

## **Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes February 7, 2019**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, February 7, 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, February 6, 2019 pertaining to personnel and real estate.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of January 31, 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. Said motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott, followed by a request by Commissioner Leinbach for comment.

Commissioner Leinbach commented after he had previously voted no on Items No. 57.18 and 58.18, he met with Ken Pick for further explanation of the grant process and understood Vesper and Sheet Metal Workers Local 19 had applied for and were already awarded the grants. Commissioner Leinbach noted he read the statute governing the process, and for those reasons he will be voting yes on Items No. 57.18 and 58.18.

Commissioner Leinbach also asked Mr. Pick to schedule a time to come before the Board of Commissioners to explain the process to the entire Board, and asked that the Commissioners be involved much earlier.

Commissioner Scott voted No on Resolution No. 57.19 and yes to Resolution No. 58.19. Commissioner Scott was concerned why a corporation would need \$1 million in a very hot market and where profits are being made, and where he understands at least one commissioner has received a campaign contribution.

Seeing no further comments, all voted unanimously to approve the items as presented, with the exception of Commissioner Scott's no vote on Item 57.19.

- 51.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2018 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$288,995; 2018 Appropriations in the amount of \$120,825; 2019 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$44,543 and 2019 Appropriations in the amount of \$11,142 per listing dated February 4, 2019.
- 52.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated February 7, 2019 as follows:
1. Authorize the appointment of Barbara Beringer to PC011114 Guardian ad Litem – Court Administration, effective 2/27/2019. Rate of \$57,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$49,121; Midpoint \$65,495; Maximum \$81,869. Replacement for Melissa Krishock who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11600.
  2. Authorize the transfer of Michael Smith from PC012746 Watch Officer to PC013381 Senior Watch Officer – Department of Emergency Services, effective 2/13/2019. Rate of \$65,565/annually. Salary range Minimum \$44,269; Midpoint \$59,025; Maximum \$73,781. New position created by Salary Board on 1/7/2019. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 51100 – 36010.
  3. Authorize the transfer of Heather Horst from PC012359 Switchboard Operator to PC011721 Office Support II – Berks Heim, effective 2/27/2019. Rate of \$32,526/annually. Salary range Minimum \$25,866; Midpoint \$34,487; Maximum \$43,109. Replacement for Linda Bloom who transferred. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 53000 – 33030.
  4. Authorize a stipend in the amount of \$269.23 per pay period for Ann Marie Cucinotta Botch, PC010792 Dependency Master – Court Administration, effective 1/1/2019. The stipend covers office reimbursement. Budget 10000 – 11600.
  5. Authorize a stipend in the amount of \$269.23 per pay period for Nancy Hughes, PC010793 Dependency Master – Court Administration, effective 1/1/2019. The stipend covers office reimbursement. Budget 10000 – 11600.

- 53.19 Adopt a resolution approving the revised Drug and Alcohol Policy effective February 7, 2019.
- 54.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute Utility Agreement 05U337 between the County of Berks and the Metropolitan Edison Company (Met-Ed), 2800 Pottsville Pike, Reading, PA, required to incorporate the adjustment and relocation of the Utility's facilities, including those outside of the public right of way, as part of the County Line Road a/k/a Burkey's Bridge Replacement Project (County Bridge #74B) in Washington Township as well as reimbursement to the Utility by the County for construction and installation costs related to the same. The estimated cost of this reimbursement is \$22,429.15.
- 55.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Engineering Services Agreement #EA-214176 between the County of Berks and SSM Group, Inc., Reading, Pennsylvania, to provide a proposal for DCNR Grant Assistance for the proposed ramp and storm water management plan at the Gring's Mill Recreational Facility at a not to exceed amount of \$2,400.00.
- 56.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Human Services Block Grant Report Certification Statement for Fiscal Year 2017/2018, Revision No. 1. This revision removes funding of \$7,202 received from York County, and offsets costs related to the Health Care Quality Unit Program.
- 57.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Agreement between the County of Berks ("County") and the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Berks ("Authority") whereby the County authorizes the Authority to assist Vesper at Berks, LLC ("Vesper") with funding and other assistance for the West Run Business Park ("Project") as a result of a Grant the Authority applied for and was awarded in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the Project.
- 58.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Agreement between the County of Berks ("County") and the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Berks ("Authority") whereby the County authorizes the Authority to assist the Sheet Metal Workers Local Union No. 19 ("Local 19") with funding and other assistance for the Local 19 Training Center ("Project") as a result of a Grant the Authority applied for and was awarded in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the Project.

- 59.19 Adopt a resolution authorizing the Chief Administrative Officer or the County Solicitor to be the designated signatory agents concerning motor vehicle lease documents with Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc.
2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator per listing dated February 5, 2019. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 14 contracts and referenced the departments.
3. Motion authorizing payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated February 5, 2019 for week ending February 6, 2019 and the payment of electronic transfers and employee payroll, and for the week ending February 13, 2019 due to cancellation of the February 14, 2019 Commissioners' Meeting.

### **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 announced there will not be a Budget/Operations Meeting this afternoon.

### **REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

Ronald R. Seaman announced the Berks County Park System will hold training for new and returning volunteers this Saturday, February 9, 2019 at the Heritage Center, and an open house at the Bingaman House.

### **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

#### **Commissioner Barnhardt**

Commissioner Barnhardt announced there will be a kick-off meeting with 2020 Census committee members April 1, 2019 at Albright College, and they will be sending invitation letters to those who participated in the 2010 Census. Commissioner Barnhardt reported 2020 Census currently has a budget of \$150,000, but hopes to receive an additional \$30,000.

#### **Commissioner Scott**

None.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach reported he and Commissioner Barnhardt attended the Berks County Parks meeting yesterday, where there was surprise presentation made by William Tobin, a Pennsylvania National Guardsman and a part-time ranger, who recognized three people in the Parks Department who served in the military with plaques to honor their leadership and commitment for their services.

Commissioner Leinbach announced there will not be a Commissioners' Board Meeting next week, February 14, 2019, because initially he would not be attending the Commissioners' Meeting, as well as Commissioner Scott; but because of security concerns, his mission trip to Haiti was cancelled.

Commissioner Leinbach presented a PowerPoint on the Medicare.gov website that shows comparisons in nursing home ratings.

Commissioner Leinbach reported yesterday he participated in a call with Kelly Andrisano, PACAH, and representatives from UFCW and SEIU to talk about strategy to bring the other 16 counties to lobby on IGT and Medicaid reimbursement rate, and will be asking Senators Argall, Schwank and Mench to introduce a companion bill to Representative Caltagirone's bill. Commissioner Leinbach also believes there could be an additional \$459,000 from the IGT based on 2019/2020 Fiscal Year figures. Commissioner Leinbach reported that union negotiations are continuing and the County is doing everything to preserve County ownership of the Heim.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS**

As a follow-up to the conversation concerning Vesper, Recorder of Deeds Fred Sheeler reported in the last twelve months his office has collected \$528,000 in transfer taxes paid by Vesper on acquisition of the properties located in Berks County; and the County has received \$8,000 on commission of the transfer taxes. Mr. Sheeler noted once those parcels are sold, the County will see more money come back through those transfer taxes.

County Controller Graffius reported her office is currently performing audits on all County elected officials, and has available a summary of the 2018 audit. Ms. Graffius also reported she is engaged in a peer review process with other Controllers.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

Bill Dorward, Sheet Metal Workers and Kutztown resident, thanked the Board for their support and vote for approving the grant application for the Local 19 Training Center.

Crystal Kowalski, Wyomissing, thanked Commissioner Leinbach for his presentation and is hopeful about the extra money from the IGT.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:02 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk