

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes March 15, 2018

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, March 15, 2018, 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 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, March 14, 2018 to discuss personnel and litigation.

Presentation

Dr. Susan Looney, Academic Affairs/Provost, and President-Elect, and Ms. Kym Kleinsmith, Director of Disability Services/Student Behavioral Intervention at Reading Area Community College ("RACC") attended the meeting to provide information on student disability services at RACC.

Commissioner Leinbach congratulated Dr. Looney, for being chosen RACC's newest President. Dr. Looney considers it an honor and is humbled, and is anxious to begin her new position in July.

Ms. Kleinsmith reported her and her three member staff offer support to a diverse and unique group of students by providing transitional services to incoming students, by helping the student navigate the transition to college and make sure they are well prepared before the first day of classes. Ms. Kleinsmith stated RACC works closely with the Special Education Transition Coordinators in all Berks County Schools and SAM ("Service Access Management").

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of March 8, 2018 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt to approve the Agenda as presented. Said motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott, and all voted unanimously to approve the Agenda Items listed below:

1. Enactment of County Ordinance:
 - 02-2018 AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF BERKS, PENNSYLVANIA, DELEGATING TO THE SECRETARY OF THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, THE COUNTY'S AUTHORITY TO ACQUIRE RIGHT-OF-WAYS NECESSARY FOR THE GIBRALTAR ROAD A/K/A ALTHOUSE MILL BRIDGE (45A) REPLACEMENT PROJECT.
2.
 - 79.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2017 Appropriations in the amount of \$17,969; 2018 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$45,000 and 2018 Appropriations in the amount of \$190,386 per listing dated March 12, 2018.
 - 80.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated March 15, 2018 as follows:
 1. Authorize the appointment of Michael Hoffert to PC012251 Sergeant – Sheriff's Department, effective 3/28/2018. Rate of \$61,622/annually. Salary range Minimum \$41,396; Midpoint \$55,196; Maximum \$68,994. Replacement for Christopher Strunk who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11510.
 - 81.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Ryan Hunter, Director of Facilities and Operations, to execute Change Order No. 1 dated March 7, 2018 for the contract with P. Joseph Lehman, Inc., Consulting Engineers, Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, in the amount of \$12,041.33, for the furnishing of subcontractor services associated with geotechnical subsurface engineering and core borings requested by PennDOT in regard to the Dreibelbis Station Covered Wooden Bridge (#46B) Rehabilitation Project.
 - 82.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christine M. Sadler, Berks County Solicitor, to execute the Mediation Agreement between the Reading School District, the Reading Public Museum and Art Gallery, the Foundation for the Reading Public Museum and the County of Berks.
2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator per listing dated March 13, 2018. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are three contracts and referenced the departments.

3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated March 13, 2018 for week ending March 14, 2018 and the payment of electronic transfers and employee payroll.

Reports

1. County Treasurer A. Dennis Adams, CPA submitted a prepared weekly Treasurer's report.
3. The Controller's weekly report was presented by County Controller Sandy Graffius.

REPORT OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Jennifer Lawler, Financial Manager in the Budget Office, reported there will be a discussion on a proposal from FC Revolution and Berkshire Baseball regarding the Youth Recreation Facility.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

None

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt

Commissioner Barnhardt reported he attended the DEP meeting in Oley last evening regarding the Rolling Hills Landfill, and appreciated the comments made by Commissioner Scott and his Executive Assistant Michelle Kircher, and thought one of the best things to come out of last night's meeting is DEP will now hold another meeting in June to receive more public comments.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported tomorrow he will be attending and speaking at the 2018 Matthew J. Ryan Law and Public Policy Forum at Villanova University on the County's perspective and priorities on mental health illness in the criminal justice system, and on Sunday and Monday will be attending the CCAP Spring Conference in Harrisburg, where he will participate in the Courts and Corrections Committee Meeting dealing with forensic bed space and mental health issues in the jail system.

Commissioner Barnhardt announced there will be an Election Board Meeting this morning at 11:00 A.M. to discuss moving three polling places and ballot positions for committee people.

Commissioner Barnhardt was pleased that City Council voted unanimously to override the Mayor's veto of the Ordinance allowing the City to join the Mount Penn Preserve Council of Governments ("COG").

Commissioner Scott

Commissioner Scott thanked Commissioner Barnhardt for his comments, and stated last evening's meeting was well attended. Commissioner Scott clarified the article in today's Reading Eagle regarding a statement made by Mr. Gillin, the Solicitor for the Delaware County Solid Waste Authority's Solicitor, that the County can no longer block expansion

of the landfill because the contract is terminated. After rereading the language in that section of the contract, Commissioner Scott believes that section states otherwise, and Mr. Gillin's comments were self-serving and inaccurate.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach was also glad to see City Council's unanimous override of Mayor Scott's vote on the Mt. Penn COG Ordinance.

Commissioner Leinbach reported this morning he received three communications from individuals at the Heim regarding rumors that Berks Heim has been sold. Commissioner Leinbach stated the Berks Heim has not been sold, no RFP has been finalized and no unsolicited bids have been received by the County. That process is moving forward as an option, and the Board will continue to share any new developments with the public. Commission Leinbach mentioned he will also be attending the Spring CCAP Conference this weekend through Tuesday.

Commissioner Leinbach mentioned Tuesday is National Ag Day, and there will be program at the Berks County Agricultural Center dealing with the use of drones and drone technology in agriculture.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

County Controller Graffius mentioned the Cup-Cake Wars Fundraiser being held April 9, 2018 at the Crowne Plaza for the Restoring Hope Foundation of Berks County.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:37 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk