

BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

12/20/2023 - 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. Employee Recognition

The Commissioners recognized the following employees reaching twenty-year anniversaries of working for the County: Kelly Reed from Department of Corrections and Andrea L. Grazioso from Neshaminy Manor, who were not present, and Cheryl Ann Carels from MH/DP, Joshua E. Marttila from Courts, Linsey E. Leahy from Children & Youth, and Kelly L. Jerrom from Planning Commission who were all present.

B. Neshaminy High School Select Choir

The Commissioners welcomed the Neshaminy High School Select Choir, who were winners of the B-101 Christmas Choir Competition. The choir, led by choir director Kristin Nichols, performed two songs. Superintendent Jason Bowman congratulated the choir and said a few words.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items

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 2d
- Robert McLain from Milford Township – the budget
- Andy Warren from Middletown Township – item 13a, budget adjustments, and the budget

Commissioner Harvie responded to many of the questions and comments. Director of Corrections Dave Kratz, Health Department Director Dr. David Damsker, Solicitor Amy Fitzpatrick, and Chief Financial Officer David Boscola provided clarification on other agenda items.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

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

A. Approve minutes from the December 6, 2023 meeting

B. Resolutions

1. Area Agency on Aging

- a. With: Partners in Care Foundation
 San Fernando, CA
 Amount: (\$9,256)
 Purpose: Approve termination of contract to purchase web-based
 medication risk screening application.
 1/1/23 – 12/31/23

- b. With: PSI Personnel, LLC
 Doylestown, PA
 Amount:
 Purpose: Approve contract amendment to Appendix B to provide
 temporary office staff for Parks & Recreation.
 7/1/22 – 6/30/25

2. BH/DP

- a. With:
 Amount: \$3,569.04** (County 3.9%)
 Purpose: Approve out-of-county travel to participate in the
 Pediatric Capacity Building Institute (CBI): Youth with
 Complex Needs training in Harrisburg.
 11/20/23 – 10/31/24

- b. With: Bucks County Opportunity Council, Inc.
 Doylestown, PA
 Amount: \$75,000** (County 3.9%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to fund Housing Locator activities, to
 support housing sustainability for those with mental
 health issues.
 7/1/23 – 6/30/24

- c. With: Children's Therapy Services, LLC
 Pipersville, PA
 Amount: \$466,162** (County 10%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide early intervention services
 for children.
 7/1/23 – 6/30/24

- d. With: Lenape Valley Foundation
 Doylestown, PA
Amount: \$7,587,139** (County 4.1%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide mental health, intellectual
 disability, and early intervention services.
 7/1/23 – 6/30/24
- e. With: National Alliance on Mental Illness of Bucks County
 (NAMI)
 Warrington, PA
Amount: \$379,028** (County 2.7%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide community-based services.
 7/1/23 – 6/30/24
- f. With: NetSmart Technologies, Inc.
 Philadelphia, PA
Amount: \$181,284.81 (County 3.9%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide software maintenance and
 support for the myAvatar system and MS Dynamics
 product.
 7/1/23 – 6/30/24
- g. With: Penn Foundation Inc. d/b/a St. Luke's Penn Foundation
 Sellersville, PA
Amount: \$3,132,443** (County 4.6%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide mental health, intellectual
 disability, and early intervention services.
 7/1/23 – 6/30/24
- h. With: SPIN, Inc.
 Philadelphia, PA
Amount:
Purpose: Approve contract amendment to add additional service
 and rate.
 7/1/22 – 6/30/23
- i. With: SPIN, Inc.
 Philadelphia, PA
Amount: \$41,507** (County 9.7%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide intellectual disability
 supported employment services and early intervention
 services.

7/1/23 – 6/30/24

j. With: Sunny Days Early Childhood Developmental Services,
 Inc.
 Media, PA
 Amount: \$1,474,400** (County 10%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide early intervention services
 for children.
 7/1/23 – 6/30/24

k. With: The Salvation Army
 Philadelphia, PA
 Amount: \$238,709** (County 3.9%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide residential services.
 7/1/23 – 6/30/24

3. Children & Youth

a. With: Acollective Consulting, LLC
 Warminster, PA
 Amount: (\$189,540)
 Purpose: Approve decrease of contract to provide community
 residential services for dependent children.
 6/1/22 – 6/30/23

b. With: Acollective Consulting, LLC
 Warminster, PA
 Amount: \$500,000** (County 20%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide community residential
 services for dependent children.
 7/1/23 – 6/30/25

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.
 7/1/23 – 6/30/24

d. With: Bethany Christian Services of the Greater Delaware

- Valley
Jenkintown PA
Amount: \$90,000** (County 10%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide foster care services.
7/1/23 – 6/30/24
- e. With: Community Service Foundation
Pipersville, PA
Amount: \$285,000** (County 7%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) and other services for dependent and delinquent youth.
7/1/23 – 6/30/24
- f. With: Community Service Foundation
Pipersville, PA
Amount: \$3,160,000** (County 20%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide various services for dependent and delinquent youth.
7/1/23 – 6/30/25
- g. With: Delta Family Services, LLC.
Blue Bell, PA
Amount: \$75,000** (County 20%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide foster care and supervised independent living services.
7/1/23 – 6/30/24
- h. With: Diakon Child, Family, and Community Ministries
Topton, PA
Amount: \$120,000** (County 10%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide foster care and kinship services to children.
7/1/23 – 6/30/25
- i. With: Network of Victim Assistance, Inc.
Jamison, PA
Amount: \$319,030.90** (County 20%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide counseling and support services.
7/1/23 – 6/30/24

j. With: Network of Victim Assistance, Inc.
 Jamison, PA
 Amount: \$129,960** (County 5%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide counseling and mentoring
 services.
 7/1/23 – 6/30/24

k. With: Northern Children's Services
 Philadelphia, PA
 Amount: \$100,000** (County 20%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide foster care services.
 7/1/23 – 6/30/25

l. With: Valley Youth House Committee, Inc.
 Bethlehem, PA
 Amount: \$600,000** (County 16%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide emergency shelter,
 independent living, and group home services.
 7/1/23 – 6/30/24

4. Coroner

a. With: Lindsay Simon, MD, Ph. D
 Philadelphia, PA
 Amount: \$950/autopsy* (County 100%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide forensic pathology services.
 12/1/23 – 11/30/28

5. Corrections

a. With: PrimeCare Medical, Inc.
 Harrisburg, PA
 Amount: \$766,000** (County 100%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide Medication Assisted
 Treatment (MAT) Program services and medications.
 8/1/23 – 7/31/24

6. Courts

a. With: Christopher J. White, LPC LLC

Amount: Bensalem, PA
\$45,600** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to serve as Clinical Director for
Drug/Mental Health Court.
1/1/24 – 12/31/24

b. 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.
1/1/24 – 12/31/24

7. Fire Marshal

a. With: Anaconda Protective Concepts
Newark, DE
Amount: \$85,101.50** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide maintenance and inspection
of fire, burglar, panic alarms, and fire suppression
systems for all county buildings.
1/1/24 – 12/31/26

8. General Services

a. With: Des Carr
Doylestown, PA
Amount: \$14,950** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve increase of contract to provide maintenance and
repairs to garage doors at Justice Center.
1/1/23 – 12/31/23

b. With: Fred Beans Ford of Doylestown
Doylestown, PA
Amount: \$164,940** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve purchase of three 2024 Transit-350 Cargo AWD
Vans for the Sheriff's Office.

c. With: PQ Energy Service, Inc.
Easton, PA

Amount: \$6,350** County (100%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase for HVAC repairs at Justice Center.
6/15/22 – 6/14/25

9. Housing & Community Development

- a. With: A Woman's Place
Doylestown, PA
Amount: (\$2,101)
Purpose: Approve contract decrease for HUD Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act funding for rapid rehousing and emergency shelter assistance.
10/1/22 – 9/30/23
- b. With: Bucks County Opportunity Council
Doylestown, PA
Amount:
Purpose: Approve contract extension for 2023 CDBG funding to provide operational support for the Bucks County Housing Link.
4/1/24 – 6/30/24
- c. With: YWCA Bucks County
Trevose, PA
Amount:
Purpose: Approve contract amendment for 2023 Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement (PHARE) funding for Rapid Re-Housing services.
1/1/23 – 12/31/23

10. Human Resources

- a. With: Centerstone Insurance and Financial Services, d/b/a Benefitmall
Phoenix, AZ
Amount: \$2,241,925* (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide stop loss insurance with Unum Life Insurance for medical/prescription claims.
1/1/24 – 12/31/24
- b. With: Sedgwick Claims Management Services Inc.

Dublin, OH
Amount: \$291,220 (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide Family and Medical Leave (FML) administration. (Subject to final approval by county solicitor)
1/1/24 – 12/31/26

11. Information Technology

a. With: Keymark Inc.
Liberty, SC
Amount: \$7,688.04* (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase to provide licenses and maintenance for electronic workflows.
1/1/24 – 12/31/24

12. Juvenile Probation

a. With: Community Commitment, Inc.
Doylestown, PA
Amount: \$100,000** (County 12%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase to provide intensive in-home counseling for juveniles and add community youthwork.
7/1/22 – 6/30/24

b. With: Cornell Abraxas Group, LLC
Pittsburgh, PA
Amount: \$475,000** (County 40%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide long-term drug & alcohol treatment services.
7/1/23 – 6/30/24

13. Law Department

a. With:
Amount: \$7,000 (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve resolution awarding merit bonuses to Law Department paralegals and support staff.

b. With: Warrington Township, Victory Gardens Inc., William and Rosemary Garges Real Estate Trust, and Michael M.

Butler

Amount:

Purpose:

Approve settlement agreement between the County of Bucks and Warrington Township v. Victory Gardens Inc., and the Garges Real Estate Trust and Michael M. Butler.

14. Neshaminy Manor

a. With:

Singer Equipment Company Inc.
Elverson, PA

Amount:

\$22,003.11** (County 0%)

Purpose:

Approve purchase of convection steamer.

15. Parks & Recreation

a. With:

Mercer Museum Research Library
Doylestown, PA

Amount:

Purpose:

Approve deposit agreements with the Mercer Museum Research Library/Bucks County Historical Society.
1/1/24 – 12/31/26

b. With:

Playground Patrol LLC
Sykesville, MD

Amount:

\$5,955 (County 100%)

Purpose:

Approve contract to provide comprehensive playground safety inspection at ten playground sites.

16. Planning Commission

a. With:

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Philadelphia, PA

Amount:

\$71,111 (Revenue)

Purpose:

Approve contract for county staff to assist DVRPC in the development of a Regional Vision Zero Plan.
10/25/23 – 10/26/25

b. With:

New Hope Borough

Amount:

\$6,100 (Revenue)

Purpose:

Approve contract to assist with updating the borough's comprehensive zoning ordinance.

12/20/23 – 12/20/25

- c. With: Nockamixon Township
 Amount: \$14,150 (Revenue)
 Purpose: Approve contract to assist with updating the township's
 comprehensive plan.
 12/20/23 – 12/20/25

- d. With: Solebury Township
 Amount: \$39,800 (Revenue)
 Purpose: Approve contract to assist with updating the township's
 comprehensive plan.
 12/20/23 – 12/20/25

17. Police Training

- a. With: Kelcy Pitts
 Lansdale, PA
 Amount: \$16,920** (County 0%)
 Purpose: Approve increase and extension of contract to provide
 Assistant Coordinator services for Traffic Services grant.
 10/1/23 – 9/30/24

- b. With: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation,
 Bureau of Highway Safety
 Harrisburg, PA
 Amount: \$1,269,749 (Revenue)
 Purpose: Approve grant for the Police Traffic Services Grant
 program.
 10/1/23 – 9/30/26

18. Purchasing

- a. With: Office Basics
 Boothwyn, PA
 Amount:
 Purpose: Approve extension of county's portion of the
 Southeastern PA Counties Cooperative Purchasing
 Board's bid for paper products.
 1/1/24 – 12/31/24

- b. With: Singer Equipment Company, Inc.
 Elverson, PA
 Amount: \$63,000* (County 100%)
 Purpose: Approve increase and extension of county's portion of
 the Southeastern PA Counties Cooperative Purchasing
 Board's bid for paper products.
 1/1/24 – 12/31/24
- c. With: W.B. Mason Co. Inc.
 Brockton, MA
 Amount: \$52,540* (County 100%)
 Purpose: Approve increase and extension of county's portion of
 the Southeastern PA Counties Cooperative Purchasing
 Board's bid for paper products.
 1/1/24 – 12/31/24

19. Register of Wills

- a. With: Scantek, Inc.
 Willow Grove, PA
 Amount:
 Purpose: Approve contract extension to digitally scan and archive
 adoption files.
 12/15/23 – 12/14/24

20. Sheriff

- a. With: The Activity Group, LLC
 Garden City, ID
 Amount: \$17,722.50** (County 100%)
 Purpose: Approve increase and extension of contract to purchase
 ballistic vests and equipment for Deputy Sheriffs.
 7/28/23 – 7/27/24

21. Veterans Affairs

- a. With: National Flag and Display Co.,
 d/b/a Metro Flag Company
 Wharton, NJ
 Amount: \$32,150.88* (County 100%)
 Purpose: Approve increase and extension of contract to purchase

flags for veterans' graves.
1/1/24 – 12/31/24

22. Workforce & Economic Development

- a. With: Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry,
Bureau of Workforce Development
Harrisburg, PA
Amount: \$52,490 (Revenue)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide additional services for the In
School Youth program.
7/1/23 – 6/30/24

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

V. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Budget Adjustments

David Boscola, Chief Financial Officer, provided additional clarification on the proposed budget adjustments.

Upon motion of Commissioner DiGirolamo, seconded by Commissioner Marseglia, with the vote being 3-0, these Budget Adjustments were adopted.

23. 2023 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS
Agenda Description
December 20, 2023

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS - Adjust Operating Budget for additional expenditures

Adjustment	Department	Amount
Adjustment #21	Commissioners	31,000
Adjustment #22	Tax Collectors	5,000
Adjustment #23	Mail Room	35,000

Adjustment #24	Constables	85,000
Adjustment #25	Household Hazardous Waste	70,000
Adjustment #26	Youth Center	218,000
	Juvenile Placements	(218,000)
Total Adjustment to General Fund Balance		226,000

B. 2024 County Budget, Tax Levy and Appropriations

Mr. Boscola presented an overview of the following proposed items.

Commissioner DiGirolamo, Commissioner Marseglia, and Commissioner Harvie each commented on the proposed budget and budget process.

24. i. Adopt the 2024 County Budget as recommended by the Chief Financial Officer (roll call)

Upon motion of Commissioner Marseglia, seconded by Commissioner Harvie, and by roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Marseglia – aye, Commissioner Harvie – aye, Commissioner DiGirolamo – no, this motion was approved 2-1.

25. ii. Adopt the 2024 County Tax Levies, Millage Rate and User Fee Schedules as recommended by the Chief Financial Officer (roll call)

Upon motion of Commissioner Marseglia, seconded by Commissioner Harvie, and by roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Marseglia – aye, Commissioner Harvie – aye, Commissioner DiGirolamo – no, this motion was approved 2-1.

26. iii. Approve the 2024 Appropriations to County Agencies and Authorities as recommended by the Chief Financial Officer (roll call)

Upon motion of Commissioner Marseglia, seconded by Commissioner DiGirolamo, and by roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Marseglia – aye, Commissioner Harvie – aye, Commissioner DiGirolamo – yes, this motion was approved 3-0.

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. Board Appointments

Upon motion of Commissioner Harvie, seconded by Commissioner Marseglia, with the vote being 3-0, the following appointment was approved:

27. Bucks County Planning Commission (4-year term)
Eleanor Breslin new appointment term ends 1/1/27
to finish term of Ann Marie Mitchell

E. Other Civics

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

28. Bethlehem AME Building \$250

VI. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER REPORT

Margie McKevitt, Chief Operating Officer, thanked everyone for all their work on the 2024 budget and emphasized that it was a difficult process.

Ms. McKevitt thanked all staff for their work this year and wished everyone a wonderful holiday season.

VII. SOLICITOR REPORT

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

VIII. BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS – All Items

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

- Edward Mackouse
- Robert McLain
- Andy Warren

IX. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Marseglia wished everyone Happy Holidays, peace in the new year, and health and safety for everyone in the county.

Commissioner DiGirolamo wished everyone Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year. He thanked everyone for their good work throughout the year.

Commissioner Harvie wished a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all staff and thanked them for their work throughout the year. He spoke about his practice of directing questions during the meeting to department heads and said it is good for people to see who is running these departments.

Commissioner Harvie echoed Commissioner Marseglia's wish for peace.

Commissioner Harvie spoke about the choice of music played before the meetings.

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

The next regular public meeting of the Bucks County Board of Commissioners will be held on Wednesday, January 3, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. in the Bucks County Commissioners' Meeting Room.

Approved: January 3, 2024
BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
(Official copy on file with chief clerk)

BY:

Gene DiGirolamo
Commissioner, Secretary

ATTEST:

Gail Humphrey, *Chief Clerk*