

MINUTES

BERKS COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

February 10, 2020

The February 10, 2020 meeting of the Berks County Industrial Development Authority, held at the Berks County Services Center, 633 Court Street, 14th Floor, Neversink Conference Room, Reading, PA 19601, was called to order at 8:45 AM by Chairman, Joseph M. Eways, II.

Members Present: Joseph M. Eways, II
James A. Adams (via phone)
Robert F. Firely
Eric W. Jenkins
Rebecca M. Wingenroth

Others Present: Commissioner Christian Y. Leinbach
Mary L. Buerer, Executive Assistant to Commissioner Leinbach
Katie Hetherington Cunfer, Director of Government & Community Relations - GRCA
Michael A. Setley, Esquire, Solicitor
Thomas C. McKeon, BCIDA Executive Director
Jeremy R. Zaborowski, BCIDA Deputy Director
Vicki L. Bentz, BCIDA Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper

The minutes of the January 13, 2020 Board meeting was unanimously approved on motion by Ms. Wingenroth, seconded by Mr. Jenkins.

Ms. Wingenroth made a motion to approve the January income and expense reports, financial statements and the budget reports. Mr. Jenkins seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Firely made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Eways and unanimously approved to duly execute the Cooperation Agreement which obligates the Foundation to comply with RACP terms and conditions for the BP 183 grant.

Mr. Zaborowski reviewed Blue Rock Construction's 2020 labor rates and the billing revision to eliminate the 7.5% reimbursable invoicing fee placed on professional services by these invoices coming direct to BerksIDA. Mr. Jenkins made a motion to approve as presented, seconded by Mr. Firely and unanimously approved.

The execution of Amendment No. 5 to the BP 183 RACP grant to extend the termination date from April 30, 2020 to April 30, 2021 was unanimously approved on motion by Ms. Wingenroth and seconded by Mr. Jenkins.

Ms. Wingenroth made a motion to allow Met-Ed to relocate their vault at the intersection of Rt. 183 and Aviation Road and approve the payment for a cost not to exceed \$175,000 at the discretion of the Executive Director. Mr. Jenkins seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The motion to approve the BP 183 pole removal along Aviation Road by Met-Ed for the road widening and payment thereof at an amount not to exceed \$40,000 was made by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Ms. Wingenroth and unanimously approved.

Mr. Firely made a motion to approve Liberty Environmental's proposal to provide technical assistance in the former pistol range Act 2 clean-up in an amount not to exceed \$6,830 subject to staff and solicitor's final review. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and unanimously approved.

Mr. Zaborowski commented on the following:

- Finalizing UGI and Met-Ed's easements at BP 183.
- Mr. Patrizio, County of Berks, will forward info re the County's review company for Mr. Zaborowski to review.
- Met-Ed researching private letter ruling for an opinion re the tax-free inquiry. Comments were made that a tax attorney or accountant should be hired to perform the work after consultant with Met-Ed.
- Continuing conversations with Community First pertaining to grocery store financing.
- Reaching out to banks and attorneys re tax-exempt bond financing; however, due to low bank interest rates not attractive at this time.
- Mr. Jenkins suggested a financial dashboard/one-page snapshot to accompany monthly financial reports.
- Berks Alliance looking for community feedback re desired comprehensive strategic plan. Mr. Leinbach commented that the Berks County Planning Commission is leading the way for a County-wide economic strategy.

Mr. McKeon commented on the following:

- Met with Mr. Leinbach concerning the BP 183 60' right-of-way with Reading Regional Airport Authority allowing road work. Mr. Leinbach commented that the County has a fiduciary liability for what the BerksIDA and RRAA does. BerksIDA will attend the RRAA's February meeting and ask for cooperation.

Ms. Hetherington Cunfer commented that on May 4th there will be a meeting with all three congressional folks to talk about federal-level transportation. Location to be determined.

At 9:50 AM, the regular meeting was recessed and the Board entered executive session. In the executive session, matters related to real estate and the salary/benefits committee were discussed. No official action was taken pertaining to these matters.

The Board reconvened the regular meeting at 11:05 AM and informed the staff that they would work with the personnel subcommittee to develop performance goals and metrics for 2020 to be presented and approved at the April or May Board meetings. There being no further business to come before the Board, at 11:05 on motion by Ms. Wingenroth and seconded by Mr. Jenkins the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Executive Director