

BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

12/21/2022 - 10:30 AM

I. WELCOME / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Regular Meeting of the Bucks County Board of Commissioners was held today at 10:30 am, in the Bucks County Commissioners' Meeting Room, 55 E. Court Street, Doylestown, Pennsylvania. In attendance were Commissioner Robert J. Harvie, Chair; Commissioner Diane M. Ellis-Marseglia, Vice Chair; and Commissioner Gene DiGirolamo, Secretary. Commissioner Harvie welcomed everyone to the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. PRESENTATIONS

A. Bucks County Community College 2022 Poet Laureate

The Commissioners recognized Tom Mallouk of Doylestown as the "2022 BUCKS COUNTY POET LAUREATE," commending his talents and leadership in conveying the beauty of poetry. Introduced by Dr. Ethel Rackin, Director of the Bucks County Poet Laureate program, Ms. Mallouk thanked the Commissioners for the recognition and read three of his poems from his book, *Nantucket Revisited*.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items

Edward Mackouse from Buckingham had questions on agenda items 4b and 7b.

Director of Emergency Services Audrey Kenny provided information on the Emergency Management grant and Commissioner Marseglia spoke about the HEART program.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion of Commissioner DiGirolomo, seconded by Commissioner Marseglia, with the vote being 3-0, the following items on the consent agenda were approved, with a correction to the wording for item 13b:

A. Approve minutes from the December 7, 2022 meeting.

B. Resolutions

1. BH/DP

- | | | |
|----|----------|---|
| a. | With: | Access Services, Inc.
Fort Washington, PA |
| | Amount: | \$781,804** (County 3.9%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve contract to provide various support services. |

7/1/22 – 6/30/23

- b. With: Bucks County Transport, Inc.
 Holicong, PA
Amount: \$83,654** (County 3.9%)
Purpose: Approve contract for transportation services for
 individuals with disabilities.
 7/1/22 – 6/30/23

- c. With: Employment Technology, Inc.
 Doylestown, PA
Amount: \$278,471** (County 3.9%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide supported employment
 services.
 7/1/22 – 6/30/23

- d. With: KenCrest Services
 Blue Bell, PA
Amount: \$110,000** (County 10%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase to provide early intervention
 services.
 7/1/21 – 6/30/22

- e. With: LifePath, Inc.
 Bethlehem, PA
Amount: \$341,306** (County 8.4%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide community participation and
 residential services.
 7/1/22 – 6/30/23

2. Children & Youth

- a. With: Access Services
 Fort Washington, PA
Amount: \$400,000** (County 12%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide specialized foster care
 services for children with special needs.
 7/1/22 – 6/30/24

- b. With: Bethany Christian Services of the Greater Delaware
 Valley

Jenkintown, PA
Amount: \$90,000** (County 10%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide foster care services.
7/1/22 – 6/30/23

c. With: Bethany Christian Services of the Greater Delaware Valley
Jenkintown PA
Amount: \$44,000** (County 20%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide funding for the Safe Families Program.
7/1/22 – 6/30/23

d. With: Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Bucks County
Jamison, PA
Amount: \$578,704** (County 7%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide counseling and case management services.
7/1/22 – 6/30/23

e. With: Child & Family Focus
Valley Forge, PA
Amount: \$99,500** (County 10%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide specialized and traditional foster care services for dependent children.
7/1/22 – 2/28/23

f. With: Diakon Child, Family, and Community Ministries
Topton, PA
Amount: \$737,000** (County 3%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase to provide Family Preservation/After-Care, Intensive Permanency, and Intensive Plus programs.
7/1/22 – 6/30/23

g. With: Diakon Child, Family, and Community Ministries
Topton, PA
Amount: \$50,000** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide Community Pathways - School Based Family Preservation Program.
12/1/22 – 6/30/23

- h. With: Family Service Association of Bucks County
 Langhorne, PA
 Amount: \$400,000** (County 20%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to support shelter operations.
 7/1/22 – 6/30/23
 - i. With: Family Service Association of Bucks County
 Langhorne, PA
 Amount: \$465,205** (County 20%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide various support programs.
 7/1/22 – 6/30/23
 - j. With: Family Service Association of Bucks County
 Langhorne, PA
 Amount: \$225,000** (County 5%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide the Nurturing Parenting
 program.
 7/1/22 – 6/30/23
 - k. With: Family Unity Center
 Bristol, PA
 Amount: \$7,500** (County 20%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide after school services.
 7/1/22 – 6/30/23

3. Commissioners

- a. With: Bucks County Human Relations Council
 Richboro, PA
 Amount:
 Purpose: Approve bylaw amendments made by the Bucks County
 Human Relations Council regarding renewal of
 membership terms.
 - b. With: Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic
 Development
 Harrisburg, PA
 Amount:
 Purpose: Approve Resolution supporting grant application to the

Pennsylvania COVID-19 Small Water and Sewer program for the Morrisville Borough Senior Center/District Justice building stormwater drainage project.

4. Corrections

- a. With: Aramark Correctional Services, LLC
 Philadelphia, PA
 Amount: \$1,500,000** (County 100%)
 Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide food
 services at county correctional facilities.
 12/20/22 – 12/19/23

- b. With: Bucks County Drug & Alcohol Commission
 Doylestown, PA
 Amount:
 Purpose: Approve contract amendment to provide HEART
 program.
 7/1/22 – 6/30/23

- c. With: Bucks County Drug & Alcohol Commission, Inc.
 Doylestown, PA
 Amount: \$285,000** (County 100%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide recovery program.
 1/1/23 – 12/31/23

- d. With: CHOR Youth & Family Services Inc., d/b/a Edison Court,
 Inc.
 Doylestown, PA
 Amount: \$15,800** (County 0%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide therapy to inmates.
 1/1/23 – 12/31/23

- e. With: Emily Brune
 Philadelphia, PA
 Amount: \$33,800** (County 0%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide drug and alcohol intervention
 services to inmates.
 12/26/22 – 12/25/23

- f. With: Family Service Association of Bucks County
 Langhorne, PA
Amount: \$25,000** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide anger management
 program.
 1/1/23 – 12/31/23
- g. With: VITA Education Services
 Doylestown, PA
Amount: \$178,212** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide various workshops and
 training at the correctional facilities.
 1/1/23 – 12/31/23

5. Courts

- a. With: Children & Youth Conflict Counsel
1. Judith A. Algeo
 2. Shari R. Gelfont Williams
 3. Elissa B. Heinrichs
 4. Francine Kaplan
 5. Kardos, Rickles & Hand, PC
 6. Melanie J. Wender
 7. Stuart Wilder
 8. Keith J. Williams
- Amount: \$205,328.64* (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contracts with eight private attorneys to
 represent parties in dependency cases when there is a
 conflict of interest with Legal Aid.
 (\$25,666.08 per contract)
 1/1/23 – 12/31/23
- b. With: Christopher J. White LPC LLC
 Bensalem, PA
Amount: \$45,000** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to serve as Clinical Director for
 Drug/Mental Health Court.
 1/1/23 – 12/31/23
- c. With: Ronald E. (Reb) Brooks
 d/b/a Court Conciliation & Evaluation Service
 Doylestown, PA

Amount: \$73,700** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide psychological counseling and evaluation services in child custody and visitation matters.
1/1/23 – 12/31/23

d. With: Sean M. Gresh, Esquire
Langhorne, PA
Amount: \$55,859.76* (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract for mental health review officer to act as hearing officer for petitions filed in Bucks County Court under the Mental Health and Retardation Act.
1/1/23 – 12/31/23

e. With: Sean R. Ryan
Perkasie, PA
Amount: \$15,600* (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to act as General Master in Court matters.
1/1/23 – 12/31/23

f. With: W. Joshua Buchanan, Esquire
Quakertown, PA
Amount: \$50,428.80* (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve appointment as Advocate Counsel to the Drug Court/Mental Health Diversionary Programs.
1/1/23 – 12/31/23

6. District Attorney

a. With: Law Enforcement Accreditation Services, LLC
Southampton, PA
Amount: \$32,000** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract for county detectives to participate in accreditation program.
12/21/22 – 6/1/24

b. With: Maureen Spang
Chambersburg, PA
Amount: \$18,000** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide consulting services.
1/1/23 – 12/31/23

- c. With: United States Department of Justice - Office of
 Community Oriented Policing Services
 Washington, DC
 Amount: \$40,000 (Revenue)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide Community Policing
 Development Grant Program.
 9/1/22 – 8/31/24

7. Emergency Management

- a. With:
 Amount:
 Purpose: Approve Bucks County Emergency Operations Plan.
- b. With: Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency
 Harrisburg, PA
 Amount: \$13,520,000 (Revenue)
 Purpose: Approve 2022 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)
 Grant Agreement for Regional Counter Terrorism Task
 Force.
 9/1/22 – 12/29/25
- c. With: Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency
 Harrisburg, PA
 Amount: \$1,487,702 (Revenue)
 Purpose: Approve 2022 State Homeland Security Grant Program
 agreement for Regional Counter Terrorism Task Force.
 9/1/22 – 12/29/25
- d. With: Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency
 Harrisburg, PA
 Amount: \$179,261 (Revenue)
 Purpose: Approve Emergency Management Performance Grant
 Agreement to reimburse salaries and benefits for
 approved staff.
 10/1/21 – 1/29/23

8. General Services

- | | | |
|----|----------|--|
| a. | With: | Erdy McHenry Architecture, LLC
Philadelphia, PA |
| | Amount: | \$2,081,790** (County 100%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve contract increase and extension to provide architectural and land development design services for the Lower Bucks Government Services Center.
1/1/25 – 6/6/25 |
| b. | With: | GEM Mechanical Services, Inc.
Aston, PA |
| | Amount: | \$128,000 (County 49.2%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve contract to replace booster pumps at Administration Building and Neshaminy Manor.
150 days from NTP |
| c. | With: | Hirschberg Mechanical
Fort Washington, PA |
| | Amount: | \$31,337** (County 100%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve increase and extension of mechanical contract for Emergency Services Building addition. |
| d. | With: | L. J. Paolella Construction Inc.
Brookhaven, PA |
| | Amount: | \$368,000** (County 100%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve elevator contract for restoration of the farmhouse for the African American Museum of Bucks County.
365 from NTP |
| e. | With: | Magnum, Inc.
Warminster, PA |
| | Amount: | \$12,770.40** (County 100%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve increase and extension of general construction contract for Emergency Services Building addition. |
| f. | With: | Palman Electric, Inc.
Huntingdon Valley, PA |
| | Amount: | (\$8,610.11) |
| | Purpose: | Approve decrease and extension of electrical contract for Emergency Services Building addition. |

- g. With: Palman Electric, Inc.
 Huntingdon Valley, PA
Amount: \$58,789.53** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve increase and extension of electrical contract for
 Emergency Services Building addition.
- h. With: Palman Electric, Inc.
 Huntingdon Valley, PA
Amount: \$310,000** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve electrical contract for restoration of the
 farmhouse for the African American Museum of Bucks
 County.
 365 from NTP
- i. With: Roofing Dynamics Group
 Buckingham, PA
Amount: \$8,000** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to survey and create specifications for
 the leaking roof of District Court 07-1-10.
 12/21/22 – 12/21/25
- j. With: T&M Associates
 Bethlehem, PA
Amount: \$10,000** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase to provide as needed
 engineering consultant services.
 5/10/22 – 5/10/23
- k. With: USA Architects, Planners & Interiors Designers, P.A.
 Easton, PA
Amount: \$5,000** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase for design of the new mental
 health center.

9. Housing & Community Development

- a. With: Advocates for the Homeless of Upper Bucks
 Quakertown, PA
Amount: \$19,500** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract for CDBG-CV funding to support
 emergency shelter services during Code Blue events.
 10/1/22 – 4/30/23

- | | | |
|----|----------|--|
| b. | With: | Coalition to Shelter and Support the Homeless
Doylestown, PA |
| | Amount: | \$39,100** (County 0%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve contract for CDBG-CV funding to support
emergency shelter services during Code Blue events.
9/1/22 – 4/30/23 |
| c. | With: | Family Service Association
Langhorne, PA |
| | Amount: | \$239.84 (County 0%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve contract increase and extension for Emergency
Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV 2) funds for
emergency shelter, shelter operations & essential
services to provide homeless assistance and support as
a result of COVID-19.
9/1/22 – 12/31/22 |

10. Human Resources

- | | | |
|----|----------|---|
| a. | With: | Charles Lamonte
Elkton, MD |
| | Amount: | \$95,450 (County 100%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve settlement of Workers' Compensation claim. |
| b. | With: | Roger McMenamin, Esquire
Willow Grove, PA |
| | Amount: | \$19,550 (County 100%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve settlement of Workers' Compensation claim for Charles Lamonte. |
| c. | With: | Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry
Harrisburg, PA |
| | Amount: | \$54,666 (County 100%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve payment of 2022 Administration Fund Assessment for Self-Insureds. |
| d. | With: | Pennsylvania Social Services Union, Local 668, SEIU,
AFL-CIO
Harrisburg, PA |
| | Amount: | |

Purpose: Ratify and approve contract with PSSU, Unit 07, for approximately 105 employees in Court-related departments.
1/1/21 – 12/31/23

- e. With: Unum Life Insurance Company of America
Portland, ME
Amount: \$1,811,185* (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide stop loss coverage for medical/prescription claims.
1/1/23 – 12/31/23

11. Human Services

- a. With: Bucks County Health Improvement Partnership (BCHIP)
Newtown, PA
Amount: \$179,800 (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve amendment and increase to ARPA funding contract for the Bucks County Long Term Care Partnership and Advanced Care Planning Program.
3/3/21 – 12/31/24
- b. With: Ivins Outreach Center
Morrisville, PA
Amount: \$121,950** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve ARPA funding to provide sign-on & retention bonuses to address the hiring crisis.
3/3/21 – 12/31/24

12. Information Technology

- a. With: Ten4 Mobility d/b/a OpDecision
Baltimore, MD
Amount:
Purpose: Approve contract to provide wireless expense management services.

13. Law Department

- a. With: Nina M. Harbaugh as Administrator of the Estate of
Brittany Ann Harbaugh, Deceased and Kline Specter,

P.C.
Amount: \$250,000 (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve payment (to be fully reimbursed by insurer) in the matter of Nina M. Harbaugh as Administrator of the Estate of Brittany Ann Harbaugh deceased vs Bucks County, et al for settlement of litigation and general release of claims.

b. With: Michelle A. Winter as Administratrix of The Estate of Paul Steele and Kairys, Rudovsky, Messing, Feinberg & Lin, LLP
Amount: \$275,000 (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve payment (to be partially reimbursed by insurer) to settle, resolve, and release any claims which could be brought by the Estate of Paul Steele.

14. Neshaminy Manor

a. With: John F. Amato
Ardmore, PA
Amount: \$15,000* (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide barbering services to residents.
1/1/23 – 12/31/24

b. With: PA TRAN Services, LLC
Huntington Valley, PA
Amount: \$60/one way \$3/mile (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract extension to provide wheelchair transportation for residents. (Subject to final approval by county solicitor)
11/1/22 – 10/31/23

15. Open Space

a. With: Bensalem Township
Amount:
Purpose: Rescind Municipal Open Space Program grant for construction of trail along State Road (TMPs 02-060-069, 02-060-002, 02-059-010, 02-059-011) and re-allocate for acquisition of the Trifecta properties for park and recreation use. (TMPs 02-016-243 through 261, 02-016-262, and 02-016-264).

16. Parks & Recreation

- a. With: Pullman SST Inc.
Swedesboro, NJ
Amount: \$61,070* (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to restore Russian stove at the
Moravian Pottery & Tile Works.
60 days from NTP

17. Planning Commission

- a. With: Traffic Planning & Design Inc.
Doylestown, PA
Amount: \$286,917.82** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide construction inspection
services for the Neshaminy Greenway Trail Phase III
Core Creek Park PennDot Project and authorization for
the Director of Transportation Planning to electronically
sign the agreement.

18. Tax Claim Bureau

- a. With: DEVNET, Inc.
Sycamore, IL
Amount: \$171,173.45 (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide tax claim software license,
maintenance, and support services.
1/1/23 – 12/31/27

19. Veterans Affairs

- a. With: National Flag and Display Co.,
d/b/a Metro Flag Company
Wharton, NJ
Amount: \$31,569.84* (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to purchase flags for veterans' graves.
1/1/23 – 12/31/23

20. Workforce & Economic Development

- a. With: Bucks County Community College
 Newtown, PA
Amount: \$135,000** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for
 contract to provide entrepreneurship program.
 3/3/21 – 12/31/24

- b. With: NuPaths, LLC
 Enola, PA
Amount: \$220,000 (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide information technology
 curriculum to 40 high school students.
 7/1/22 – 12/31/24

- c. With: Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry,
 Bureau of Workforce Development Administration
 Harrisburg, PA
Amount: \$846,800.32 (Revenue)
Purpose: Approve Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
 (WIOA) grant funding to provide One-Stop Operator
 employment and training programs.
 10/1/22 – 6/30/24

- d. With: Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry,
 Bureau of Workforce Development Administration
 Harrisburg, PA
Amount: \$55,000 (Revenue)
Purpose: Approve Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
 (WIOA) grant funding to provide Incumbent Worker
 Training to eligible PA CareerLink® Bucks County
 clients.
 7/1/22 – 6/30/23

- e. With: Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry,
 Bureau of Workforce Development Administration
 Harrisburg, PA
Amount: \$157,784.39 (Revenue)
Purpose: Approve Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
 (WIOA) grant funding for two dedicated, specialized
 staffing positions to support the PA CareerLink® Bucks
 County.

Approved upon motion of Commissioner Marseglia, seconded by Commissioner DiGirolamo, and by roll call vote as follows: Commissioner DiGirolamo – yes, Commissioner Harvie – yes, Commissioner Marseglia – yes

24. ii. Adopt the 2023 County Tax Levies, Millage Rate and User Fee Schedules as recommended by the Chief Financial Officer (roll call)

Approved upon motion of Commissioner DiGirolamo, seconded by Commissioner Marseglia, and by roll call vote as follows: Commissioner DiGirolamo – yes, Commissioner Harvie – yes, Commissioner Marseglia – yes

25. iii. Approve the 2023 Appropriations to County Agencies and Authorities as recommended by the Chief Financial Officer (roll call)

Approved upon motion of Commissioner Marseglia, seconded by Commissioner DiGirolamo, and by roll call vote as follows: Commissioner DiGirolamo– yes, Commissioner Harvie – yes, Commissioner Marseglia – yes

C. Personnel Actions - Commissioners List

Upon motion of Commissioner DiGirolamo, seconded by Commissioner Marseglia, with the vote being 3-0, the Personnel Actions on the Commissioners' List were approved.

D. Other Civics

Upon motion of Commissioner Marseglia, seconded by Commissioner DiGirolamo, with the vote being 3-0, the following Other Civics contributions were approved:

26. Dementia Society of America - \$1,000
Fallsington Library - \$2,500
Snipes Farm and Education Center - \$2,000

VI. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER REPORT

Margie McKeivitt, Chief Operating Officer, thanked everyone for all their work on the 2023 budget and emphasized that they were able to balance the budget with no tax increases and enhanced programs.

Ms. McKeivitt reported on the following:

It was just announced that the county was awarded a \$1.7 million grant from the Federal Government for a rail trail enhancement from Quakertown to Richland Borough.

The county employee holiday program will be held this Friday, December 23rd in the Rotunda at 9:30 am. Please bring your family and friends.

Happy Holidays to everyone and thank you for all your hard work throughout the year.

VII. SOLICITOR REPORT

Solicitor Joe Khan reported on the standing Executive Session held the day before the public meeting to discuss collective bargaining negotiations and personnel matters.

Mr. Khan presented a slide show illustrating several ways in which the Law Department has been able to grow over the past few years, while cutting legal expenses and providing additional services.

A. Administration of Oaths to Assistant County Solicitors by the Honorable Daniel McCaffery, Pennsylvania Superior Court Judge

Mr. Khan introduced the Honorable Daniel McCaffery, Pennsylvania Superior Court Judge. After sharing some of their background information, Mr. Khan welcomed Jaclyn Greiser and Kelly Reilly, new Assistant County Solicitors who were accompanied by their families. Judge McCaffery then administered the Oath of Office to both attorneys.

VIII. BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS – All Items

Jamie Walker from Chalfont spoke during the public comment period for general items. Commissioner Harvie responded, noting the hundreds of right-to-know requests that have been received for information that doesn't exist.

IX. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Marseglia also commented on the right-to-know requests and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Commissioner DiGirolamo spoke about the budget, emphasizing that the commissioners felt it was important to have no tax increase for next year. He also wished everyone Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year and advised them to be careful with the bad weather expected this weekend.

Commissioner Harvie discussed the budget and noted awards received by many of the county leaders during this past year. He also thanked Ms. McKevitt for all her hard work. The Commissioner highlighted many of the events and initiatives accomplished by the county during 2022 and he summarized the items approved at today's meeting. He thanked everyone for all their work during this past year and wished all a Happy 2023, Merry Christmas, and Happy Hanukkah.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Commissioner Marseglia, seconded by Commissioner DiGirolamo, with the vote being 3-0, the meeting was adjourned.

The next public meeting of the Bucks County Board of Commissioners will be held on Wednesday, January 4, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. in the Bucks County Commissioners' Meeting Room.

Approved: January 4, 2023

BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
(Official copy on file with chief clerk)

BY:

Gene DiGirolamo
Commissioner, Secretary

ATTEST:

Gail Humphrey, *Chief Clerk*