

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes February 25, 2016

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, February 25, 2016, 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 and Commissioner Mark C. Scott in attendance. Also present were County Solicitor Christine M. Sadler, Chief Operating Officer Carl E. Geffken 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 an Executive Session was held February 17, 2016 dealing with personnel.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of February 18, 2016 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Scott and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
 - 51.16 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2015 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$36,808.00, 2016 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$68,711.00 and 2016 Appropriations in the amount of \$38,139.00 per listing dated February 23, 2016.
 - 52.16 Adopt a resolution authorizing Terence Brennan, Administrator at the Berks Heim Nursing and Rehabilitation, to execute the proposal from CCAP (County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania) to renew the Berks Heim Nursing and Rehabilitation Liability and MCARE Assessment Program presented by EH&D through the Pelican Insurance Program and administered by CCAP.

Mike Malinowski, EH&D, commented this is a great program and is a renewal of entering in the standard PCoRP program last year when the Heim property was put in that program. Mr. Malinowski commented this is a big savings to the County and this year's renewal is a flat 1% over the expired premium and comes in 6% under budget. The MCARE is up about 28% and is a cost the County cannot control.

53.16 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated February 25, 2016 as follows:

1. Authorize the transfer of Nicole Blanding, PC013117 Office Support III to PC012684 Accounting Assistant – Treasurer's Department, effective 3/2/2016. Rate of \$37,500/annually. Salary range Minimum \$33,928; Midpoint \$45,237; Maximum \$56,547. Replacement for Joanne Henny who retired. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11090.
2. Authorize the appointment of James Edward to PC011259 Law Clerk I – Court Administration, effective 3/2/2016. Rate of \$19.27/hour. Salary range Minimum \$40,078; Midpoint \$53,438; Maximum \$66,797. Replacement for Charles Prutzman who transferred. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11600.
3. Authorize the appointment of Michelle Todd to PC013171 Scheduler - Jail System, effective 3/9/2016. Rate of \$33,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$31,189; Midpoint \$41,585; Maximum \$51,982. New position created by Salary Board on 12/17/2015. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 12090.
4. Authorize the appointment of Kathryn Dietrich to PC011134 Internal Auditor – Controller's Office, effective 3/9/2016. Rate of \$45,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$41,887; Midpoint \$55,849; Maximum \$69,811. Replacement for Lynn Lickman who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11120.
5. Authorize the appointment of Krista McIlhane to PC011072 Children and Youth Services Administrator – Children and Youth Services, effective 3/9/2016. Rate of \$87,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$71,965; Midpoint \$95,953; Maximum \$119,942. Replacement for George Kovarie who retired. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 22000 – 23200.

Commissioner Leinbach commented this appointment has been in the works for a very long time, and thanked Carl Geffken for his leadership and doing a very good job as interim Director.

Commissioner Leinbach mentioned all three Commissioners had

interviewed all three applicants for the position, and without exception were duly impressed by Ms. McIlhaney.

- 54.16 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute the Financial Statement for FY 2014-2015 Juvenile Court Judges Grant-In-Aid Financial Report.
- 55.16 Adopt a resolution supporting the continuation of the initial local area designation of the Berks County Workforce Development Area.
The County, in cooperation with the Berks County Workforce Development Board, and in accordance with Workforce System Guidance No. 02-2014 issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry directing the County and other local workforce system stakeholders to comply with requirements of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA), has evaluated and addressed all criteria outlined in the aforementioned Guidance directive.
- 56.16 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute Master Grant Agreement No. 521166 (“Agreement”) between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, and the County of Berks, acting through the Berks County Planning Commission, for reimbursement of up to \$3,240,000 covering services in the field of transportation planning and/or programming for the Reading Area Metropolitan Planning Organization; and further authorizing the Board of Commissioners, individually and separately, to execute Certification of Commissioner forms in conjunction with the Agreement; and further authorizing Shannon L. Rossman, Executive Director of the Berks County Planning Commission, to execute all Work Orders related to the Agreement.
Alan Piper, Planner III, Berks County Planning Commission, explained these are funds that come from PennDOT for use by the Planning Commission, and pays for staff salaries that do transportation planning, and works with PennDOT on transportation planning matters. The funds typically run for a six year period, and Berks County should see about \$530,000. Mr. Piper commented they are currently working on updating the 4 Year Plan and the Long Range Transportation Plan, and additionally, the Planning Commission works very closely with BARTA and South Central Transit Authority and provides funding for their planning transit staff.

- 57.16 Adopt a resolution authorizing Doug Kenwood, Deputy Director, Berks County Facilities & Operations, to execute the General Release to Richland Partners, LLC, d/b/a Leffler Energy, in the amount of \$161.00 for damage incurred to a hose at the Berks County Wastewater Plant.
- 58.16 Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of Tom Kopel, Oley, Pennsylvania, to the Reading Regional Airport Authority Board, to fill the unexpired term of Jeff Schatz. This term will expire December 31, 2016.
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 24, 2016. Commissioner Leinbach reported there was one contract and referenced the department.
3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated February 23, 2016 for week ending February 24, 2016 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 Deputy Controller Ronald Rutkowski.

REPORTS OF CHIEF OPERATING OFFICE/CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

1. Carl E. Geffken thanked the Commissioners for their kind words and agreed Ms. McIlhaney is an excellent choice for Children and Youth Services Director and will be a great addition to the Department.
Mr. Geffken thanked the Commissioners for approving the WIB letter (Item 55.16), which now shows Berks County in compliance, and thanked the Commissioners for approving execution of the Release for the damage to a hose at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
2. Robert J. Patrizio reported the Commissioners will receive a cash flow report at today's Budget meeting.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt noted he was pleased to be invited to a Chamber meeting last Friday with the Principal of Reading High School to hear about the High School's Pathways to Careers to Future program, which is looking for local businesses to partner and mentor with juniors and seniors to get them more involved with business and the local workforce community. Commissioner Barnhardt commented he will be meeting

with our Human Resources Department to see if we can be partners in the intern/mentor program. Commissioner Barnhardt was also invited this morning to the Wilson High School Internship Kick-Off Breakfast at the Crowne Plaza, also sponsored by the Chamber, who is expanding their internship program for high school students.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported for part of Tuesday and Wednesday this week he was at the Cork Factory Hotel in York to attend a meeting as a member of the COMCARE Board, a County Managed Care Board affiliated with CCAP (County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania). Commissioner Barnhardt commented COMCARE is looking to integrate and advocate in providing physical and behavioral health services, and is in the process of reforming its By-Laws and is interested in bringing it to a new dimension for CCAP and counties.

Commissioner Barnhardt clarified the article in Tuesday's newspaper where Mayor Wally Scott talked of moving the Police Department to the old Post Office building or possibly purchasing the BARTA Franklin Street Station. Commissioner Barnhardt reported BARTA received federal dollars for that project not a loan, and if anything would happen that money has to be repaid. Commissioner Barnhardt also suggested the City lease the refurbished Franklin Street Station instead of purchasing it.

Commissioner Scott had nothing further to share.

Commissioner Leinbach provided an update of his attendance at the 2016 NACO Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. where he and members of NACO met with Secretary of Transportation Fox for discussions on transportation issues. Commissioner Leinbach commented he sits on the transportation committee and on Saturday and Sunday listened to speakers dealing with rail, freight and hi-speed and airport transportation issues. On Tuesday, Commissioner Leinbach went to the Russell Senate Building for a presentation by the County Commissioners Association dealing with criminal justice reform and related areas and one of the speakers was Senator Al Franken, who spoke about his legislation dealing with mental health and jails. Commissioner Leinbach mentioned how impressed everyone was with what Senator Franken had to say about this issue. Commissioner Leinbach mentioned the one thing that stood out the entire conference is the very serious interest in the issue on criminal justice reform, mental health issues, opioid and heroin use and addiction, and the social and enormous financial impact it has on society. Commissioner Leinbach added it appears we will be seeing some legislation dealing with the overall issue of reform that could benefit counties.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk