

Commissioners' Board Meeting Minutes December 20, 2018

The Berks County Board of Commissioners on Thursday, December 20, 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 and Commissioner Mark C. Scott in attendance. 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.

Presentation

1. Presentation and adoption of the 2019 Berks County Budget:

Chief Financial Officer Robert Patrizio reported to the Board of Commissioners that since the November 15, 2018 proposed 2019 Budget Presentation, the Budget has been made available for public inspection for more than the required 20 days, reported that neither his office or the Board of Commissioners has received any public comment on the 2019 proposed Budget. Mr. Patrizio stated the Budget Office has continued to work on and refine the Budget, and as a result made adjustments to certain revenue and expenditure lines. Mr. Patrizio noted he added to Election Services for new voting machines and to Liquid Fuels for the Dreibelbis Station Bridge, and reduced the Berks Heim revenue due to trending in the number of beds. Mr. Patrizio reported for expenditures they were able to decrease Personnel costs due to favorable health care trends, but had to increase the General Fund contribution to the Communication Center due to the GPS project, and increase the Pension expense due to lagging investment performance. Mr. Patrizio stated the changes made do not rise to the level that would require the Budget to remain open for the additional ten day period, and recommends the Commissioners adopt the Budget without a tax increase, keeping the millage at 7.657.

Commissioner Barnhardt found it interesting what variables happen in less than a month's period, and thanked Bob and his staff for their diligence in bringing this Budget to the table.

Commissioner Scott thanked Bob and his staff for putting together another highly detailed and accurate budget. Commenting on the expenditure increase to the Pension fund, Commissioner Scott remarked that the stock market does not move in a straight arrow, and noted Berks County is in a much better position because our Pension is fully funded which dramatically reduces our annual contribution.

Commissioner Scott commented that there are always minor disagreements between all three Commissioners when it comes to the Budget, but Commissioner Scott continues to believe our greatest financial opportunity is the Prison and how we manage it. Commissioner Scott continues to support seeking proposals from private operators of prisons, which could save the County millions of dollars annually, and will be supportive of the Budget as drafted.

Commissioner Leinbach thanked Bob and his staff, noting process is a critical piece of what we do. Commissioner Leinbach announced he will support the Budget as proposed.

Declaring all three Commissioners submitted their letters disclosing any conflicts of interests, Commissioner Barnhardt motioned to adopt the 2019 Budget as presented and establish the 2019 Real Estate tax rate at 7.657 mills. Said motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott, and all voted unanimously to adopt the 2019 Berks County Budget without a tax increase.

374.18 A. Adopt a resolution authorizing adoption of the 2019 Berks County Budget, and further establishing the 2019 Real Estate Tax rate at 7.657 mills.

2. Ryan Hunter, Director of Facilities and Operations, presented a brief PowerPoint update on County bridge projects. Mr. Hunter reported the County still owns 59 bridges throughout the County and since 2008, has made a very dedicated, concerted effort on how the funds we receive are spent. Mr. Hunter noted according to PennDOT, Berks County has one of the most robust and active bridge rehabilitation projects in the State. Mr. Hunter noted there are currently nine County bridges in some measure of planning, design and rehabilitation or replacement, and the Commissioners have made selective divestiture of certain bridge assets.

Mr. Hunter reported that since the inception of the \$5 Local Use Fee in March of 2017, \$1,822,805 has been allocated for bridge work, and by implementing the \$5 fee, Berks County was granted access to \$2 million additional discretionary PennDOT RoadMAP Match funding, which we applied for and ultimately awarded the full \$2 million grant.

Commissioner Leinbach noted the Berks County Comprehensive Plan Update 2030 was originally scheduled to be presented today, but a decision was made to pull the presentation for further discussions and review of landfill language in the Plan, and look at the issue of ongoing ag land preservation discussions between the State Preservation Agriculture Land Board and the Berks County Planning Commission. When those two issues are resolved, the Comprehensive Plan Update will be considered at a future date in 2019.

Commissioner Leinbach announced there was an Executive Session held yesterday, December 19, 2018, to discuss litigation and personnel.

Commissioner Leinbach mentioned the Special Meeting that was advertised for Monday, December 17, 2018 was cancelled due to lack of a quorum.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of December 13, 2018 Commissioners' Board Meeting were approved as presented.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

None.

Agenda Items

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Barnhardt to approve the Agenda as presented. Said motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott, and all voted unanimously to approve the items listed below:

375.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing 2018 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$384,372 and 2018 Appropriations in the amount of \$345,580 per listing dated December 17, 2018.

