

COUNTY OF BERKS
COMMISSIONERS' BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 8, 2026

The Berks County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Thursday, October 8, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. via Microsoft Teams Town Hall, pursuant to due notice to Board members and the public.

Commissioner Chair, Christian Y. Leinbach called the meeting to order with Commissioner Vice Chair, Michael S. Rivera and Commissioner Dante Santoni, Jr. in attendance. Cody Kauffman, Esq., First Assistant County Solicitor; Kevin Barnhardt, Chief Operations Officer and Jessica Blauser, Chief Clerk, were also present.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approve the October 1, 2026, meeting minutes.

There was one Executive Session held on October 7, 2026, dealing with security, litigation, and personnel.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments.

PRESENTATION

Zackary J. Tempesco, C.M., Reading Regional Airport Director, presented information about the 2026 Aviation Council of Pennsylvania Annual Conference being held in Reading at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel.

The Commissioners recognized Zackary Tempesco for receiving his Certification of Completion for his Accredited Airport Executive Program.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Authorizing:

Budget

304.2026 A. Adopt a resolution authorizing 2026 Budget Transfers in the amount of \$307,093 and 2026 Appropriations in the amount of \$1,024,306 per listing dated October 2, 2026.

Human Resources

305.2026 A. Adopt a resolution authorizing Human Resources recommendations dated October 8, 2026, as follows:

1. Authorize the appointment of Catherine Rolon to PC013455 Victim Advocate, District Attorney's Office, effective 10/21/2026. Rate of \$54,000/annually. Salary range Minimum

\$49,708; Midpoint \$59,530; Maximum \$69,352. Replacement for Laura Kemp-Reichard who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11580.

2. Authorize the promotion of Rodnel Toussaint from PC013753 Junior Network Engineer to PC013650 Network Engineer, Information Systems, effective 10/09/2026. Rate of \$81,500/annually. Salary range Minimum \$68,064; Midpoint \$85,080; Maximum \$102,096. Replacement for Glen Aidukas who separated. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11170.
3. Authorize the promotion of Adam Forney from PC012968 Network Engineer to PC013805 Senior Network Engineer, Information Systems, effective 10/09/2026. Rate of \$95,000/annually. Salary range Minimum \$79,000; Midpoint \$98,750; Maximum \$118,500. Position created by Salary Board on 10/01/2026. This request meets the criteria of the Hiring Policy. Budget 10000 – 11070.

Commissioners

- 306.2026 A. Adopt a resolution authorizing Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, to execute the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) County Adult Probation Grant-in-Aid (State GIA) 2026-2027 (# 51269) Application Signature Page for the Adult Probation Office. This resolution shall further authorize the Chief Operations Officer to execute all documents and agreements necessary to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.
- 307.2026 B. Adopt a resolution ratifying and confirming the submission of a Mini-Grant Work Plan Application to the Pennsylvania Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network for Berks County Children and Youth Services. This resolution shall further authorize the Chief Operations Officer, or in their absence, the Deputy Chief Operations Officer, to execute all documents and agreements necessary to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant. The funds will support the annual National Adoption Month celebration, honoring families who adopted between November 2025 and November 2026.
- 308.2026 C. Adopt a resolution authorizing Jessica Jones, Director of the Berks County Area Agency on Aging, to execute and submit the Aging Program Directive (APD) Lobbying Certification Form to the Pennsylvania Department of Aging.
2. Motion to authorize the execution of Contract Agreements/Amendments as set forth on the Contract Agenda listing dated October 5, 2026.

3. Motion to authorize the execution of payments and electronic transfers for the week ending October 9, 2026.
4. Motion to authorize the execution of Tax Collector payroll dated October 15, 2026.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Commissioner Rivera motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Santoni seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the agenda was approved as presented.

REPORTS OF TREASURER AND CONTROLLER

1. Christian Y. Leinbach, Chair, presented the weekly Treasurer's report.
2. Joe Rudderow, County Controller, presented the weekly Controller's report.

REPORT OF CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER

Kevin Barnhardt, nothing to report.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Santoni discussed several community events he has attended and plans to attend. He also announced that the next County Commissioner Town Hall will take place on Wednesday, October 14, 2026, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Wyomissing Public Library.

Commissioner Leinbach discussed recent and upcoming community events he plans to attend, including East Penn Manufacturing's open house to celebrate its 80th anniversary marking eight decades as a family-owned energy storage and battery manufacturer founded in 1946 in Berks County.

Commissioner Rivera provided an update on community events he has attended and plans to attend, including Safe Berks' annual Silent Witness March and Dedication, which honors individuals who lost their lives to domestic violence in Berks County. He also announced that an Election Board meeting will be held today at 11 a.m.

ROW OFFICERS' COMMENTS

No comments.

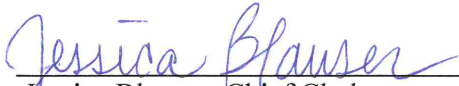
PUBLIC COMMENT

Craig Schaffer, Cumru Township, online comment – spoke on the topic of ICE.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner Leinbach adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jessica Blausen, Chief Clerk