

BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

1/8/2025 - 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, followed by a moment of silence to remember President Jimmy Carter.

II. PRESENTATIONS

A. Human Trafficking Awareness Month

The Commissioners proclaimed January 2025 as "Human Trafficking Awareness Month," offering support to the Bucks County Coalition Against Human Trafficking (BCAT) and Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA) and their mission to prevent and combat human trafficking. Training coordinator Jamie Pfister and Human Trafficking Victim Advocate Danielle DiUlio accepted the proclamation and shared information on BCAT & NOVA.

B. Bucks County Suicide Prevention Task Force

Commissioner Marseglia introduced Tom Roskowski, Co-Chair of the Bucks County Suicide Prevention Task Force, and Keeley Rosenthal from Behavioral Health, who shared information on outreach efforts and presented a video on suicide prevention.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following people spoke during Public Comment:

- Fran Haller from Newtown Township
- Edward Mackouse from Buckingham
- Bill Everett from Middletown Township
- Andy Warren from Middletown Township
- Beth Roth from Bedminster Township
- Beth Curcio from Warminster
- Marla Burke from Quakertown
- Rochelle Porto from Bensalem

Commissioner Harvie provided additional clarification on many of the questions and comments. Chief Operating Officer Margie McKevitt, Robert McCune from the Lower Delaware Wild and Scenic River Expansion Committee, and Solicitor Amy Fitzpatrick all contributed responses to other questions raised.

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 18, 2024 meeting

B. Resolutions

1. BH/DP

- a. With: Bucks County Opportunity Council, Inc., Doylestown, PA
Amount: \$289,948** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase to provide Community Based Care Management (CBCM) services to individuals with mental health diagnoses.
1/1/24 – 12/31/25
- b. With: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Philadelphia, PA
Amount: \$48,300 (Revenue)
Purpose: Approve grant to provide rental assistance.
7/1/24 – 6/30/25

2. Board of Assessment

- a. With: Hill Wallack, LLP, Yardley, PA
Amount: \$25,000/year** + expenses (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve appointment of outside counsel as Board of Assessment Solicitor.
1/8/25 – Open
- b. With: Russell P. Sacco, LLC, Yardley, PA
Amount: \$10,000/year** + expenses (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve appointment of conflict counsel for Board of Assessment Solicitor.
1/8/25 – Open

3. Board of Elections

- a. With: Cerida Investment Corp. d/b/a AnswerNet
Willow Grove, PA
Amount: \$5,088.22** (County 100%)

Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide Call Center support.
11/7/24 – 11/12/24

4. Clerk of Courts

- a. With: Kilkenny Law, LLC, Norristown, PA
Amount: \$15,000** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve increase and extension of contract to provide legal services.
1/1/24 – 12/31/25

5. Commissioners

- a. With: Bucks County Community College, Newtown, PA
Purpose: Approve extension of Memorandum of Understanding for continued management of the Doylestown and Bristol Public Safety Training Centers.
1/1/25 – 12/31/25

6. Corrections

- a. With: Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Harrisburg, PA
Amount: \$100,000** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve intergovernmental agreement to provide Pennsylvania Identification Cards, Driver's Licenses, and/or Photo Camera Cards to inmates.
2 years from NTP

7. Courts

- a. With: Anthony Q. Lewis, Philadelphia, PA
Amount: \$125/hour* (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide Treatment Court Intervention Counseling services.
1/1/25 – 12/31/25

- b. With: Children & Youth Conflict Counsel

1. Joseph M. Remagli

2. Keith J. Williams

Amount: \$60,518.88* (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contracts with two private attorneys to represent parties in dependency cases when there is a conflict of interest with Legal Aid. (\$30,259.44 per contract)
1/1/25 – 12/31/25

c. With: Criminal Conflict Counsel

1. Harry J. Cooper
2. Mel D. Kardos
3. Christopher Serpico
4. Keith J. Williams

Amount: \$189,608.16* (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contracts with four private attorneys to represent individual defendants in cases when there is a conflict of interest with the Bucks County Public Defender's Office.
(\$47,402.04 per contract)
1/1/25 – 12/31/25

d. With: Sean R. Ryan, Perkasio, PA
Amount: \$16,524** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to act as General Master in Court matters.
1/1/25 – 12/31/25

e. With: W. Joshua Buchanan, Esquire, Quakertown, PA
Amount: \$52,466.16** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve appointment as Advocate Counsel to the Drug Court/Mental Health Diversionary Programs.
1/1/25 – 12/31/25

8. Emergency Communications

a. With: Vendor 24807
Amount: \$120,150** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve purchase of services to enhance network support.
1/1/25 – 12/31/25

b. With: Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency
Harrisburg, PA

Amount: \$55,000 (Revenue)
Purpose: Approve grant to develop and sustain GIS data critical to 911 operations.
1/1/25 – 1/31/26

9. General Services

- a. With: Farfield Acquisition Company f/k/a The Farfield Company
Lancaster, PA
Purpose: Approve assignment of electrical contract for the Diversion, Assessment, Restoration, and Treatment (DART) Center project and authorization for Chief Operating Officer to execute any related documents.
- b. With: Industrial Diesel Power, Inc., Croydon, PA
Amount: \$51,726.33* (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension for generator maintenance inspection program.
3/2/25 – 3/1/26
- c. With: JVI Group Inc., York Springs, PA
Amount: \$59,356.98** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase for the replacement of Bridge #333 on Strocks Grove Road over Beaver Creek in Nockamixon Township.
6/29/23 – 11/14/24
- d. With: United Tire of Southampton, Southampton, PA
Amount: \$26,399** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to purchase tires and related services.
1/1/24 – 12/31/24

10. Health Department

- a. With: Pennsylvania Department of Health, Office of Public Health Preparedness, Harrisburg, PA
Amount: \$473,011 (Revenue)
Purpose: Approve annual grant for the Pennsylvania Health Department's Public Health Preparedness Program.
7/1/24 – 6/30/25

11. Housing & Community Development

- a. With: Bucks County Opportunity Council, Inc., Doylestown, PA
 Amount: \$65,625** (County 0%)
 Purpose: Approve contract for Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and
 Rehabilitation Enhancement (PHARE) funding for landlord
 incentives and diversion.
 11/1/24 – 3/31/26

- b. With: Bucks County Opportunity Council, Inc., Doylestown, PA
 Amount: \$191,802.50** (County 0%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide Rapid Rehousing and
 homelessness prevention assistance.
 12/1/24 – 3/31/26

- c. With: Higher Information Group, Harrisburg, PA
 Amount: \$125,730** (County 0%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide document digitization services.
 1/8/25 – 1/7/26

- d. With: YWCA Bucks County, Trevoese, PA
 Amount: \$24,098** (County 0%)
 Purpose: Approve contract for Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and
 Rehabilitation Enhancement (PHARE) funding for
 Continuum of Care staffing support.
 1/1/25 – 3/31/26

12. Human Resources

- a. With: Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry
 Harrisburg, PA
 Amount: \$61,117 (County 100%)
 Purpose: Approve payment of 2024 Administration Fund Assessment
 for Self-Insureds.

13. Human Services

- a. 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.
7/1/24 – 6/30/25

- b. With: Bucks County Opportunity Council, Inc., Doylestown, PA
 Amount: \$329,781.09** (County 3.9%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide rental assistance to eligible residents.
 7/1/24 – 6/30/25

- c. With: Bucks County Opportunity Council, Inc., Doylestown, PA
 Amount: \$48,300** (County 3.9%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide homeless assistance case management services.
 7/1/24 – 6/30/25

- d. With: Family Service Association of Bucks County
 Langhorne, PA
 Amount: \$41,000** (County 3.9%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide information and referral services.
 7/1/24 – 6/30/25

- e. With: Family Service Association of Bucks County
 Langhorne, PA
 Purpose: Approve contract extension to provide supports to shelter residents with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD), Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and co-occurring disorders.
 1/1/25 – 6/30/25

- f. With: Hagopian Arts, Philadelphia, PA
 Amount: \$22,200** (County 0%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to design and paint a large mural in the Administration Building and facilitate law enforcement and community painting events. (Subject to final approval by county solicitor)
 1/1/25 – 5/31/25

14. Neshaminy Manor

- a. With: Delcrest Medical Services, Ivyland, PA
 Purpose: Approve contract extension to purchase low to the floor

electric beds.
2/15/25 – 2/14/26

- b. With: Personal Touch Health Care Apparel, Brooklyn, NY
Amount: \$20,000* (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide socks, gowns, and bibs for residents.
2/16/25 – 2/16/26

15. Parks & Recreation

- a. With: Friends of Peace Valley Nature Center, Doylestown, PA
Purpose: Approve donation of flooring for Peace Valley Nature Center.
- b. With: Friends of Peace Valley Nature Center, Doylestown, PA
Purpose: Approve donation of landscaping services at Peace Valley Nature Center.

16. Planning Commission

- a. With:
Purpose: Approve revision of resolution 19a approved on 7/24/24 to endorse adding certain tributaries of the Delaware River to the Lower Delaware Wild and Scenic River, Partnership and Scenic Rivers Designation program.

17. Police Training

- a. With: Kelcy Pitts, Lansdale, PA
Amount: \$33,840** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide Assistant Coordinator services for Traffic Services grant.
10/1/24 – 9/30/26

18. 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 contract to purchase flags for veterans' graves.
1/1/25 – 12/31/25

19. Workforce & Economic Development

- a. With: Bucks County Assistance Office, Bristol, PA
Purpose: Approve Memorandum of Understanding regarding operation of the one-stop delivery system.
7/1/24 – 6/30/27
- b. With: Bucks County Community College, Newtown, PA
Purpose: Approve Memorandum of Understanding regarding operation of the one-stop delivery system.
7/1/24 – 6/30/27
- c. With: Bucks County Opportunity Council, Inc., Doylestown, PA
Purpose: Approve Memorandum of Understanding regarding operation of the one-stop delivery system.
7/1/24 – 6/30/27
- d. With: Educational Data Systems, Inc., Dearborn, MI
Purpose: Approve Memorandum of Understanding regarding operation of the one-stop delivery system.
7/1/24 – 6/30/27
- e. With: Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, Bureau of Workforce Development, Harrisburg, PA
Amount: \$98,550 (Revenue)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide services at Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 and Upper Bucks County Technical School.
10/1/24 – 6/30/27
- f. With: Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, Bureau of Workforce Development, Harrisburg, PA
Purpose: Approve Memorandum of Understanding regarding operation of the one-stop delivery system.
7/1/24 – 6/30/27

- g. With: Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Norristown, PA
Purpose: Approve Memorandum of Understanding regarding
operation of the one-stop delivery system.
7/1/24 – 6/30/27
- h. With: The Career Wardrobe, Philadelphia, PA
Purpose: Approve Memorandum of Understanding regarding
operation of the one-stop delivery system.
7/1/24 – 6/30/27

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

V. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Budget Adjustments

David Boscola, Chief Financial Officer, provided information 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.

20. 2024 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Agenda Description
January 8, 2025

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS - Adjust Operating Budget for additional expenditures

Adjustment	Department	Amount
Adjustment #27	Area Agency on Aging	615,000
	Area Agency on Aging (Revenue)	(615,000)
Adjustment #28	Opioid Remediation Program	1,700,000
	Opioid Remediation Program (Revenue)	(1,700,000)
Total Adjustment to General Fund Balance		-

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 Marseglia and seconded by Commissioner DiGirolamo, the following reappointment of Robert J. Harvie, Jr. was approved by a vote of 2-0-1 with Commissioner Harvie abstaining. Upon motion of Commissioner Marseglia and seconded by Commissioner DiGirolamo, the appointment of Gregory C. McCarthy was approved by a vote of 3-0.

21. Delaware Valley Regional Finance Authority (5-year term)
Robert J. Harvie, Jr. reappointment term ends 1/7/30
Gregory C. McCarthy new appointment term ends 1/5/26

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

22. Bucks County Airport Authority (5-year term)
Louis E. McKay reappointment term ends 1/1/30

23. Bucks County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council (3-year term)
Michael Bannon reappointment term ends 1/1/28
Jeremy Wechsler reappointment term ends 1/1/28
Nicole Bachman new appointment term ends 1/1/28
Linda Brinker new appointment term ends 1/1/28
Susan DeRosier new appointment term ends 1/1/28
Michelle Karabin new appointment term ends 1/1/28

24. Bucks County Community College Authority (5-year term)
David D. Oxley reappointment term ends 1/1/30

25. Bucks County Industrial Development Authority (5-year term)
Brent Alderfer new appointment term ends 1/1/30

26. Bucks County New Americans Advisory Commission (4-year term)
Matthew Pienkowski new appointment term ends 1/2/28

27. Bucks County Opportunity Council (3-year term)
Tobias Bruhn, Ed.D. reappointment term ends 12/31/27

28. Bucks County Parks & Recreation Board (5-year term)
Nancy Sherlock new appointment term ends 11/1/27
* to finish the term of Theodore Moore Sr.

29. Bucks County Planning Commission (4-year term)
Thomas J. Jennings reappointment term ends 1/1/29
James J. Keenan reappointment term ends 1/1/29
Edward Tokmajian reappointment term ends 1/1/29
Harold Hayes new appointment term ends 1/1/26
* to finish the term of Judi Reiss
30. Bucks County Water & Sewer Authority (5-year term)
John F. Cordisco reappointment term ends 1/1/30
31. Saint Mary Hospital Authority (5-year term)
Umar Farooq, M.D. reappointment term ends 12/31/29

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:

32. Drummers with Attitude \$3,000
Peace Center \$2,500

VI. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER REPORT

Ms. McKevitt thanked Marla Burke for sharing her book about Haycock Township.

Ms. McKevitt wished everyone a happy 2025 and said they will continue to work hard for the citizens of Bucks County. She noted the projects that are planned for the upcoming year.

VII. SOLICITOR REPORT

Solicitor Amy Fitzpatrick reported on the standing Executive Session held yesterday, January 7th, to discuss personnel matters, pending and prospective litigation, and to receive confidential legal advice.

VIII. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner DiGirolamo also expressed thanks to Ms. Burke for the beautiful book and commented on the nests for the purple martins.

Commissioner Harvie thanked everyone for a productive meeting and spoke about President Carter's time in office.

IX. 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 22, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. in the Bucks County Commissioners' Meeting Room.

Approved: January 22, 2025
BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
(Official copy on file with chief clerk)

BY:

Gene DiGirolamo
Commissioner, Secretary

ATTEST:

Gail Humphrey, *Chief Clerk*