

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE  
COUNTY OF BERKS**

June 26, 2018

Chairman Glenn Yeager called the meeting of the Board of the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Berks to order at 4:30 p.m. on June 26, 2018 in the Neversink Room, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Berks County Services Center, 633 Court Street, Reading, Pennsylvania.

The following Board members were present for the meeting:

Glenn A. Yeager, Chairman  
Barry Rohrbach, Secretary  
Theodore Bassano, Treasurer  
Pellegrino Orlando, Assistant Secretary/ Assistant Treasurer

Vice Chair Eileen Kastura was absent. Chairman Yeager declared a quorum of Board members present.

Also in attendance were:

Kenneth L. Pick, Executive Director  
Kathy Miller, Fiscal Officer  
Tom Dachowski, Housing Director  
Kathy Heckman, Executive Assistant  
Pamela J. Cala, Kozloff Stoudt, Solicitor

The Minutes of the meeting of April 24, 2018 were presented. Upon motion by Chairman Yeager and second by Theodore Bassano, the Minutes were approved by 3-0 vote of members present, with Chairman Yeager abstaining due to his absence from the April meeting.

Theodore Bassano presented the Report of the Treasurer for the period ending May 31, 2018, which included a Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet. A copy of

the Report is attached to these Minutes. Upon motion by Chairman Yeager, second by Barry Rohrbach, all Board members present voted to accept the Report of the Treasurer.

Theodore Bassano then presented the list of invoices to creditors through June 26, 2018, which is attached to these Minutes. Upon motion made by Barry Rohrbach, second by Chairman Yeager, all Board members present voted to approve the payment of said invoices.

Ken Pick reported that there were no Communications or Committee Reports to present.

Kathy Heckman reported on the Next Step Program and Rentals. Ms. Heckman informed the Board that there are currently twenty-one (21) rental subsidy contracts in place, with one (1) starting in June, 2018. On Rentals, Ms. Heckman reported that there was no new activity.

Ken Pick reported on the Colebrookdale Spur, and advised that he, Nathaniel Guest and Lee Olsen continue to work on the final design for the Pottstown Station. Mr. Pick added that Nathaniel Guest has been successful in obtaining several financial commitments for this project. Mr. Pick also reported that he and Solicitor Cala have been working on reviewing and confirming various license and easement rights that affect the Colebrookdale Railroad property.

Ken Pick reported on Armorcast that he is still working on acquiring the property for the purpose of enlarging the intersection and right-of-way in Birdsboro. Mr. Pick also informed the Board that the progress on the construction of the power station in the Armorcast Redevelopment Area continues.

Tom Dachowski then reported on the Blighted Property Review Committee. Mr. Dachowski stated that the next meeting of the Blighted Property Review Committee will occur on July 24, 2018. He added that a property located in Mt. Penn will be removed from the list of blighted properties since the owner has been successful in correcting the code violations to the satisfaction of the Codes Enforcement Officer for the Borough. In addition, Mr. Dachowski stated that the Committee has received applications for two (2) properties in Cumru Township and one (1) property in Wernersville, Pennsylvania, and that first strike letters have been sent to the owners of all three (3) properties.

Under miscellaneous matters, Mr. Pick reported that the application for a \$250,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program for Albright College was not made since Albright College felt that there was excessive paperwork needed for the grant. He also stated that the amount of the grant was inadequate to cover all of the costs to improve the track and field facilities.

Under New Business, Ken Pick presented the following items, which were acted on by the Board as set forth below:

(a) Approval of a First Amendment to ESG Program sub-recipient agreement with Berks Connections/Pretrial Services reducing the grant amount from \$38,000 to \$23,000. After motion by Chairman Yeager, second by Barry Rohrbach, the Board voted unanimously to approve the execution of said Amendment.

(b) Approval of a First Amendment to ESG Program sub-recipient agreement with Family Promise of Berks County, Inc. increasing the grant amount by \$15,000. Theodore Bassano moved that the Board approve the execution of the First Amendment, with second by Pellegrino Orlando. The Board voted unanimously to approve the execution of said Amendment.

(c) Approval of an Agreement between the Redevelopment Authority and Berks County Nonprofit Development Corporation for the allocation of \$150,000 from the HOME Program for the development and renovation of the property located at 225 Pennwyn Place, Mohnton, Pennsylvania. Upon motion made by Chairman Yeager, with second by Pellegrino Orlando, all Board members presented voted unanimously to approve the execution of said Agreement.

(d) Ken Pick reminded the Board of the County Commissioners' interest in relocating all of the Economic Development agencies in one building, including the Redevelopment Authority. Mr. Pick reported that he and Solicitor Cala had been in discussions with Greater Berks Development Fund to lease office space on the third floor of its office building located at 606 Court Street in Reading. As a result of those discussions and negotiations, Mr. Pick presented a Lease Agreement to the Board for approval and execution. Mr. Pick advised the Board that the initial term would be for five (5) years, with the option to renew the term of the Lease for two (2) additional five (5) year renewal terms. Mr. Pick reported that moving to this new location would result in savings to the

Redevelopment Authority. Upon motion made by Theodore Bassano, with a second by Barry Rohrbach, all Board members present voted to approve the execution of the Lease.

Following the conclusion of the meeting of the Board of this Authority, Barry Rohrbach announced that he would be retiring as a Board member, since he and his wife will be relocating to Lebanon County, Pennsylvania in August, 2018. Mr. Rohrbach stated that his last Board meeting will be the July 24, 2018 meeting. Mr. Rohrbach received several compliments and words of appreciation for his thirty (30) years of service to the Redevelopment Authority.

On motion to adjourn by Barry Rohrbach, second by Chairman Yeager, and approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

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Barry Rohrbach, Secretary