

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes August 23, 2018

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, August 23, 2018, 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. Commissioner Mark C. 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 16, 2018 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

None.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Leinbach and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:

234.18 Adopt a resolution, pursuant to Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code, approving the financing by the Wernersville Municipal Authority of a tax-exempt Revenue Bond in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 for the Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries ("DLSM") to finance the refunding of certain outstanding debt of DLSM related to its several retirement communities including the Lutheran Home at Topton; and further authorizes the Chair, or any member of the Board, to execute any and all documents related to this transaction.

This approval shall not in any way obligate the credit or taxing power of the County, nor shall the County be liable for the payment of the principal of, or interest on any obligations issued by the Authority.

Peter T. Edelman, Esquire, Stevens & Lee, Bond Counsel for Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries, reported this transaction is a refund of existing debt issued in 2009, and low interest rates is the primary reason for this bond issue.

- 235.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2018 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$119,108 and 2018 Appropriations in the amount of \$20,417 per listing dated August 20, 2018.
- 236.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated August 23, 2018 as follows:
1. Authorize the appointment of Amy Resh to PC011281 Library System Administrator – Library System, effective 9/12/2018. Rate of \$60,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$53,668; Midpoint \$71,557; Maximum \$89,447. Replacement for Denise Sticha who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 16050.
 2. Authorize the appointment of Erin Hauenstein to PC011947 Outreach Services Coordinator – Library System, effective 9/19/2018. Rate of \$47,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$43,539; Midpoint \$58,053; Maximum \$72,566. Replacement for Corinne Brumbach who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 16050.
 3. Authorize the appointment of Samuel Mills to Assistant Public Defender I – Public Defender's Office, effective 9/12/2018. Rate of \$48,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$44,690; Midpoint \$59,587; Maximum \$74,483. Replacement for Brian McBeth who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11570.
 4. Authorize a salary adjustment for Devon Schneck, PC011159 Judicial Administrative Assistant – Court Administration, effective 1/1/2018. Rate of \$49,043/annually, not including stipend. Salary range Minimum \$33,721; Midpoint \$44,961; Maximum \$56,202. The request is due to the results of an internal equity analysis regarding the Judicial Administrative Assistant position. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11600.
2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator per listing dated August 21, 2018. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 21 contracts and referenced the departments.

3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated August 21, 2018 for week ending August 22, 2018 and the payment of electronic transfers and employee payroll.

Reports

1. County Treasurer A. Dennis Adams, CPA, was absent. The Treasurer's Report was submitted by Linda Weaver, Deputy Treasurer.
2. The Controller's weekly report was presented by County Controller Sandy Graffius.

REPORT OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Robert J. Patrizio reported the Budget Meeting will begin at 2:00 p.m. and there will be the annual discussion on municipal billing for 911 services, a discussion with Ed Balliet, CHR, about the possibility of positioning Berks Heim as a preferred short term rehabilitation facility, and a follow-up discussion with Human Resources on the 2019 Rx Plan.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

No report.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt

No report.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach mentioned this Saturday at Stonecliffe Park will be a special ceremony for the dedication of a Hometown Heroes Banner honoring Colonel Thomas Dugan; and on Sunday the 25th Annual Ride for Freedom will begin at 9:00 a.m. in Oley and end at Veterans Grove in Reading City Park for a remembrance ceremony beginning at 1:00 p.m.

ROW OFFICERS' COMMENTS

None

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Claudia Strauss, Berkshire Heights, asked about the contracts on today's contract agenda for the Berks Heim and Residential Center, and how much acreage is involved in the Berks Heim sale.

Commissioner Leinbach reported to Ms. Strauss the contract for the Berks Heim is with Comcast for cable communication services and for the Residential Center is with St. Joseph's Hospital to provide patient transfer services. Regarding the question on acreage, Commissioner Leinbach asked Ron Seaman to meet with her after the meeting.

Fred Fritch, Mertztown, a veteran, asked the Commissioners to close the Detention Center.

Louise Legun, Blandon, a veteran, expressed her concerns with the Residential Center.

Jim Beidler, Bern Township, very unhappy with the Residential Center, suggested the Commissioners spend more time trying to figure other purposes to do with the Residential Center instead of always defending it.

Crystal Kowalski, Wyomissing, had questions about the property survey being conducted on the Berks Heim property. Commissioner Leinbach asked Ms. Kowalski to see Ron Seaman after the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:26 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk