

## **Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes December 12, 2013**

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, December 12, 2013, 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 Chief Clerk Maryjo Gibson.

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

### **Presentation**

Presentation and adoption of the 2014 Berks County Budget. Robert Patrizio, Chief Financial Officer, gave a brief power point on some of the more notable revisions to the proposed Budget that was put before the Board November 14, 2013. Mr. Patrizio reported his office has received no public comment as of last night and a copy of the final Budget will be posted on the County's website at the conclusion of the meeting. Commissioner Barnhardt commented he appreciates the adjustments being made and will support the Budget as it stands without a tax increase. Commissioner Scott commented on the projected 1% budget deficit at year end and thanked Mr. Patrizio and his staff for the hard work and attention to detail. Commissioner Leinbach thanked Bob and his team, the Department Heads, Row Officers and the Commissioners' team for the work put into this budget. Commissioner Leinbach commented that the 2 core messages of this Budget is another year without a tax increase and this Board will continue to look for ways to save money.

Prior to the vote each Commissioner provided to the Chief Clerk their letters of conflict noting their individual abstentions from portions of the 2014 Budget, copies of which are attached to these Minutes. Following those disclosures and noting specific line item abstentions, on motion by Commissioner Barnhardt, seconded by Commissioner Scott all voted yes to approve the 2014 Budget and Real Estate Tax Millage as follows:

- 374.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing adoption of the 2014 County of Berks Budget, and further establishing the 2014 Real Estate Tax millage at 7.372 mills.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of December 5, 2013 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented. Commissioner Leinbach announced there was an Executive Session yesterday, December 11, 2013 to discuss legal and personnel issues.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Barnhardt, and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:
  - 375.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2013 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$26,137.00 and 2013 Appropriations in the amount of \$687,675.00 per listing dated December 9, 2013.
  - 376.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated December 12, 2013 as follows:
    1. Authorize the appointment of James M. Polyak to PC012336 Part-time Solicitor – Clerk of Courts, effective 1/6/14. Rate of \$7,500/annually. Salary budgeted \$7,500/annually. Replacement for Daryl F. Moyer who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11540.
  - 377.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute the Application and Disclosure Statement for Stop Loss Insurance to Avalon Insurance Company effective January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014.
  - 378.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute renewal rates summaries for Capital Blue Cross effective January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014.
  - 379.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute Engineering Agreement 057378, as drafted by the Pennsylvania Dept. of Transportation, between the County of Berks and C.C. Johnson & Malhotra, P.C., 4660 Trindle Road, Suite 103, Camp Hill, PA 17011, required to provide Preliminary Engineering, Final Design and Services During Construction for the Manatawny Bridge Replacement Project in Oley Township at a cost not to exceed \$738,207.81. This Agreement is required to govern the terms and conditions of the Engineer's services in the above-referenced project. Commissioner Scott questioned if this fee was only for engineering services of the Bridge or is it all conclusive, as it seemed high. Mary Buerer contacted Ryan Hunter, Facilities Director, via telephone, and Mr. Hunter clarified that this fee is inclusive of all the work needed to be done for this project.
  - 380.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Memorandum of Lease between the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission and the

County of Berks for a parcel of land located in the Township of Honeybrook, Chester County, for use of a tower site regarding the Berks County Public Safety Radio Project.

- 381.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute the Certification for Authorized Use of 9-1-1 Funds Under Chapter 53, Emergency Telephone Service, of Title 35 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes for State Fiscal Year 2014-2015; and further authorize Wanda Keener, 9-1-1 Coordinator to submit an application for the aforementioned funds with the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) on behalf of the County.
- 382.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute Change Order No. 01-19 to the contract with Pyramid Network Services, LLC, Glenmont, New York in the amount of \$10,177.65. This change order is to furnish materials and labor for installation/restoration of bridge shoring per McCormick Taylor's sketched dated September 12, 2013 at the Albany Tower site regarding the Berks County Public Safety Radio Project.
- 383.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute the application to the Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program under the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program in the amount of \$1,470,000.00. The funds will be used by the Berks County Redevelopment Authority and/or the Colebrookdale Railroad Preservation Trust for financing activities related to freight and tourist passenger operations of the Colebrookdale Spur Rail Line located in Pottstown and West Pottsgrove Township, Montgomery County and Douglass Township, Colebrookdale Township and the Borough of Boyertown, Berks County.
- 384.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program Grant Agreement and Commitment Letter to the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development for the acquisition of the Angora Fruit Farm in the amount of \$207,839.00. Commissioner Barnhardt announced that settlement will be held Monday, December 30, 2013.
- 385.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Commissioner Chair, to execute any and all documents required to complete the purchase of certain real estate known as the Angora Fruit Farm, Lower Alsace Township, Berks County, and further authorizes Heidi B. Masano, Esq., Assistant County

Solicitor, to execute any and all settlement documents in connection with the purchase of said property, the acquisition of which is in lieu of condemnation.

- 386.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Karen Miller, Bernville, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council for a two (2) year term expiring December 31, 2015.
- 387.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Barry Miller, Bernville, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council for a two (2) year term expiring December 31, 2015.
- 388.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Larry Cohen, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council for a two (2) year term expiring December 31, 2015.
- 389.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Douglas Rauch, Esq., Wyomissing, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Planning Commission for a four (4) year term expiring December 31, 2017.
- 390.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Thomas Xavios, Reading, Pennsylvania, to the Council on Chemical Abuse Board of Directors for a three (3) year term expiring February 1, 2017.
- 391.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Kevin L. Rudy, Mohnton, Pennsylvania, to the Council on Chemical Abuse Board of Directors for a three (3) year term expiring February 1, 2017.
- 392.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Dr. John George, Lititz, Pennsylvania, to the Council on Chemical Abuse Board of Directors for a three (3) year term expiring February 1, 2017.
- 393.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Vicki Kintzer, Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Agricultural Land Preservation Board for a three (3) year term expiring December 31, 2016.
- 394.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Brian C. Engelhardt, Reading, Pennsylvania to the Council on Chemical Abuse for a three (3) year term expiring February 1, 2017.
- 395.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Danelle Bower, Shoemakersville, Pennsylvania to the Council on

- Chemical Abuse for a three (3) year term expiring February 1, 2017.
- 396.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Juanita Morales, Blandon, Pennsylvania to the Council on Chemical Abuse for a three (3) term expiring February 1, 2017.
- 397.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of Ronald E. Leh, Mohrsville, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Parks and Recreation Board for a four (4) year term expiring March 10, 2017. Commissioner Leinbach commented that Mr. Leh ....
- 398.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Robert B. Ludgate, Reading, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Agricultural Land Preservation Board for a three (3) year term expiring December 31, 2016.
- 399.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of David Phillips, Mohrsville, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Agricultural Land Preservation Board for a three (3) year term expiring December 31, 2016.
- 400.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Peter Giorgi, Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Planning Commission for a four (4) year term expiring December 31, 2017.
- 401.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of Victoria Kintzer, Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania to serve as Chair of the Berks County Agricultural Land Preservation Board for a one (1) year term expiring December 31, 2014.
- 402.13 Adopt a resolution authorizing the reappointment of Ken Seidel, Reading, Pennsylvania to the Berks County Industrial Development Authority for a five (5) year term expiring December 31, 2018.
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 December 10, 2013. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 6 contracts and referenced the departments.
3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated December 10, 2013 for week ending December 11, 2013 and the payment of electronic transfers and employee payroll.

### **Reports**

1. County Treasurer Nelson Long, CPA, did not attend the Meeting, but submitted a prepared weekly Treasurer's report which was read by Commissioner Leinbach.

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 announced on behalf of the Veterans Affairs Office there will be a Berks County Patriots meeting December 12th at Leesport Farmers Market where there will be the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual tribute to Veterans; also on December 21<sup>st</sup>, Berks, Chester and Montgomery counties will hold a mini-stand-down by Vets for Vets at Veterans' Grove, City Park. Mr. Geffken also reported there are 2 veterans' families that can use help during the holiday season and directed interested parties to contact the Veterans Affairs Office for more information.
2. Robert J. Patrizio reported the Commissioners will receive an update on the Department of Aging, discuss the 911 system, specifically the Albany Township tower site and a will have a brief discussion on Sheriff vehicles.

### **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Barnhardt commented on the anticipated traffic changes on the Buttonwood Street Bridge once construction begins in June 2014. Commissioner Barnhardt reported the Bridge will be closed completely in both directions for a period of 2 years, and announced numerous agencies throughout the greater Reading area, including the Chamber of Commerce, BARTA and Planning Commission are devising alternatives to driving into the City, including detours, park and ride, and share a ride. Commissioner Barnhardt commented there will be a lot more information forthcoming between now and June to make commute smoother. Commissioner Barnhardt provided an update on Wiley's Bridge in Ontelaunee Township, stating him and his Assistant, Katie Daley, went to Chester County on Friday to see the relocation of a Fink Truss Bridge to Warwick Park, which is similar to what the County is considering doing with a portion of Wiley's Bridge. Commissioner Barnhardt commented we have to look at the cost and viability of removing part of the Bridge and placing it at one of the County's Parks. Commissioner Barnhardt stated the Bridge was built in 1883 and is one of a few whipple bridges left in the U.S. Commissioner Barnhardt announced the finality of the Holiday Happenings occurring this weekend at the Scottish Rite Cathedral.

Commissioner Scott had no comments today.

Commissioner Leinbach commented on his attendance at the NACo Board meeting last week, where he attended a very powerful Resiliency Conference which dealt with how counties deal with natural disasters.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk