

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes August 17, 2017

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, August 17, 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 August 10, 2017 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
 - 223.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2017 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$1,013,913 and 2017 Appropriations in the amount of \$45,426 per listing dated August 14, 2017.
 - 224.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated August 17, 2017 as follows:
 1. Authorize the appointment of Lynda Vernon to Assistant Public Defender I – Public Defender, effective 8/23/2017. Rate of \$46,500/annually. Salary range Minimum \$44,690; Midpoint \$59,587; Maximum \$74,483. Replacement for Vanessa Bellino who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11570.
 2. Authorize Jacob Pyne PC011414 Network Administrator – Information Systems to work out of classification in the Oracle Database Administrator position, effective 8/23/2017. Rate of \$60,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$49,629; Midpoint \$66,172; Maximum \$82,715. This working of out classification will cease upon the appointment of an Oracle Database

Administrator. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11170.

- 225.17 Adopt a resolution amending Resolution No. 152-17 adopted May 25, 2017 to rescind the award of a three (3) contract as a result of ITB 17-10-HS, Personal Emergency Response Systems for the Berks County Area Agency on Aging, to Critical Signal Technologies for failure to meet the County's insurance requirements.

Commissioner Leinbach reported he met with Purchasing who advised him that since this contract has been awarded in May, Purchasing has been going back and forth with the vendor on these requirements that are clearly set forth in the bid package, and the vendor is not willing to provide the required insurance documents.

- 226.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of Change Order No. 20 to the Motorola Solutions Contract (#10-23185/CR) to add MOSCAD monitoring to the Mt. Penn I Radio site and maintenance and support changes in the amount of \$44,191.39 in regard to the Berks County Public Safety Radio Network.

- 227.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute a letter requesting that the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation manage the Federally-funded Althouse Mill Bridge (County Bridge #45A) Replacement project in Exeter Township on the County's behalf. Following PennDOT's Publication 740 process, Chapter 3, Option A, Alternative 2, this letter begins a process by which PennDOT's Consultant Project Manager will manage the administrative and day-to-day duties on these projects in an effort to more efficiently streamline this process. The County will remain involved throughout the project development and will contribute 5% of the costs for design, engineering, permitting, clearances and construction with the balance of funding for the projects being split 80% Federal, 15% State.

Commissioner Barnhardt commented this project was initiated by Alan Piper, Planning Commission, and Ryan Hunter, who worked collaboratively with Exeter Township to more efficiently complete the Bridge repairs and intersection improvements. When the project is complete, Exeter Township will take ownership of the Bridge, which will help lower the County's infrastructure.

- 228.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing the Board of Commissioners to execute the Title Page of the Drawings for Construction as prepared by professional engineers with Burns Engineering, Inc. and pertaining to the Fisher's Mill Bridge (County Bridge #34A) Superstructure Replacement Project in Amity Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.
- 229.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the letter of authorization to Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC, ("Comcast") York, Pennsylvania, consenting to the installation, operation and maintenance by Comcast of cable and other equipment at the Berks County Agricultural Center ("Center"), Bern Township, to provide communications services to tenants and other occupants at the Center.

There were four supplemental resolutions adopted regarding Bridge projects brought up from the floor by Mr. Hunter, that didn't make it on the Agenda. Mr. Hunter reported these are administrative in nature. Three are extensions of time to complete the bridge projects, and the fourth allows Mr. Hunter to execute the D-419 form for the Blandon Bridge project providing clearance for the utilities.

- 230.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute a letter to Larson Design Group, Inc., 201 East Oregon Road, Suite 110, Lititz, PA 17543 granting an extension of time for completion of Final Design phase services pertaining to the Blandon Bridge (County Bridge #53A) replacement project until December 31, 2017. This extension is intended to allow for time to address review comments related to design, construction and utility clearances leading up to the letting of the project for public bids. There are no additional costs associated with this extension of time, and this extension does not affect the projected Let Date scheduled for November 2017. This extension has been reviewed and endorsed by PennDOT District 5-0 consultant project manager.
- 231.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Ryan C. Hunter, Director of Facilities & Operations, to execute the Utility Clearance Data Form (D-419) pertaining to the Blandon Bridge (County Bridge #53A) replacement project. This document certifies that all known utilities within the project limits have been accounted for and provides specific direction and coordination for the placement, replacement, relocation, adjustment or reconstruction of their structures and facilities during construction.

- 232.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute a letter to P. Joseph Lehman, Inc., Olde Farm Office Centre, PO Box 419, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648 granting an extension of time of three (3) months for completion of Part I (Rehabilitation Assessment Phase) and Part II (Preliminary Engineering Phase) of the Dreibelbis Station Covered Wooden Bridge rehabilitation project until November 19, 2017. This extension is to allow for additional time with which to complete the archeological and environmental approvals required for the design of the rehabilitation prior to moving into Final Design. There are no additional costs associated with this extension of time. This extension has been reviewed and endorsed by PennDOT District 5-0 project manager.
- 233.17 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute a letter to C.C. Johnson & Malhotra, PC, 4660 Trindle Road, Suite 103, Camp Hill, PA 17011 granting an extension of time for completion of Final Design phase services pertaining to the Manatawny Bridge (County Bridge #58B) Replacement Project until April 30, 2018. This extension is intended to allow for the contract to remain active while the project is let for bids by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) and an Award is made to the Successful Contractor. There are no additional costs associated with this extension of time, and this extension does not affect the projected Let Date scheduled for January 2018. This extension has been reviewed and endorsed by PennDOT District 5-0 consultant project manager.
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 August 15, 2017. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 10 contracts and referenced the departments.
3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated August 15, 2017 for week ending August 16, 2017 and the payment of electronic transfers and employee payroll.

Reports

1. Chief Deputy Treasurer Linda Weaver submitted the 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 there will be an update on the 5 year forecast, a discussion about tax fund strategy, and a discussion on the Community Reentry Center.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Ronald R. Seaman pointed out today marks his first year anniversary of returning to the County, and it has been a real pleasure to work with and serve the Commissioners, and the departments he is responsible to oversee, and announced he brought donuts for everyone.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**Commissioner Barnhardt**

Commissioner Barnhardt was pleased to report that the \$5 registration fee implemented in March is already paying dividends, as it put the County in line to apply for matching funds from PennDOT, and the County will receive over \$2 million that will be used to replace Ebling Memorial Bridge in Muhlenberg Township and Glendale Bridge in Douglass Township.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported last Thursday afternoon he, his Executive Assistant, the Warden and Chief Deputy Warden visited the Montgomery County Jail and had a very good meeting with the Warden, who has been there over 42 years. Commissioner Barnhardt commented Montgomery County is dealing with the same issues we are on a daily basis, i.e. retaining staff, shift coverage and the medical issues.

Commissioner Barnhardt responded to the challenge made to him last week to spend a day at the Jail, stating he already has spent a day on the floor with COs, and is willing to do it again, but would like to hear constructive criticism not just complaints.

Commissioner Barnhardt again stated for the record he has never advocated for privatization; he would rather build or rebuild.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported yesterday he and Lee Olsen met with City Council and the Mayor about the Mt. Penn Preserve initiative, to try and bring the five municipalities of Alsace, Lower Alsace, Mt. Penn the County and the City together in a Council of Governments ("COG"), which has been very well received in western Pennsylvania.

Commissioner Barnhardt commented one of the main goals would be to establish uniform regulations for the Park, and uniform police patrols.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported he was at a very good meeting with a representative from "Project Hal", a food manufacturer from Bangladesh, who is looking for a facility in Berks County to open a new plant, and this is one example on how effective and valuable the Greater Reading Economic Development ("GREP") can be to the area.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach commented that his position on the jail has not changed; all options are on the table, with the exception of doing nothing. Commissioner Leinbach reported the Commissioners have received numerous communications from a variety of individuals on the privatization of the jail, and clarified for the record, that no businesses

are pushing privatization on the County. This is only one option of several options and it's not just about the money.

Commissioner Leinbach reported that since the last meeting, the PowerPoint Presentation by Kimball has been posted on the County's home page, but at the advice of the legal department, certain parts of the presentation were not posted for security reasons.

Commissioner Leinbach commented he will continue to give updates as they happen.

Commissioner Leinbach reported that as he has for the past few years, he and his Executive Assistant Mary Buerer, took two students from Berks County to Ag Progress Days at Penn State. Commissioner Leinbach reported one student was from Conrad Weiser and one student was a Dairy Ambassador this year, and both are interested in careers in agriculture.

Commissioner Leinbach reported on Monday evening he participated in two shows on BCTV concerning diversity and shared a post on his Facebook page expressing his position on hate in this country.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Morgan Smith, Muhlenberg Township, read from a prepared statement on the many lawsuits and cases that have been brought against CCA ("Corrections Corporation of America") n/k/a CoreCivic, and is concerned about the County possibly doing business with organizations like these.

Crystal Kowalski, Wyomissing, commented she stands against privatization of the prison, believing that something that profits off of the people's freedom is not good for the community.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk