

# BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

9/6/2023 - 10:30 AM

## I. WELCOME

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. National Service Dog Month

The Commissioners proclaimed September 2023 as "National Service Dog Month." Jennifer Green, founder of Alpha Bravo Canine, and Nicky Christopher, a student at Pennsbury High School and founder of Strolling for Service Dogs, both spoke about their efforts to support veterans by raising and donating service dogs as companions for veterans suffering from PTSD, anxiety, traumatic brain injury, and other ailments.

### B. National Preparedness Month

The Commissioners proclaimed September 2023 to be "National Preparedness Month," urging all residents to have emergency plans and supply kits, and to review the Department of Homeland Security's Ready Campaign website at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov). Mary Limbert and Fallon Maggio from the Health Department presented information about preparing for winter emergencies, including car emergency kits, and special considerations for older adults. A preparedness BINGO event will be held on Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. Additional information and registration can be found on the Health Department website.

### C. National Recovery Month

The Commissioners proclaimed September 2023 as "Recovery Month," commending Pro-Act for organizing Recovery Month events and being there for the community throughout the year. Jennifer King, Executive Director of the Council of Southeast Pennsylvania, spoke about recovery from substance use disorders and the Annual Recovery Walk scheduled for Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items

Commissioner Harvie asked for a motion to table item 7c. Upon motion of Commissioner Marseglia, seconded by Commissioner DiGirolamo, and with a vote of 3-0, item 7c was tabled.

Commissioner Harvie reminded everyone to restrict their comments to actual items on the agenda.

The following people commented on agenda items as follows:

- Edward Mackouse from Buckingham – item 2a
- Beth Curcio from Warminster – items 7b, 10a, 14a, 14b & 14d
- Robert McLain from Milford Township – items 5a through 5m, and 11a

- Liz Youse from Northampton Township – items 4a & 8a
- Vonna DeArmond from Plumstead – items 2a, 4a, 8a, 10a & b, 11a & 13a

Commissioner Harvie responded to many of the questions and comments. Director of Corrections Dave Kratz, Solicitor Amy Fitzpatrick, and Executive Director of the Bucks County Planning Commission Evan Stone provided clarification on other agenda items.

#### IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion of Commissioner DiGirolamo, seconded by Commissioner Marseglia, the following Resolutions from the consent agenda were approved by the Bucks County Board of Commissioners by a vote of 3-0, except for item 7c, which was tabled.

A. Approve minutes from the August 19, 2023 meeting.

B. Resolutions

1. Area Agency on Aging

|    |          |                                                                                |
|----|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| a. | With:    | Nicole Brigham<br>Wayne, PA                                                    |
|    | Amount:  | \$10,000** (County 0%)                                                         |
|    | Purpose: | Approve contract to provide consulting dietitian services.<br>9/1/23 – 6/30/24 |

2. BH/DP

|    |          |                                                                                                     |
|----|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| a. | With:    | Child & Family Focus, Inc.<br>Audubon, PA                                                           |
|    | Amount:  | \$591,569** (County 0.1%)                                                                           |
|    | Purpose: | Approve contract to provide mental health services to<br>children and families.<br>7/1/23 – 6/30/24 |

3. Children & Youth

|    |          |                                                                                                                       |
|----|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| a. | With:    | Clear Vision Residential Treatment Services, Inc.<br>Montgomery, PA                                                   |
|    | Amount:  | \$105,000** (County 20%)                                                                                              |
|    | Purpose: | Approve contract to provide residential treatment<br>services for dependent and delinquent youth.<br>7/1/23 – 6/30/24 |

- b.     With:               Pennsbury School District  
                                  Fallsington, PA  
       Amount:           \$10,000\*\* (County 10%)  
       Purpose:          Approve contract for Summer TRACK (Truancy  
                                  Reduction and Curfew for Kids) Program.  
                                  6/1/23 – 9/30/23

4.     Corrections

- a.     With:               Bucks County Drug & Alcohol Commission, Inc.  
                                  Doylestown, PA  
       Amount:           \$106,500\*\* (County 100%)  
       Purpose:          Approve contract to provide Pre-Trial Program.  
                                  1/1/23 – 6/30/23
- b.     With:               MessageMedia, USA, Inc.  
                                  Denver, CO  
       Amount:           \$5,700\*\* (County 100%)  
       Purpose:          Approve contract to provide texting service product to  
                                  communicate with staff.  
                                  8/16/23 – 8/15/24

5.     Emergency Health Services

- a.     With:               Bensalem Rescue Squad  
                                  Bensalem, PA  
       Amount:             
       Purpose:          Approve amendment to American Rescue Plan Act  
                                  (ARPA) funding agreement to support Emergency  
                                  Medical Services – Aid to impacted Non- Profit  
                                  Organization.  
                                  3/3/21 – 12/31/24
- b.     With:               Bucks County Rescue Squad  
                                  Bristol, PA  
       Amount:             
       Purpose:          Approve amendment to American Rescue Plan Act  
                                  (ARPA) funding to support Emergency Medical Services  
                                  – Aid to impacted Non- Profit Organization.  
                                  3/3/21 – 12/31/24
- c.     With:               Central Bucks Emergency Medical Services

Doylestown, PA

Amount:

Purpose: Approve amendment to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support Emergency Medical Services – Aid to impacted Non- Profit Organization.  
3/3/21 – 12/31/24

d. With: Chal-Brit Regional Emergency Medical Services  
Chalfont, PA

Amount:

Purpose: Approve amendment to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support Emergency Medical Services – Aid to impacted Non- Profit Organization.  
3/3/21 – 12/31/24

e. With: Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad  
Lambertville, PA

Amount:

Purpose: Approve amendment to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support Emergency Medical Services – Aid to impacted Non- Profit Organization.  
3/3/21 – 12/31/24

f. With: Levittown-Fairless Hills Rescue Squad  
Levittown, PA

Amount:

Purpose: Approve amendment to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support Emergency Medical Services – Aid to impacted Non- Profit Organization.  
3/3/21 – 12/31/24

g. With: Newtown Ambulance Squad  
Newtown, PA

Amount:

Purpose: Approve amendment to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support Emergency Medical Services – Aid to impacted Non- Profit Organization.  
3/3/21 – 12/31/24

h. With: Penndel-Middletown Emergency Squad  
Langhorne, PA

Amount:

Purpose: Approve amendment to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support Emergency Medical Services – Aid to impacted Non- Profit Organization.  
3/3/21 – 12/31/24

i. With: Point Pleasant-Plumsteadville EMS  
Plumsteadville, PA

Amount:

Purpose: Approve amendment to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support Emergency Medical Services – Aid to impacted Non- Profit Organization.  
3/3/21 – 12/31/24

j. With: Tri-Hampton Rescue Squad  
Richboro, PA

Amount:

Purpose: Approve amendment to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support Emergency Medical Services – Aid to impacted Non- Profit Organization.  
3/3/21 – 12/31/24

k. With: Upper Bucks Regional EMS, Inc.  
Revere, PA

Amount:

Purpose: Approve amendment to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support Emergency Medical Services – Aid to impacted Non- Profit Organization.  
3/3/21 – 12/31/24

l. With: Warrington Community Ambulance Corp.  
Warrington, PA

Amount:

Purpose: Approve amendment to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support Emergency Medical Services – Aid to impacted Non- Profit Organization.  
3/3/21 – 12/31/24

m. With: Yardley Makefield Emergency Unit  
Morrisville, PA

Amount:

Purpose: Approve amendment to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support Emergency Medical Services – Aid to impacted Non- Profit Organization.

3/3/21 – 12/31/24

6. Finance

- a. With: Wright National Flood Insurance Company  
St. Petersburg, FL  
Amount: \$11,581 (County 100%)  
Purpose: Approve annual Flood Insurance Policies.  
9/4/23 – 9/7/24

7. General Services

- a. With: Bi-State Construction Company, Inc.  
Easton, PA  
Amount: \$24,352.23\*\* (County 100%)  
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension for repairs to  
Bridge #41, located on Ivyland Road over Little  
Neshaminy Creek in Warminster Township.  
159 days from NTP
- b. With: C&C Ford Sales Inc  
d/b/a Chapman Chrysler Jeep Dodge  
Horsham, PA  
Amount: \$33,251 (County 0%)  
Purpose: Approve purchase of vehicle for District Attorney's Office.
- c. With: C&C Ford Sales Inc  
d/b/a Chapman Chrysler Jeep Dodge  
Horsham, PA  
Amount: \$46,425 (County 0%)  
Purpose: Approve purchase of vehicle for District Attorney's Office.
- d. With: C&C Ford Sales Inc  
d/b/a Chapman Chrysler Jeep Dodge  
Horsham, PA  
Amount: \$47,000 (County 0%)  
Purpose: Approve purchase of vehicle for Sheriff's Office.
- e. With: Chapman Chevrolet LLC  
Philadelphia, PA

Amount: \$41,505 (County 0%)  
Purpose: Approve purchase of vehicle for Sheriff's Office.

- f. With: Verizon Pennsylvania LLC  
New Castle, PA  
Amount:  
Purpose: Approve contract to provide right-of-way easement access on county property located at 1202 Almshouse Road in Doylestown.
- g. With: Verizon Pennsylvania LLC  
New Castle, PA  
Amount:  
Purpose: Approve contract to provide right-of-way easement access on county property located at 1282 Almshouse Road in Doylestown.

#### 8. Housing & Community Development

- a. With: Bucks County Opportunity Council  
Doylestown, PA  
Amount: \$380,000\*\* (County 0%)  
Purpose: Approve contract for CDBG funding to provide hoteling for clients who have exhausted Bucks County Emergency Rental Assistance (BERA).  
6/1/23 – 3/31/24
- b. With: Bucks Villa, Inc.  
Langhorne, PA  
Amount:  
Purpose: Approve contract extension for 2022 CDBG funding for bathroom renovations.  
9/1/23 – 12/31/23

#### 9. Human Services

- a. With: Bucks County Area Agency on Aging  
Doylestown, PA  
Amount: \$95,000\*\* (County 3.9%)  
Purpose: Approve contract to provide personal care and adult day services.  
7/1/23 – 6/30/24

- b.     With:               Bucks County Opportunity Council, Inc.  
                                  Doylestown, PA  
      Amount:           \$70,693\*\* (County 3.9%)  
      Purpose:          Approve contract to provide counseling, housing, and  
                                  service planning/case management services for families.  
                                  7/1/23 – 6/30/24
- c.     With:               Libertae, Inc.  
                                  Bensalem, PA  
      Amount:           \$26,000\*\* (County 3.9%)  
      Purpose:          Approve contract to provide case management services  
                                  for individuals in recovery.  
                                  7/1/23 – 6/30/24

10.    Juvenile Probation

- a.     With:               George Junior Republic in Pennsylvania  
                                  Grove City, PA  
      Amount:           \$260,000\*\* (County 40%)  
      Purpose:          Approve contract to provide long-term residential care.  
                                  7/1/23 – 6/30/24
- b.     With:               Juvenile Court Judges' Commission  
                                  Harrisburg, PA  
      Amount:           \$605,890 (Revenue)  
      Purpose:          Approve application and acceptance of grant agreement  
                                  for juvenile and specialized probation services.  
                                  7/1/23 – 6/30/24

11.    Law Department

- a.     With:               Carol Schaffling  
                                  c/o Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin  
                                  Lansdale, PA  
      Amount:           \$41,132.49 (County 100%)  
      Purpose:          Approve payment for settlement of litigation and general  
                                  release of claims.
- b.     With:               Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin



Amount: Lansdale, PA  
\$24,867.51 (County 100%)  
Purpose: Approve payment for settlement of litigation and general release of claims.

12. Neshaminy Manor

- a. With: Johnson Controls Fire Protection  
Horsham, PA  
Amount: \$99,798.07 (County 0%)  
Purpose: Approve contract to replace nurse call system equipment.  
5/3/23 – 11/3/23
- b. With: Manheim Medical Supply, Inc.  
Manheim, PA  
Amount:  
Purpose: Approve contract extension to purchase examination gloves.  
10/17/23 – 10/16/24

13. Parks & Recreation

- a. With: Deere & Company  
Cary, NC  
Amount: \$51,890.09 (County 100%)  
Purpose: Approve contract to purchase tractor and backhoe for the Oxford Valley Golf Course.

14. Planning Commission

- a. With: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission  
(DVRPC)  
Philadelphia, PA  
Amount: \$104,200 (Revenue)  
Purpose: Approve contract to provide transportation planning services.  
7/1/23 – 6/30/24
- b. With: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission  
(DVRPC)

Philadelphia, PA  
Amount: \$26,000 (Revenue)  
Purpose: Approve contract to provide GIS services.  
7/1/23 – 6/30/24

c. With: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission  
(DVRPC)  
Philadelphia, PA  
Amount: \$61,734 (Revenue)  
Purpose: Approve contract to provide public transit planning  
services.  
7/1/23 – 6/30/24

d. With: Warrington Township  
Amount: \$13,100 (Revenue)  
Purpose: Approve contract to assist with updating the township's  
zoning ordinance, and subdivision and land development  
ordinance in coordination with the township's  
Zoning/SALDO Ad Hoc Committee.  
9/6/23 – 9/5/24

15. Public Defender

a. With: Bucks County Court Reporters, LLC  
Bensalem, PA  
Amount:  
Purpose: Approve contract extension to provide court reporting  
services.  
5/2/23 – 8/23/23

16. Purchasing

a. With: Imperial Bag & Paper Company, LLC  
Jersey City, NJ  
Amount: \$5,057\* (County 20%)  
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide  
plastic utensils, cups, and other non-food kitchen items  
for Neshaminy Manor and the Youth Center.  
9/19/23 – 9/18/24

b. With: Imperial Bag & Paper Co., LLC  
Jersey City, NJ

Amount: \$16,763.60\* (County 1%)  
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide containers, cups, and lids for Neshaminy Manor and the Youth Center.  
9/19/23 – 9/18/24

c. With: WB Mason Company  
Philadelphia, PA  
Amount: \$40,040.30\* (County 25%)  
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide plastic utensils, cups, and other non-food kitchen items for Neshaminy Manor and the Youth Center.  
9/19/23 – 9/18/24

d. With: WB Mason Company  
Philadelphia, PA  
Amount: \$115.20\* (County 50%)  
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide containers, cups, and lids for Neshaminy Manor and the Youth Center.  
9/19/23 – 9/18/24

#### 17. Youth Center

a. With: Cream-O-Land Dairy  
Florence, NJ  
Amount: \$26,000\*\* (County 50%)  
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide cooler rental and purchase of milk, dairy, and juice products.  
8/3/23 – 8/2/24

\*Unit Cost/Estimated for operational purposes only \*\* Unit Cost/Not to Exceed

### V. REGULAR AGENDA

#### A. Resolutions

Item 18a – Alice Colyar, Grants Manager with Workforce & Economic Development, provided additional information on this business & economic development grant.

Upon motion of Commissioner DiGirolamo, seconded by Commissioner Marseglia, the following Resolution on the regular agenda was approved by the Bucks County

Board of Commissioners by a vote of 3-0.

18. Workforce & Economic Development

- a. With: Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22  
Doylestown, PA  
Amount: \$120,000\*\* (County 0%)  
Purpose: Approve contract to provide Paid Student Internship program, Mobile Fab Lab & Fab Center Funding, and expansion of the CareerReady Bucks Website to Bucks County schools and businesses.  
6/1/23 – 6/30/24

B. Personnel Actions - Commissioners List

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

C. Board Appointments

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

19. Bucks County Children & Youth Advisory Board (3-year term)  
Bernadette Heenan New appointment Term ends 3/1/26
20. Bucks County Parks & Recreation Board (5-year term)  
William Wert Reappointment Term ends 9/1/28

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:

21. Bucks for Kids \$3,000  
Fire Professionals Aiding Children \$3,200  
Middletown Grange Fair \$2,500  
Synchronicity Recovery Foundation \$2,000

VI. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER REPORT

Margie McKevitt, Chief Operating Officer, introduced Rob Henry, Executive Director of the Greater Valley Forge Transportation Management Association. Mr. Henry congratulated Senior Planner Christian Regosch on being recently awarded an "under forty" recognition for transportation professionals for his efforts with transportation demand management (TDM). Other Planning Commission staff present for this recognition were Mr. Stone, Rich Brahler, Director of Transportation Planning, and Parker Frohlich, Planner.

VII. SOLICITOR REPORT

Solicitor Amy Fitzpatrick reported on the standing Executive Session held the day before the public meeting to discuss personnel matters, and pending and prospective litigation.

## VIII. BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS – All Items

The following individuals spoke during the public comment period for general items:

- Edward Mackouse
- Beth Curcio
- Charles Reichner from Nockamixon
- Robert McLain
- Laurie Katz
- Liz Youse
- Vonna DeArmond

## IX. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner DiGirolamo spoke about the history of Narcan access in Pennsylvania and how many lives have been saved since Act 139 was signed into law.

Commissioner Harvie reflected on or shared information about the following items:

- Labor Day is a time to appreciate and recognize all the different types of workers.
- The unemployment rate is down in the county, however there are still those looking for work and employers with positions to fill. Please contact CareerLink for assistance in making those connections.
- With school back in session, please drive safely and exercise caution around school buses.
- Happy Grandparents' Day to all grandparents on Sunday. The county is starting a new program to assist grandparents who are taking care of their grandchildren because of the opioid crisis.
- Rosh Hashanah is coming up; Happy New Year to those who celebrate.
- 911 is next Monday; There will be a ceremony at the Garden of Reflection in Lower Makefield.
- COVID numbers are going up; September is a good time to get a flu shot and/or a COVID booster.

Commissioner Harvie recapped some of the contracts approved at the meeting today, thanking staff for the important work they do.

## 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, September 20, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. in the Bucks County Commissioners' Meeting Room.

Approved: September 20, 2023  
BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
(Official copy on file with chief clerk)

BY:

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Gene DiGirolamo  
Commissioner, Secretary

ATTEST:

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Gail Humphrey, *Chief Clerk*