

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes July 2, 2015

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, July 2, 2015, 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 Solicitor Alan Miller, Chief Operating Officer Carl E. Geffken and Deputy Chief Clerk Kaitlin P. Daley.

Commissioner Leinbach opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the advertisement to hold a public meeting, Commissioner Leinbach opened a Public Hearing for approval of the Human Services Block Grant for Fiscal Year 2015/2016 for Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities. Dr. Edward B. Michalik, Berks County Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities Program Administrator, presented information concerning implementation of the Human Services Block Grant.

A motion was made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Barnhardt and all voted unanimously to close the public hearing.

A second motion was made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Barnhardt and all voted unanimously to approve the following item:

- 171.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Appendix A, Fiscal Year 2014-2015 County Human Services Plan Assurance of Compliance form.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the June 25, 2015 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:
 - 172.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2015 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$17,589.00 and 2015 Appropriations in the amount of \$152,390.00 per listing dated June 29, 2015.

- 173.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated July 2, 2015 as follows:
1. Authorize the appointment of Sophie Eddinger to PC013121 Computer Forensic Specialist – District Attorney's Office, effective 7/15/15. Rate of \$50,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$43,350; Midpoint \$57,800; Maximum \$72,250. New position created by Salary Board on 6/18/2015. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11580.
- 174.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the amended Fiscal Year 2013/2014 Block Grant Report Certification Statement.
- 175.15 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Amendment #5 to the HealthChoices Behavioral Health Agreement by and between Berks County and Community Care Behavioral Health Organization (the "Agreement") effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017.
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 June 30, 2015.
 3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated June 30, 2015 for week ending July 1, 2015 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.

REPORTS OF CHIEF OPERATING OFFICE/CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

1. Carl E. Geffken reported on the agenda for this afternoon's Budget Meeting. The first item on the agenda is to discuss the status of the Unified Case Management System that will be implemented in the Public Defender's Office. The second item to discuss is the impact that a state budget impasse may have on the County's budget.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt praised the Greater Reading Economic Partnership (GREP) for being re-accredited by the International Economic Development Council as an Accredited Economic Development Organization. GREP is one of 45 economic development organizations in the world to receive this accreditation. Commissioner Barnhardt mentioned two recent projects that GREP worked on. The first was the expansion and relocation of Phytogenx who expanded from 58 employees to 70 and hope to increase to 100 employees by the end of 2015. He noted that Phytogenx stayed in Berks County because of GREP's assistance. The second project is at Sun Rich Foods in Reading where the company hopes to add 200 employees to the existing 160 employees it currently has. The Reading location is the flagship operation for Sun Rich and it located here with the assistance of GREP as well.

Commissioner Barnhardt also commented on the impending closure of the Buttonwood Street Bridge. The bridge will close on July 20, 2015 and closure signs will be posted at the bridge on July 6, 2015. BARTA will be running a shuttle from 7:00am-9:00pm that will run routes every 15 minutes during that time. The shuttle will be free of charge from July 13, 2015-July24, 2015. If people are looking for other alternatives to the shuttle, please contact Commuter Services of PA at 1-866-579-RIDE.

Commissioner Barnhardt thanked everyone involved in the Grand Opening of the Berks Heim Rehabilitation Wing which occurred Tuesday July 30, 2015.

Commissioner Scott wished everyone a Happy 4th of July. He also read a letter received by the Commissioners from Rachel Kaler, owner of The Peppermint Stick Candy Store in Boyertown, PA. She thanked the Commissioners and expressed her appreciation for their efforts in making the Colebrookdale Railroad a reality. She states in her letter that it has had a positive impact on her business.

Commissioner Leinbach announced three events being held this weekend for the 4th of July. The first event is the Kickoff Concert for the Berks Arts Council's Summer Concert Series at the City Park Bandshell. The concert will be held Friday July 3rd and features the Reading Pops. The second event is the Colebrookdale Railroad's Star Spangled Banner Ride. It will take place Friday, Saturday, and Sunday and visitors are able to take the train to Pottstown to watch fireworks. The third event is the Wyomissing 4th of July Parade. The parade is scheduled to take place Saturday July 4, 2015 at 10:00am.

Commissioner Leinbach also commented on the importance of the Fourth of July. He noted that this holiday is a celebration of the Declaration of Independence and the fact that this country is based on the signing of that document. Commissioner Leinbach read an excerpt from Abraham Lincoln on the Declaration of Independence which was written on August 17, 1858.

CITIZEN COMMENT/BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

County Controller Sandy Graffius introduced the new Audit Manager in her office, Oliver Arthur.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:47 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kaitlin P. Daley, Deputy Chief Clerk