

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes February 23, 2017

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, February 23, 2017, at 10:00 A.M. in the Boardroom on the 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 in attendance. Commissioner Scott was absent. 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.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of February 16, 2017 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, but before the final vote, Mr. Patrizio requested an amendment to add an additional name, Dianne Gattorno, to Item 64.17, in the event the current Administrator is unavailable. Commissioner Barnhardt motioned to accept the amendment and was seconded by Commissioner Leinbach, and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below as amended.
 - 63.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2016 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$1,221,521; 2016 Appropriations in the amount of \$19,414; 2017 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$103,062 and 2017 Appropriations in the amount of \$355,410 per listing dated February 21, 2017.
 - 64.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Terence Brennan, Administrator at the Berks Heim Nursing and Rehabilitation, to execute the 2017-2108 PELICAN Renewal Quotation, for the Berks Heim Nursing and Rehabilitation Liability and MCARE Assessment Program presented by EH&D through the Pelican Insurance Program, and administered by CCAP (County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania).
 - 65.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated February 23, 2017 as follows:

1. Authorize the appointment of Molly Sanders to PC011112 Guardian Ad Litem – Court Administration, effective 3/1/2017. Rate of \$54,343/annually. Salary range Minimum \$49,121; Midpoint \$65,495; Maximum \$81,869. Replacement for Cathy Badal who is retiring. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11600.
2. Authorize the appointment of Kristine Cahill to PC011114 Guardian Ad Litem – Court Administration, effective 3/29/2017. Rate of \$55,343/annually. Salary range Minimum \$49,121; Midpoint \$65,495; Maximum \$81,869. Replacement for Wendie Ziegler who is retiring. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11600.
3. Authorize the appointment of James Goldsmith to PC010162 Assistant District Attorney IV – District Attorney's Office, effective 3/22/2017. Rate of \$60,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$54,395; Midpoint \$72,527; Maximum \$90,659. Replacement for Carmen Bloom White who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11580.
4. Authorize the promotion of Miguel Castro from PC013023 Lieutenant to PC013022 Captain – Jail System, effective 3/1/2017. Rate of \$72,516/annually. Salary range Minimum \$52,656; Midpoint \$70,209; Maximum \$87,761. Replacement for Fernando Torres who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 12090.

Commissioner Barnhardt remarked that Mr. Castro did a phenomenal job of getting the County compliant with PREA (“Prison Rape Elimination Act”), and this promotion is well deserved.

- 66.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing the award and the Director of Contracts & Procurement to execute as a result of Invitation to Bid #17-01-KO a contract for Underground Storage Tank Removal & Closure - Construction project as identified herein:

TTI Environmental, Inc.
1253 North Church Street
Moorestown, NJ 08057
Total (Not to Exceed) - \$69,964.00

- 67.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Edward Anewalt, Bernville, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Parks and Recreation Board for a four (4) year term expiring March 10, 2021.
- 68.17 Adopt a resolution of the Berks County Board of Commissioners approving the financing by the Maxatawny Township Municipal Authority (“Authority”) of a project that consists of (i) the design, construction, equipping and furnishing of renovations to the Old Main building on the campus of The Lutheran Home at Topton to house a Center for Permanency and other services; and (ii) the payment of the costs of issuance of the 2017 Note; and further authorizing the Chair, or in his absence, any other member of the Board to act on its behalf, to execute the “approval of applicable representative” form.
Old Main, LLC, a Pennsylvania limited liability company (the “Company”), whose sole member is Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries, a Pennsylvania not-for-profit corporation, has requested the assistance of the Authority in connection with the financing of this project, and pursuant to Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, the “applicable elected representative” of the governmental unit having jurisdiction over the area in which the Project is located must approve the issuance of the debt.
Peter Edelman, Esq., bond counsel to Old Main, LLC, remarked this is the standard resolution approving bond financing. The proceeds of the bond will be used to finance renovations and improvements to the Old Main building at The Lutheran Home at Topton.
- 69.17 Adopt a resolution ratifying, confirming and approving the Chief Clerk to advertise enactment of proposed Berks County Ordinance No. 01-2017 approving the participation in and execution of an Intergovernmental Transfer Agreement between the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Long-Term Living (“DHS-OLTL”) and Berks County for intergovernmental transfers of funds to DHS-OLTL in order to provide the non-federal share of Medical Assistance payment to County Nursing Facilities.
2. Motion authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach as Chairman of the Board, to execute Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator, per listing dated February 21, 2017. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 8 contracts and referenced the departments.

3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated February 21, 2017 for week ending February 22, 2017 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 J. Patrizio reported today the Commissioners will receive a cash flow update for 2017, 2018 and 2019; a discussion on the need for office space for the contract attorney, and a request from Justin Loose to move an IS project from 2018 to 2017.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Ronald R. Seaman had no comments.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt provided follow up comments on the recent award of a contract for a feasibility study of the RACC Pedestrian Bridge, and clarified some concerns going around on social media about the future and access of the Bridge. Commissioner Barnhardt reported that the County will not cut off access to pedestrians and bikers to the Bridge until an alternate way across the Schuylkill River is known, and that will tie into PennDOT plans for the Bingaman Street Bridge.

On another matter, Commissioner Barnhardt reminded everyone of the public meeting scheduled Saturday, February 25, 2017 beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Reading City Council Chambers seeking input from the public on the future direction of the Mount Penn Preserve Area.

Commissioner Leinbach remarked he does not support removing the RACC Pedestrian Bridge until an alternative is built by PennDOT at the Bingaman Street Bridge area. Commissioner Leinbach announced on March 17, 2017 the Agricultural Career Fair will be held at the Berks County Agriculture Center, and is free and open to everyone. Commissioner Leinbach commented there will be a large number of exhibitors, and there will be interviews for student and discussions about careers in agriculture. In addition, on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 is National Ag Day and Open House at the Agriculture Center, and there will be special events and panel discussions throughout the day. The theme this year is "Markets: Growing and Selling".

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Frederick Sheeler, Berks County Recorder of Deeds, offered comments on tax exempt bond issue currently being debated in Washington, opining they are another example of campaign financing running amok, but admitting most of these projects are needed and are good for the community.

Dennis Adams, Berks County Treasurer, reported on January 17, 2017, 9,736 County unpaid tax bills were turned over to his office and totaled approximately \$19,436,000. Mr. Adams announced on Tuesday, February 28th, the 2017 County tax bills will be mailed out.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:35 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk