

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes September 25, 2014

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, September 25, 2014, 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 First Assistant County Solicitor Christine M. Sadler, Chief Operating Officer Carl E. Geffken and Chief Clerk Maryjo Gibson.

Commissioner Leinbach opened the meeting with a moment of silence and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Commissioner Leinbach welcomed BCTV viewers back after a short absence as a result of BCTV moving from Penn Street to Albright College.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Ms. Bonnie Spayd, Director of Business & Industry Programs at Reading Area Community College (RACC), presented an overview of the Schmidt Training & Technology Center as part of RACC's quarterly update. Ms. Spayd announced RACC recently hired Doug Keim as Director of Workforce Development, who happens to be the first graduate of the program. Ms. Spayd commented that in the last 6 to 8 months RACC has taken a look at what works and what doesn't, and as a result will be concentrating more on mechatronics and enhanced machine tool technology. Ms. Spayd commented that in addition to industry training, RACC now offers degree programs. Ms. Spayd reported RACC received a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education for new equipment and upgrades for the teaching robots, and provided a more detailed explanation of the technology and mechanical equipment being installed for student training.

2. Ryan Hunter, Director of Facilities and Operations, provided an update on the progress of the proposal for the Courthouse lighting project. Mr. Hunter reported the County has received proposals from Lacey Electric and Fromm Electric, who performed demonstrations of the equipment. Mr. Hunter commented a grant application has been submitted to the Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority, and if received could supplement the cost of the work. Mr. Hunter commented there is also a civilian effort that is being undertaken to raise money and attention to this project.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of September 18, 2014 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:

288.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2014 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$257,605.00 and 2014 Appropriations in the amount of \$105,287.00 per listing dated September 19, 2014.

289.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated September 25, 2014 as follows:

1. Authorize the appointment of Alexander Hallman to PC012761 Assistant Public Defender II – Public Defenders Office, effective 10/8/2014. Rate of \$48,000/annually. Salary budgeted \$56,429/annually. Salary range Minimum \$44,486; Midpoint \$59,314; Maximum \$74,143. Replacement for Kenneth Kelecic who transferred. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11570.
2. Authorize the promotion of Jay Phillips from PC012258 Sergeant to PC012286 Lieutenant – Jail System, effective 10/1/2014. Rate of \$64,087/annually. Salary budgeted \$64,087/annually. Salary range Minimum \$46,386; Midpoint \$61,848; Maximum \$77,309. Replacement for Jeffrey Smith who was promoted. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 12090.
3. Authorize the promotion of Jeffrey Douglas from PC012266 Sergeant to PC012285 Lieutenant – Jail System, effective 10/1/2014. Rate of \$64,087/annually. Salary budgeted \$64,087/annually. Salary range Minimum \$46,386; Midpoint \$61,848; Maximum \$77,309. Replacement for Jennifer Sharp who transferred. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 12090.
4. Authorize the promotion of Jeffrey Schearer from PC012261 Sergeant to PC011284 Lieutenant – Jail System, effective 10/1/2014. Rate of \$64,087/annually. Salary budgeted \$64,087/annually. Salary range Minimum \$46,386; Midpoint \$61,848; Maximum \$77,309. Replacement for Miguel Castro who transferred. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 12090.

- 290.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Utility Agreement 10713U-1 between the County of Berks and the AT&T Corp., 3450 Riverwood Parkway SE, Rm 162, Atlanta, Georgia, 30339, required to incorporate the adjustment and relocation of the Utility's facilities, including those outside of the public right of way, as part of the Buttonwood Street Bridge Rehabilitation Project in the City of Reading and West Reading Borough as well as reimbursement to the County by the Utility for construction and installation costs related to the same. The estimated cost of this reimbursement is \$80,040.00.
- 291.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Subordination, Non-Disturbance and Attornment Agreement between Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Bruce J. Moll and The County of Berks for the Bally Tower Site in regard to the Berks County Public Safety Radio Project.
- 292.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute Change Order No. 01-27 to the Pyramid Network Services, LLC Contract in the amount of \$318,481.12 for contract changes for the Bally, Bethel, Union, Longswamp, Robeson, Kutztown, Albany, Turnpike and Berks County Communications Center tower sites in regard to the Berks County Public Safety Radio Project.
- 293.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the County of Berks and Exelon Nuclear, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, to provide and continue the position of Emergency Planner for nuclear emergency preparedness as they pertain to any occurrences at the Limerick Generating Station, and is subject to continued staffing of the Emergency Planner position by the County.
- 294.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of Gary Rightmire, Reading, Pennsylvania to the Reading Area Community College Board of Trustees to fill the unexpired term of Korie Sandridge who resigned. This term will expire June 30, 2017.
- 295.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Tony Sacco, Mohnton, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Solid Waste Authority for a four (4) year term expiring December 31, 2018.
- 296.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of John Pagerly, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Solid Waste Authority for a five (5) year term expiring December 31, 2019.

- 297.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Michelle P. Kircher, Reading, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Solid Waste Authority for a four (4) year term expiring December 31, 2018.
 - 298.14 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of John J. Bastek, Reading, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board for a three (3) year term expiring December 31, 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 September 23, 2014. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 5 contracts and referenced the departments.
 2. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated September 23, 2014 for week ending September 24, 2014 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 that the Berks Heim has received a 5 star rating on Nursing Home Compare; and he has received a draft report on the Area Agency on Aging from Dr. Michalik and his staff, and will be reviewing and forwarding to the Board early next week.
2. Robert J. Patrizio will provide a preliminary snapshot of where the 2015 Budget stands.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt reported on Wednesday he attended a meeting at BARTA regarding special services, and learned how they work, how people qualify and how the programs are funded. Commissioner Barnhardt commented he attended a Subcommittee/CJAB meeting yesterday at the CRC (Community Re-entry Center) with representatives of the Department of Corrections and the Federal Government on re-entry programming. Commissioner Barnhardt commented there are grants available from the State through the AOPC for re-entry programs, that CJAB will most likely apply for. Commissioner Barnhardt reported Red Rose Transportation approved a resolution last week to request the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners to move forward on a resolution to create a new authority and appoint new members. BARTA will be meeting

this Monday with a likewise recommendation to request a public hearing to choose to create or not create a new authority.

Commissioner Scott had no further comments.

Commissioner Leinbach provided an update on some of the critical issues CCAP is actively addressing. Commissioner Leinbach commented on recent legislation that the Berks County Board of Commissioners supported a week ago, regarding drug overdose and opioids, which has passed the House, but there were some changes and was sent back to Senate and hopefully to Governor's desk. Commissioner Leinbach commented another item moving forward is legislation on the County Pension Law relative to COLA (cost of living adjustment). Commissioner Leinbach commented that the Waters of U.S. opposition is a joint effort with NACO, all state associations as well as every single farm organization. Commissioner Leinbach commented this is a very political issue, and stated the bureaucrats at the EPA have put together new rules and regulations relative to clean water and the new rules are so ambiguous that if left in place will give the federal government far reaching authority. Lastly, Commissioner Leinbach commented he has been following current House Bill 2356 sponsored by Representative Caltagione and Representative Gillen which was introduced after the recent tragic death at Berks County Jail of Eileen Dinino who was sentenced to prison for truancy. Commissioner Leinbach commented this legislation is a good step in the right direction, not just with respect to truancy, but also the rethinking of who belongs in prison and who should be providing community service in lieu of prison.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Berks County Clerk of Courts James P. Troutman asked if the three lieutenants hired for the Jail are replacements or new positions. Commissioner Barnhardt responded that they are vacancies that are being filled.

Berks County Controller Sandy Graffius reported on the progress of the upgrade to the Oracle Program, and that two or three departments are waiting for their expense checks to be dropped into their accounts, which should happen by the first of the year.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk