

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes March 5, 2020

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, March 5, 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.

PRESENTATION

Paul Janssen, Director for Center for Excellence in Local Government at Albright College ("CELG") and Treasurer of the Berks County Water & Sewer Association, thanked the Commissioners for all the assistance the Commissioners have provided over the years especially with funding of programs for the CELG. Mr. Janssen said one major initiative is economic development and what local government can do to assist local municipalities. Mr. Janssen announced CELG's Annual Dinner will be held March 25, 2020, and the topic will be firefighting in Berks County. Mr. Janssen also announced CELG's 5th Annual Golf outing will be held June 5, 2020, and the Berks County Water & Sewer Authority Annual Golf Conference will be held July 29, 2020, where the topic of discussion will deal with water security and cyber security in Berks County. Commissioner Leinbach mentioned CELG also holds a Spring and Fall Municipal Officials Breakfast with the Commissioners.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of February 27, 2020 Commissioners' Board Meeting and February 27, 2020 Budget/Operations Meeting were approved as presented.

Commissioner Leinbach announced there was an Executive Session held Friday, February 28, 2020, dealing with personnel.

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:

88.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2019 Appropriations in the negative amount of \$(165,000); 2020 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$61,935 and 2020 Appropriations in the amount of \$338,885 per listing dated March 2, 2020.

89.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated March 5, 2020 as follows:

1. Authorize the appointment of Daniel Jenkins to Manager of Financial Reporting and Accounting – Office of Controller, effective 03/18/2020. Rate of \$75,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$59,937; Midpoint \$79,916; Maximum \$99,895. New position created by Salary Board on 03/05/2020. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11120.
2. Authorize the salary adjustment for Deborah Olivieri PC010996 Director of Election Services – Election Services, effective 3/4/2020. Rate of \$88,996/annually. Salary range Minimum \$60,594; Midpoint \$80,792; Maximum \$100,990. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11050.
3. Authorize Commissioner’s Lump Sum Award for the Director of Election Services in the amount of \$2,000.00. The award is for work performed in support of the new County voting machines and diligently working with the State of Pennsylvania to streamline future voting process. Budget 10000 – 11050.

Commissioner Leinbach commented the Commissioners’ Award was given to Ms. Olivieri who oversaw the acquisition and implementation of the brand-new voting machine system. Ms. Olivieri and her staff did a tremendous job.

90.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing the award and the Director of Contracts and Procurement to execute as a result of Invitation to Bid # 19-45-GW, a one-year contract for Processing and Marketing of Recyclable Material as follows:

Solid Waste Services, Inc., d/b/a J.P. Mascaro & Sons
 2650 Audubon Road
 Audubon, Pennsylvania 19403
 Total Estimated Annual Expenditure: **\$20,125.00**
 Option 2: One Year

Item No.	Type of Recyclable Material	Unit Price per Ton

2a.	Commingled	\$ 85.00
2b.	Mixed Paper	\$ 85.00
2c.	Cardboard	\$ 50.00

Upon mutual agreement of both parties the County reserves the right to extend the contracts for two additional one-year terms.

- 91.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing the award and the Director of Contracts and Procurement to execute, two (2) agreements as a result of ITB# 19-36-JRGW, Inmate and Resident Clothing Rebid for a period of one (1) year for the participating members of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Counties Cooperative Purchasing Board (SPCCPB) including Berks County.

Bob Barker Company Inc.

134 North Main Street

Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526

Line Items: 21,22,26,29

Estimated Annual Expenditure – Grand Total \$60,193.51

Estimated Annual Expenditure – **Berks Portion \$37,493.97**

JAB Trading Industries, LLC

4907 Callaghan Rd #119

San Antonio, TX 78228

Line Items: 3,6,10,27,31

Estimated Annual Expenditure – Grand Total \$14,529.50

Estimated Annual Expenditure – **Berks Portion \$12,483.50**

The County reserves the right to extend the agreements for two additional one-year terms upon mutual agreement of both parties at the unit prices herein.

- 92.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Agreement for Professional Services between the County of Berks and May, Connard & Rotenberg, LLP, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania to provide legal services as Court appointed parent's counsel for clients requiring representation in proceedings involving the Berks County Children and Youth Services Agency for a one-year term expiring December 31, 2020. The Agreement may be extended for additional terms upon agreement of all parties.

- 93.2020 Adopt a resolution approving and authorizing execution of the Drawings Authorizing Acquisition of Right-of-Way as prepared by Van Cleef Engineering Associates, LLC and Malick & Sherer, P.C. pertaining to parcels of land affected by the Glendale Bridge (#43A) (SR7212 T-482 Winding Road) Bridge Replacement Project in Douglass, Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

- 94.2020 Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of Terri C. Lampe Melcher, Birdsboro, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Industrial Development 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 March 2, 2020. Commissioner Leinbach reported there was one contract and referenced the department.
 3. Motion authorizing payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated March 3, 2020 for week ending March 4, 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 reported the Budget/Ops Meeting will begin at 2:00 p.m. and he will discuss the adopted Budget 5-year forecast; there will be a Facility discussion regarding Courthouse doors and the Muhlenberg Green Scope of Work for the Ag Center; a discussion on the Constable Audit Scope of Work and a CGL discussion by the Solicitor.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Ronald R. Seaman mentioned there will also be a brief discussion on the County's approach to the Coronavirus at the Budget/Ops Meeting.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt

Commissioner Barnhardt announced the County presently has an RFP for an ADA Survey of County Polling Places. The proposal is seeking a consultant to conduct an accessibility survey of the 2020 polling places in the County to determine ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance. The deadline to submit bids is March 9, 2020. Commissioner Barnhardt provided an overview of what the RFP is seeking. Commissioner Barnhardt announced tonight the 3rd Annual Black Balloon event will be held at the Shillington Market to promote and support opioid awareness. Commissioner Barnhardt reported the money raised last year helped pay for building the SOS Berks website.

Commissioner Rivera

Commissioner Rivera reported he attended the 2020 Annual NACo Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. this past weekend, and it was a great learning opportunity. Commissioner Rivera heard from powerful speakers on leadership, including a speech from HUD Secretary Ben Carson. Commissioner Rivera learned one of the biggest challenges is affordable housing and a backlog of Section 8 housing. Commissioner Rivera congratulated Ernie Post, Director of Pennsylvania Small Business Administration, and Kutztown University Small Business Development Center for the great work they are doing for Latino Small Businesses and the Spanish speaking community. The Kutztown University Small Business Development Center is a model across the country.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach also attended the 2020 Annual NACo Conference, and reported one of the major announcements was a report with a recommendation between NACo and the National Association of Sheriffs regarding the constitutional issue of individuals who are accused of a crime and are sent to jail waiting for trial, and if the individual is a veteran they could lose their veteran benefits and possibly Medicare. Commissioner Leinbach said the two groups are working with federal legislators and the Administration on this issue. Commissioner Leinbach stated if the federal doesn't take action, NACo might consider filing a lawsuit.

Commissioner Leinbach also heard from a number of different speakers on both sides of the aisle, and on Tuesday, President Trump addressed the conference. Commissioner Leinbach was glad to hear President Trump talked about his position on the mental health issue in jails and seems committed to working to fix the problem. It was an impressive speech that lasted almost an hour.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

County Controller Graffius announced her long time Solicitor Jack Linton passed away in February in Florida.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Three Berks County residents and members of the Berks County Libertarian Party, Jeff Douglas, Exeter Township; Jerry Geleff, Exeter Township, and Peter Schwarze, Bernville, attended the meeting to again ask the Commissioners to adopt a resolution making Berks County a Second Amendment Sanctuary county.

Linda Walesagle, Cumru Township, President of the Berks County Democratic Women and member of Moms to Demand Action, asked to see a copy of the resolution the gentlemen are proposing so she can become familiar with it and talk about it in a sensible way from the other side.

Crystal Kowalski, Wyomissing, responded to Commissioner Leinbach's comments about the number of people in the County jail suffering from mental illness, and commented if the County would build a new jail, she would like to see an alternative facility that is publicly run and owned and not a facility that is gradually privatized.

March 5, 2020

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:51 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk