Creek in Ontelaunee Township, to perform construction work at RAWA’s facility located at 108 Berkley Road.
- 46.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Robert Bagenstose, Reading, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Council on Chemical Abuse Advisory Board for a three (3) year term expiring February 1, 2022.
- 47.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Andy Muller, Kutztown, Pennsylvania, to the Reading Regional Airport Authority for a five (5) year term expiring March 13, 2023.
- 48.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Carl Brown, Reading, Pennsylvania, to the Council on Chemical Abuse Advisory Board for a three (3) year term expiring February 1, 2022.

- 49.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Mitchell Darcourt, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania, as Chairman of the Berks County Board of Assessment Appeals for a one (1) year term expiring December 31, 2019.
- 50.19 Adopt a resolution approving an increase in the legal fee rate paid to The MacMain Law Group, LLC, West Chester, Pennsylvania, for legal representation for insurance ("PCoRP") related matters and non-insurance related matters as assigned by the County Solicitor.
2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator per listing dated January 29, 2019. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are seven contracts on the published Agenda, but two have just been pulled because the Reading Hospital has not executed and returned their agreements. Commissioner Leinbach reported on the remaining five contracts and referenced the departments.
3. Motion authorizing payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated January 29, 2019 for week ending January 30, 2019 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. The Controller's weekly report was presented by County Controller Sandy Graffius.

REPORT OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Commissioner Leinbach reported there will not be a Budget/Operations Meeting this afternoon.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

None.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt

Commissioner Barnhardt announced the monthly Opioid Coalition/SOS Berks meeting will be held tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. at Alvernia University. Two new initiatives will be discussed; Blue Cares and looking at rapid response training for EMS and law enforcement individuals.

Commissioner Scott

Commissioner Scott commented on yesterday's indictment of John Dougherty, head of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 98 in Philadelphia, and other local Philadelphia elected officials, and the connection these indictments have with Vaughn Spencer.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach reported on Tuesday he attended the CCAP Annual Priority Day in Harrisburg, where the committee met with leadership in both parties, and announced a bi-partisan package of bills dealing with constitutional amendment changes in the law regarding election reform, and discussions on mental illness in county jails, human services funding reform, broadband services and assessment reform.

Commissioner Leinbach read from a Memorandum drafted by State Representative Thomas Caltagirone regarding his efforts on increasing Medicare reimbursements for nursing homes. A copy of the Memorandum is attached.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

Recorder of Deeds Fred Sheeler again reminded the public to be cautious of certain organizations that solicit money in exchange for providing a copy of deeds. Mr. Sheeler will provide a copy of a deed at no charge.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Leonard Myers, Fleetwood, read a letter, attached hereto, composed by Indivisible Berks asking the Commissioners to stop the process of selling the Berks Heim.

Crystal Kowalski, Wyomissing, asked if the law firm in Item 50.19 is the main law firm the County uses for litigation, and what is the percentage rate increase. Solicitor Sadler responded MacMain is one of several law firms the County uses. The increase is \$25 per hour, and this is the first increase for this firm in seven years, and remains one of the lowest paid law firms the County uses.

Joseph Rudderow, Maiden creek Township Supervisor, asked because the contract for the Schaeffer Road Bridge project is not currently very active, if the County would work with contractor to temporarily open access to Cornerstone Road for local residents.

Louise Grim, Exeter Township, thanked Commissioner Leinbach for his efforts with the Berks Heim, remarking the County needs to preserve the Heim as a public entity.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:05 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk