

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes February 13, 2020

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, February 13, 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.

Commissioner Leinbach announced there was an Executive Session held yesterday, February 12, 2020 dealing with personnel and litigation.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of February 6, 2020 Commissioners' Board Meeting and February 6, 2020 Budget/Operations 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 Rivera, and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:

63.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2019 Budget Transfers in the amount of 10,290; 2019 Appropriations in the amount of \$20,580; 2020 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$575,174 and 2020 Appropriations in the amount of \$15,309 per listing dated February 10, 2020.

64.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing the award and the Director of Contracts and Procurement to execute two (2) one (1) year contracts as a result of ITB# 19-39-ES, Food Provisions, Produce to be utilized by the Berks County Jail System, Berks Residential Center and Berks Heim as follows:

Bedway Produce Company
30 Ave E
Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

J. Ambrogi Foods

1400 Metropolitan Ave,
Thorofare, NJ. 08086

The estimated annual spend for produce for County of Berks facilities is **\$227,365.84**.

Pricing for produce shall be quoted and awarded by the Purchasing Department to one vendor on a weekly basis. Awarded vendors shall submit quotes in accordance with the requirements identified within the ITB listed within their respective agreements, awarded pricing will be firm for all deliveries occurring the following calendar week (Sunday-Saturday).

The County reserves the right to extend the contract for two (2) additional one (1) year terms upon mutual agreement of both parties in accordance with the terms of the contract governing the unit prices.

- 65.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing the award and Director of Contracts and Procurement to execute as a result of ITB # 19-38-GW, four (4) two (2) year contracts, each with two (2) one (1) year options to extend, for Pest Control Services to be utilized by various County facilities as follows:

Western Pest Services

3310 West Chester Pike
Newtown Squire, PA 19073

Total Estimated Annual Expenditure (Option A): **\$12,228.00**

Tri-County Termite & Pest Control, Inc.

189 Delaware Avenue
Carneys Point, NJ 08069

Total Estimated Annual Expenditure (Option A): **\$1,950.00**

R.A.T.T., Inc. DBA Orkin Pest Control

800 Shoemaker Avenue
Shoemakersville, PA 19555

Total Estimated Annual Expenditure (Group C &D): **\$3,204.50**

Rentokil North America, Inc. dba JC Ehrlich

10 Vanguard Drive, Suite 80
Reading, PA 19606

Total Estimated Annual Expenditure (Group E): **\$460.00**

- 66.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Data Sharing and Use Agreement between the County of Berks and Service Access and Management, Inc. for the exchange of information between the County and Service Access and Management, Inc. as part of the parties' participation in the Stepping Up Project.
- 67.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing Brian Gottschall, Director of Berks County Emergency Services, to execute the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Fiscal Year 2020-2022 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant Agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency ("PEMA") for the award of \$15,944 in federal funds to assist in HAZMAT Training.
- 68.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency ("PEMA") 9-1-1 Statewide Interconnectivity Funding Grant Agreement setting forth the responsibilities between PEMA and the County for distribution and use of State funding for the Berks Mobile Field Collection Project.
- 69.2020 Adopt a resolution ratifying, confirming and approving Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, execution of the Pennsylvania PROMISE™ Provider Enrollment Base Application for enrollment in Medical Assistance (MA) and the Special Provider Agreement for the Berks Heim Nursing and Rehabilitation, and all necessary related documents.
- 70.2020 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 Penn State Health ("PSH") with funding and other assistance for the Cardiac Catheterization Lab-Saint Joseph ("Project") as a result of a grant the Authority applied for and was awarded in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the Project.
- 71.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Engineering Services Agreement #EA-225662-20 between the County of Berks and Schnabel Engineering, LLC, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania, to provide inspection services for Antietam Dam, Lower Alsace Township, Berks County at a not to exceed amount of \$7,700.00.

- 72.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Miguel Ocasio, Reading, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Housing Authority for a five (5) year term expiring December 31, 2024.
2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator per listing dated February 10, 2020. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 5 contracts and referenced the departments.
 3. Motion authorizing payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated February 11, 2020 for week ending February 12, 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. The Controller's weekly report was presented by County Controller Sandy Graffius.

REPORT OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Robert Patrizio was absent for his report.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Ronald R. Seaman reported the Budget/Ops Meeting will begin at 2:00 p.m. and there will be a presentation from Vistacom and BCTV on proposed changes to the Boardroom and Planning Commission Library for broadcast services; two initiatives from Commissioner Leinbach for a Jail Construction Steering Committee and S.E.T. Committee (Safety and Efficiency Task Force), and a presentation by Commissioner Barnhardt on his ten-year capital timeline.

Yesterday Mr. Seaman attended his annual Pesticide Applicator Continuing Education session and shared some important information regarding the Spotted Lanternfly ("SLF") and honey bees. Mr. Seaman reported there was a presentation from two Entomologists from Penn State College of Agriculture who found a link between efforts to control SLF and honey bees. Because of improper use of pesticides and going beyond proper application, the pesticide is being transmitted through the SLF honeydew and carried back to the bee hive by the bees. Mr. Seaman stated this is changing the taste of honey and making it unpalatable, and researchers are actually finding traces of pesticides in the honey. Mr. Seaman said a local beekeeper attended the session and reported her entire honey crops located in Kempton and Lenharstville were destroyed because of the bad taste. Mr. Seaman urged people to use pesticides only as directed on the package.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**Commissioner Barnhardt**

Commissioner Barnhardt reported he has received a new supply of rack cards for Census 2020 in both English and Spanish.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported the Census 2020 Committee has been advised the Republican National Committee has put out a questionnaire almost identical to the Census 2020 questionnaire, and cautioned the community not to get fooled into filling out the wrong questionnaire.

Commissioner Rivera

Commissioner Rivera provided an update on the workforce labor market in Berks County, noting more people are looking for work and there are currently 208,000 people working in Berks County, an all-time record. Commissioner Rivera reported even non-farm jobs are at an all-time high, and manufacturing added over 700 jobs in 2019, the healthcare labor market remains strong, and construction wages are higher and should remain high in order to retain and keep good workers. Mr. Rivera said this trend will continue and is very good news for Berks County.

Commissioner Rivera toured Reading Area Community College yesterday and was very impressed with the great Mechatronics Program RACC offers.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach complimented County Solicitor Christine M. Sadler for her efforts on behalf of the County and in conjunction with the District Attorney, who became involved in a case regarding the incarceration of an individual arising from a traffic case before Magisterial District Judge Robinson.

Ms. Sadler explained how the incident resulted from traffic stop where the individual was issued twelve citations and jailed for failure to make payment on a traffic citation.

Ms. Sadler noted there were two major breakdowns in the legal system that caused the unjust incarceration of the individual and is an example of where the system is broken.

Ms. Sadler said this could have been avoided if the law was followed, processing procedures were properly followed and the individual was provided his rights he was entitled to.

Ms. Sadler is working with the District Attorney to determine how this case can be used as a way to bring meaningful change to a system that needs intensive review.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

None.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Carlos Zayas, Reading, commented on Census 2020 and believes the maps setting forth the mailing strategies for the City and the County are wrong. Mr. Zayas believes the percentage of Hispanic speaking individuals is not correct and should be refigured before any of the mailers and questionnaires are sent out.

Glenn B. Reber, Reading and former County Commissioner, asked if the old/used computers the County discards can be donated to poor people or children. Commissioner Leinbach explained that the County changes computers every five to six years and the hard drives are destroyed making the computers useless.

Crystal Kowalski, Wyomissing, thanked Ms. Sadler for her time and efforts and clear comments on this case, which in her opinion emphasizes the need for a community oversight board.

Patrick Murray, Shillington, announced the Annual Black Balloon event will be held March 5, 2020 at the Shillington Market. Mr. Murray started this event in memory of his brother who died of an opioid overdose. All proceeds go to the Opioid Coalition and to fight opioid addiction.

Bill Murray, Wyomissing, complimented Mr. Murray's efforts and talked about his experiences at the Black Balloon event. Mr. Murray lost his son to opioid overdose about 15 years ago.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:59 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk