

Commissioners' Workshop Meeting Minutes Tuesday, January 10, 2012

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at 10:30 A.M. in the thirteenth floor Board Room 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 Mark C. Scott in attendance. Commissioner Kevin S. Barnhardt was out of town and did not attend the meeting. Also present were County Solicitor Alan S. Miller and Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk.

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

II. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS / REQUESTS:

Budget Department

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2011 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$18,794.00, 2011 Budget Appropriations in the amount of \$17,824.00, 2012 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$13,688.00 and 2012 Appropriations in the amount \$88,400.00 per listing dated January 6, 2012. Robert Patrizio, Chief Financial Officer, commented and clarified for the Board some of the budget transfers.

Human Resources

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources Recommendations per listing dated January 10, 2012. Commissioner Leinbach commented on the one item.

District Attorney

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Berks County Forensic Unit – Phase VI Grant application to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, National Forensic Science Improvement Act, in the total grant amount of \$74,673.00 (100% grant funded). Said grant will provide for automation of lab service requests, eliminating the need for duplication of effort under the current system by implementing a Lab Information Management System (LIMS). The internal records keeping and report writing will become automated and integrated with the LIMS. District Attorney John Adams and Sergeant Detective Robert Johnson attended the meeting. The District Attorney commented this is part of the expansion of the Forensic Unit. Sergeant Johnson commented that the LIMS project serves 41 agencies in Berks County. Sergeant Johnson further commented that this grant will allow outside departments to submit forensic information electronically and populate all information. Sergeant Johnson commented

that the Department's ultimate goal is for ISO accreditation for his Unit going forward. Commissioner Leinbach commented that he and his Assistant, Mary Buerer, toured the Office at the Ag Center about a month ago, and complimented Sergeant Johnson and the District Attorney and the forensic team.

Emergency Management

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the following Access Easement Agreements in regard to the Berks County Emergency Response Radio Project:
1. Clayton R. Ingram – 10 Woods Lane, Barto, Pa.
 2. Richard Hoffman, Merris Hoffman, Timothy Richard Hoffman, Cynthia Ann Aston & Gregg W. Hoffman – Woods Lane, Barto, Pa.

Berks County Jail

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing execution of the Memorandum of Understanding for Act 22 Services between The Prison Inmate Medical Cost Containment Program (PIMCC) and the County of Berks for purposes of serving as intermediary between the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections and Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare to collect and remit the County's share of inmate medical costs that result from the County's inmate hospitalizations

III. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Barnhardt

Commissioner Scott

Commissioner Scott commented on an article he read this morning in the Wall Street Journal about the State of Indiana becoming the next "Right to Work" State. Commissioner Scott further commented that Pennsylvania does not share that status yet, but hopefully will under the direction of Governor Corbett.

Commissioner Leinbach

- A. Adopt a resolution authorizing the appointment of Marjorie J. Ahrens, Shillington, Pennsylvania, to the Berks County Office of Aging Advisory Council for a 2 year term ending December 31, 2013, replacing George Violand, whose term expired December 8, 2011.

Commissioner Leinbach commented and added to Commissioner Scott's comments on the "Right to Work" issue, and that what it comes down to is the right of an employee to choose. Commissioner Leinbach further commented it should be the right of the employee to choose, not a business or the government.

Commissioner Leinbach also commented on a letter he received about a week ago from Pennsylvania Secretary of Transportation Barry Schoch regarding Route 222 improvements. Commissioner Leinbach read a portion of the letter concerning the current funding level for the project. Commissioner Leinbach noted that when he met with the Secretary, it is very clear Pennsylvania is in serious trouble regarding funding of existing road and bridge projects. Commissioner Leinbach called on the legislative delegation in Berks County to seriously look at long term transportation funding. It is a legitimate role of government, and it affects the economy and is a safety issue.

IV. Elected Official Comments

Clerk of Courts James Troutman questioned the Commissioners on the agenda item under the Berks County Jail regarding the MOU with PIMCC. Commissioner Leinbach commented that this agreement deals exclusively with inmate medical costs and not fines and costs. Bob Patrizio, Chief Financial Office, also commented to Mr. Troutman's concerns and further explained what the Agreement with PIMCC covers.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Maryjo Gibson, Chief Clerk