376.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated December 20, 2018 as follows:

1. Authorize the promotion of Raymond Baker from PC010141 Assistant District Attorney I to PC010145 Assistant District Attorney II – District Attorney's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$51,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$48,222; Midpoint \$64,296; Maximum \$80,370. This salary includes Mr. Baker's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11580.
2. Authorize the promotion of Corey Chwiecko from PC010145 Assistant District Attorney II to PC010153 Assistant District Attorney III – District Attorney's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$56,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$53,056; Midpoint \$70,741; Maximum \$88,427. This salary includes Mr. Chwiecko's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11580.
3. Authorize the promotion of Kaitlin Daley from PC010146 Assistant District Attorney II to PC010149 Assistant District Attorney III – District Attorney's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$56,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$53,056; Midpoint \$70,741; Maximum \$88,427.

This salary includes Ms. Daley's 2019 annual increase.
This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget
10000 – 11580.

4. Authorize the promotion of Alec Colquhoun from PC010153 Assistant District Attorney III to PC012784 Assistant District Attorney IV – District Attorney's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$59,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$54,395; Midpoint \$72,527; Maximum \$90,659. This salary includes Mr. Colquhoun's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11580.
5. Authorize the promotion of Jordan Fegley from PC010149 Assistant District Attorney III to PC010160 Assistant District Attorney IV – District Attorney's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$59,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$54,395; Midpoint \$72,527; Maximum \$90,659. This salary includes Mr. Fegley's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11580.
6. Authorize the promotion of Margaret McDonough from PC010155 Assistant District Attorney III to Assistant District Attorney IV – District Attorney's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$59,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$54,395; Midpoint \$72,527; Maximum \$90,659. This salary includes Ms. McDonough's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11580.
7. Authorize the promotion of Charles Prutzman from PC010148 Assistant District Attorney III to Assistant District Attorney IV – District Attorney's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$59,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$54,395; Midpoint \$72,527; Maximum \$90,659. This salary includes Mr. Prutzman's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11580.
8. Authorize the promotion of Karissa Rodriguez from PC010154 Assistant District Attorney III to Assistant District Attorney IV – District Attorney's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$59,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$54,395; Midpoint \$72,527; Maximum \$90,659. This salary includes Ms. Rodriguez's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget

10000 – 11580.

9. Authorize the salary adjustment for Michael Gombar PC010251 Chief Detective – District Attorney's Office, effective 12/26/2018. Rate of \$92,959/annually. Salary range Minimum \$57,406; Midpoint \$76,541; Maximum \$95,676. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11580.
10. Authorize the salary adjustment for Nelson Ortiz PC010945 Lieutenant – District Attorney's Office, effective 12/26/2018. Rate of \$86,676/annually. Salary range Minimum \$51,126; Midpoint \$68,169; Maximum \$85,211. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11580.
11. Authorize the salary adjustment for Harold Shenk PC010944 Lieutenant – District Attorney's Office, effective 12/26/2018. Rate of \$86,676/annually. Salary range Minimum \$51,126; Midpoint \$68,169; Maximum \$85,211. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11580.
12. Authorize the promotion of Brandon Baumann from PC010170 Assistant Public Defender I to PC010176 Assistant Public Defender II – Public Defender's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$51,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$48,222; Midpoint \$64,296; Maximum \$80,370. This salary includes Mr. Baumann's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11570.
13. Authorize the promotion of Lynda Vernon from PC010171 Assistant Public Defender I to PC010173 Assistant Public Defender II – Public Defender's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$51,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$48,222; Midpoint \$64,296; Maximum \$80,370. This salary includes Ms. Vernon's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11570.
14. Authorize the promotion of Michael Daly from PC013228 Assistant Public Defender I to PC010175 Assistant Public Defender II – Public Defender's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$51,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$48,222; Midpoint \$64,296; Maximum \$80,370. This salary includes Mr. Daly's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11570.

15. Authorize the promotion of Dawn Valsan from PC010168 Assistant Public Defender I to PC010174 Assistant Public Defender II – Public Defender's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$51,075/annually. Salary range Minimum \$48,222; Midpoint \$64,296; Maximum \$80,370. This salary includes Ms. Valsan's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11570.
16. Authorize the promotion of Lauren Otero from PC013293 Assistant Public Defender I to PC010177 Assistant Public Defender II – Public Defender's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$51,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$48,222; Midpoint \$64,296; Maximum \$80,370. This salary includes Ms. Otero's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11570.
17. Authorize the promotion of Michael Nuccio from PC010177 Assistant Public Defender II to PC010181 Assistant Public Defender III – Public Defender's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$56,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$53,056; Midpoint \$70,741; Maximum \$88,427. This salary includes Mr. Nuccio's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11570.
18. Authorize the promotion of Anna Ferguson from PC010181 Assistant Public Defender III to PC010187 Assistant Public Defender IV – Public Defender's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$59,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$54,395; Midpoint \$72,527; Maximum \$90,659. This salary includes Ms. Ferguson's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11570.
19. Authorize the promotion of Amber Snow from PC010180 Assistant Public Defender III to PC012761 Assistant Public Defender IV – Public Defender's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$59,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$54,395; Midpoint \$72,527; Maximum \$90,659. This salary includes Ms. Snow's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11570.
20. Authorize the promotion of Stephanie Nocera from PC010186 Assistant Public Defender III to PC013001 Assistant Public Defender IV – Public Defender's Office, effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$59,937/annually. Salary range

Minimum \$54,395; Midpoint \$72,527; Maximum \$90,659.
This salary includes Ms. Nocera's 2019 annual increase.
This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget
10000 – 11570.

21. Authorize salary adjustment for Evan Casner PC011143
Investigator – Public Defender's Office, effective 1/1/2019.
Rate of \$36,500/annually. Salary range Minimum \$32,167;
Midpoint \$42,889; Maximum \$53,611. This salary includes
Mr. Casner's 2019 annual increase. This request meets the
criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11570.
 22. Authorize salary adjustment for Christie Billman PC012764
Assistant Public Defender IV – Public Defender's Office,
effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$67,000/annually. Salary range
Minimum \$54,395; Midpoint \$72,527; Maximum \$90,659.
This salary includes Ms. Billman's 2019 annual increase.
This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget
10000 – 11570.
 23. Authorize salary adjustment for Roarke Aston PC013160
Assistant Public Defender IV – Public Defender's Office,
effective 1/1/2019. Rate of \$63,000/annually. Salary range
Minimum \$54,395; Midpoint \$72,527; Maximum \$90,659.
This salary includes Mr. Aston's 2019 annual increase.
This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget
10000 – 11570.
 24. Authorize approval of the 2019 Management/Confidential
annual salary increase of 2.5% per the attached
memorandum.
- 377.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to
execute the Stop Loss Insurance Proposal provided by
Nationwide Life Insurance ("RMTS") for covered expenses from
January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.
- 378.18 Adopt a resolution approving the following Human Resources
Policies and Procedures:
1. Employee Paid Leave Policy – Revised
 2. Inclement Weather Policy – Revised
- 379.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing the award and the Director of
Contracts and Procurement to execute a contract as a result of
ITB# 18-23-JR, Fire Extinguisher Services, Rebid, for a period of
one (1) year for the participating members of the Berks County
Cooperative Purchasing Board (BCCPC) of which the County of

Berks is a member as identified herein:

Antietam Fire Protection

413 Friedensburg Road

Reading, PA 19606

Total Estimated Annual Expenditure: \$48,069.00

Estimated Annual Expenditure (COB portion): \$13,117.50

With the consent of the vendor, the County reserves the option to extend the contract for two additional one year periods.

- 380.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing the award, and the Director of Contracts and Procurement to execute, two (2) one (1) year contracts as a result of ITB# 18-31-PBJR, Food Provisions, Produce to be utilized by the Berks County Jail System, Berks Residential Center and Berks Heim as follows:

Bedway Produce Company

30 Ave E

Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

Karetas Foods LLC

1012 Tuckerton Ct.

Reading, PA 19605

Pricing for produce shall be quoted and awarded by the Purchasing Department to one vendor on a weekly basis. Awarded vendors shall submit quotes in accordance with the requirements identified within the ITB listed within their respective agreements, awarded pricing will be firm for all deliveries occurring the following calendar week (Sunday-Saturday). The estimated annual spend for produce for County of Berks facilities is \$262,471.27.

The County reserves the right to extend the contract for two (2) additional one (1) year terms upon mutual agreement of both parties in accordance with the terms of the contract governing the unit prices.

- 381.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing the award and the Director of Contracts and Procurement to execute a contract as a result of ITB# 18-25-JR, Oxygen, Medical Grade, Rebid for the Berks Heim as identified herein:

Columbia Ancillary Services, Inc.

1388 State Route 487

Bloomsburg, PA 17815

Total Estimated Expenditure: **\$44,986.68**

The County of Berks reserves the right to extend for two (2) additional one (1) year terms at the unit prices herein, upon mutual agreement of both parties.

- 382.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing a Final Project Completion Payment to the Borough of West Reading, 500 Chestnut Street, West Reading, PA 19611 in the amount of \$192,482.12 as a reimbursement from the County Liquid Fuels Allocation for the Borough's demolition of the Parkview Road Bridge (PennDOT Project No. 18-06427-001).
- 383.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Ryan C. Hunter, Director of Facilities & Operations, to electronically execute Letter of Adjustment 4 to Federal Reimbursement Agreement R15050004, as drafted by the Pennsylvania Dept. of Transportation, pertaining to the Hartz Mill Bridge (County Bridge 38A) Superstructure Replacement Project in Caernarvon Township. The Letter of Adjustment serves to redistribute the costs in the current Estimated Project Cost Exhibit, with no change in the total Project costs, by increasing/decreasing the costs of the phases within the project as required and as further detailed in the attached Exhibit "A03", which replaces the current exhibit. All terms and conditions about the agreement and its amendments not affected by this letter of adjustment remain in full force and effect.
- 384.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute a letter to McCormick Taylor, 600 Eagleview Boulevard, 2nd Floor, Exton, PA 19341 granting an extension of time for completion of Construction Inspection services pertaining to the Blandon Bridge (County Bridge #53A) replacement project in Maiden creek Township until May 31, 2019. This extension is intended to allow for the completion of the required services during the revised construction period as well as all post-construction closeout activities.
- 385.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute Lease Amendment No. 11 with the United States Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, for office space located at the Berks County Agricultural Center for a three (3) term beginning January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021 and an annual rent of \$54,176.65.
- 386.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the no-cost Project Modification Request for the Berks County Second Chance Pilot Project Grant that was authorized by Resolution No. 340-16. Due to a lengthy RFP process, the Juvenile Probation Office was not able to utilize the entire award by December 31, 2018.

- 387.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the no-cost Project Modification Request for the 2016 Video Visitation Implementation Grant that was authorized by Resolution No. 280-17. This modification will extend the grant period for three (3) months to March 31, 2019, to allow for the completion of the work and close out the project.
- 388.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Brian Gottschall, Director of Berks County Emergency Services, to appoint Sean Hart, Deputy Director of Berks County Emergency Services, as 9-1-1 Coordinator for Berks County, replacing Wanda Keener, Support Services Manager, who is retiring.
- 389.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Memorandum of Agreement between Berks, Columbia, Luzerne, Montour, Northumberland, Schuylkill, Wyoming counties, collectively, on behalf of the East Central Regional Counter Terrorism Task Force (“ECTF”) and the Private Industry Council of the Central Corridor (“PICCC, Inc.”) of State College, Pennsylvania, for the provision of policies, procedures and services for effective and efficient fiscal administration and operation of the ECTF.
- 390.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Addendum to Lease Agreement between the County of Berks and Robert J. Marrella and John M. Reshetar, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania for leasing of office space located at 441 Morgantown Road, Reading, Pennsylvania, for Magisterial District Court 23-2-01 for a one (1) year period beginning January 1, 2019.
- 391.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Addendum to Lease Agreement between the County of Berks and Robert J. Marrella and John M. Reshetar, Wyomissing, Pennsylvania for office space located 1150 Muhlenberg Street, Reading, Pennsylvania for Magisterial District Court 23-1-02 for a one (1) year period beginning January 1, 2019.
- 392.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing the re-appointment of Mary McDevitt, Shillington, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Council on Chemical Abuse Advisory Board for a three (3) year term expiring February 1, 2022.
- 393.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of Steve Mohn, Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Agricultural Land Preservation Board for a three (3) year term expiring December 31, 2021.

- 394.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of Jeremy Meck, Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Agricultural Land Preservation Board for a three (3) year term expiring December 31, 2021.
- 395.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of Nicolas Camacho, Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Council on Chemical Abuse Advisory Board to fill the remainder of a three (3) year term expiring February 1, 2021.
- 396.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of Erin Brown, Birdsboro, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Parks and Recreation Board to fill the remainder of a four (4) year expiring December 31, 2020.
- 397.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Amended and Restated Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Berks and Lower Alsace Township, which permits Lower Alsace Township the use of an additional parcel (Site 2) for the purpose of a leaf pickup transfer station. All other terms and conditions of original Memorandum of Understanding dated October 1, 2018.
- 398.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Berks County Community Foundation Grant Agreement in the amount of \$50,000 to the County of Berks for the benefit of the Berks County Complete County Committee to support efforts to ensure an accurate count for the 2020 Census. This grant is from the BB&T Economic Growth Fund of the Berks County Community Foundation.
- 399.18 Adopt a resolution authorizing Ryan Hunter, Director of Facilities and Operations, to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the Berks Career and Technology Center ("Center") and the County of Berks for use of the Berks County Agricultural Center, Bern Township, by the media and parents or other family members during an emergency or crisis at the Center for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years.
2. Motion authorizing execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as furnished by the Contract Coordinator per listing dated December 18, 2018. Commissioner Leinbach reported there are 13 contracts and referenced the departments.

3. Motion to authorize payments set forth on Controller's Office vouchers payable listing dated December 18, 2018 for week ending December 19, 2018 and the payment of electronic transfers and employee payroll, and for the week ending December 27, 2018.

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.

REPORT OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Robert Patrizio reported there will be a discussion regarding the assessment appeal process dealing with not for profit entities.

REPORT OF CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Ronald R. Seaman complimented Bob and his staff for a job well done, and wished everyone the brightest and best of the Holiday Season.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Barnhardt

Commissioner Barnhardt thanked Charles Seidel and Lolly Leshner for their long tenures on the Berks County Agricultural Board, they are both being replaced.

Commissioner Barnhardt reported last night at the South Central Transit Authority monthly meeting they received positive information from Red Rose who entered into agreements with Four Seasons Produce and High Concrete Company to provide van services for 3rd shift employees traveling from Lancaster to and from work. This is a joint effort with the employers, Red Rose and SCTA, and if successful, a similar service could be implemented in Berks County.

Commissioner Barnhardt provided the following brief highlights of programs and projects started in 2018 to be carried over in 2019 and beyond:

- Continued discussions with the State Agriculture Land Preservation Board.
- Continued support of the County Bridge program.
- Plans to visit China in 2019 and possible visit from Chinese officials.
- New Election System
- Continued support of the Behavioral Task Force.
- Berks Heim
- The Jail and the CGL Study. Receive preliminary information next year.
- Mt. Penn Preserve, trail mapping plan.
- WRAP Program
- Census 2020 starting next year
- SOS Berks Opioid Coalition
- Route 422 Highway Project
- 2019 CCAP Conference to be held in Berks County.

Commissioner Scott

Commissioner Scott commented on the new publication *The Response*, and the article on 8 Tips to Enjoy a Safe and Happy Holidays.

Commissioner Scott commented on the letter written to the Editor criticizing the Commissioners regarding the Berks Heim issue.

Commissioner Scott commented on landfills and the issue pertaining to expansion, noting Berks County currently hosts 4 active facilities that have the capacity to receive more than 10 times the trash Berks County generates locally. Commissioner Scott cited how landfills negatively affect the quality of life in Berks County and lower property values, and would like to see Berks County reduce some of the capacity or close some of the facilities. Commissioner Scott believes a policy to overtime, reduce the proximity of landfills in Berks County should be incorporated in our Comprehensive Plan.

Regarding the matter to be discussed at today's Budget/Operations Meeting regarding the assessment appeal process dealing with not for profit entities, Commissioner Scott stated a growing number of disagreements with non-profit about their non-profit status are a problem, for especially the City, where probably about one third of properties in the City pay no taxes. Commissioner Scott believes some of these non-profits should be better scrutinized.

Commissioner Scott wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy, Prosperous New Year.

Commissioner Leinbach

Commissioner Leinbach reported on an incident that occurred at the Berks Heim a few nights ago, and complimented the staff who responded very well and in quick fashion. Commissioner Leinbach reported the Berks County Department of Emergency Services is working to coordinate with WAZE to post information that is critical to drivers in emergency situations on County roadways.

Commissioner Leinbach addressed the recent article in the newspaper dealing with constable pay. Commissioner Leinbach explained that due to the number of entities involved in the process, it is very difficult to determine who pays constable invoices, based on policy, court orders and costs sheets on State mandated fees, and wind up being paid over months and even years.

Commissioner Leinbach thanked County employees and the people of Berks County for making this community a great place to live, work and play. Wish a Happy Hanukah Merry Christmas and Happy New year to everyone.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

County Treasurer Dennis Adams Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Marie Bond, a resident at the YMCA in Reading, talked about current living conditions at the YMCA during construction.

Crystal Kowalski, Wyomissing, thanked the Board for looking into non-profits issue, and commented on the recent newspaper article regarding constables, stating a few years ago she did some research on this issue, and it seems there are a lot of warrants that don't need to exist, namely where truancy is concerned.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:40 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk