

BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

February 2, 2022

I. 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. WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS

III. PRESENTATIONS

A. Vows and Veterans Presentation

The commissioners welcomed Linda Bobrin, Recorder of Deeds, who shared a video and spoke about the "Vows and Veterans" expo which was held in November. Ms. Bobrin announced that they will be hosting a similar free-wedding event on Monday, February 14th, called "Vows and Valentines."

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items

Andy Warren, former Commissioner from Middletown Township, had questions on agenda items 14a, b, & c. Commissioner Harvie advised that these would be addressed during the Regular Agenda presentation.

Megan Brock, from Northampton, spoke in favor of agenda item 10c.

V. 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 January 19, 2022 regular meeting.

B. Resolutions

1. Area Agency on Aging

a.	With:	Bucks County Free Library Doylestown, PA
	Amount:	\$1,500** (County 0%)
	Purpose:	Approve contract to develop and implement programs and services for older adults. 7/1/22 – 6/30/23

2. Children & Youth

- a. With: Access Services
 Fort Washington, PA

 Amount:
 Purpose: Approve contract extension to provide specialized foster
 care services for children with special needs.
 7/1/21 – 6/30/22
- b. With: Acollective Consulting, LLC
 Chester, PA

 Amount: \$19,730** (County 20%)
 Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide
 community residential services to dependent children.
 7/1/21 – 9/30/21
- c. With: Bucks County Housing Group, Inc.
 Warminster, PA

 Amount: \$717,550** (County 20%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide supportive housing services.
 7/1/21 – 6/30/22
- d. With: Community Service Foundation
 Pipersville, PA

 Amount: \$3,050,000** (County 8%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide various services for
 dependent and delinquent youth. (Subject to final
 approval by county solicitor)
 7/1/21 – 6/30/23
- e. With: Community Service Foundation
 Pipersville, PA

 Amount: \$855,000** (County 5%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide Family Group Decision
 Making (FGDM) and other services for dependent and
 delinquent youth. (Subject to final approval by county
 solicitor)
 7/1/21 – 6/30/23
- f. With: Edison Court, Inc.
 Doylestown, PA

 Amount: (\$2,110,149)

Purpose: Approve termination of contract.
10/1/21 – 6/30/22

- g. With: CHOR Youth and Family Services Inc.
d/b/a Edison Court
Reading, PA
- Amount: \$1,560,000** (County 20%)
- Purpose: Approve contract to provide residential services for
dependent and delinquent youth. (Subject to final
approval by county solicitor)
10/1/21 – 6/30/22

3. Corrections

- a. With: Henry Schein Inc.
Melville, NY
- Amount: \$22,104** (County 100%)
- Purpose: Approve contract for purchase and installation of dental
chair and required equipment for the Women's
Correctional Facility.

4. Emergency Communications

- a. With: Cody Systems
Pottstown, PA
- Amount: \$14,000 (County 100%)
- Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension for additions to
records management system interface.
12/10/20 – 12/9/25

5. Finance

- a. With: Aon Risk Services Central, Inc.
Philadelphia, PA
- Amount: \$1,962,438* (County 100%)
- Purpose: Approve contract for the following insurance policies.
2/1/22 – 2/1/23
- Auto Liability (\$85,526)
Crime/Fidelity (\$7,895)
Cyber Liability (\$49,660)
Employment Practices (\$128,050)

Excess Liability (\$124,881)
Excess Workers Compensation (\$300,237)
General Liability (\$57,119)
Law Enforcement Liability (\$225,451)
Property (\$400,500)
Public Health Professional Liability (\$256,500)
Public Officials Liability (\$172,429)

2/1/22 – 2/1/25
Pollution Liability (\$154,190)

6. General Services

- a. With: Alex Yuchkovski
New Hope, PA
Amount: \$9,000 (Revenue)
Purpose: Approve sale of county property located on Lower Mountain Road in Solebury Township.
- b. With: Joseph Jingoli & Son, Inc.
Lawrenceville, NJ
Amount: \$49,600** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension for construction management services for Phase 2 & 3 of administration building rehabilitation project.
12/1/21 – 3/31/22

7. Health Department

- a. With:
Amount:
Purpose: Approve update to the "Bucks County Department of Health Rules and Regulations Governing the Hygiene and Sanitation of Housing."
- b. With: General Healthcare Resources LLC
Plymouth Meeting, PA
Amount: \$40-\$64/hour* \$58-\$72/hour* (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide temporary staff to assist with long-term COVID-19 related efforts.
10/1/21 – 9/30/23

8. Housing & Community Development

- | | | |
|----|----------|--|
| a. | With: | Advocates for the Homeless of Upper Bucks
Quakertown, PA |
| | Amount: | \$150,000 (County 0%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve contract for Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV 2) funds for emergency shelter, shelter operations & essential services to provide homeless assistance and support to mitigate the impact of COVID-19.
6/30/20 – 9/30/22 |
| b. | With: | Bucks County Opportunity Council
Doylestown, PA |
| | Amount: | |
| | Purpose: | Approve contract extension for HUD Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act funding for Rapid Rehousing services and Housing Stability Case Management.
6/30/22 – 9/30/22 |
| c. | With: | Cerida Investment Corp. d/b/a AnswerNet
Willow Grove, PA |
| | Amount: | \$2,335,540** (County 0%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve contract to provide administrative and housing stability services for the Bucks Emergency Rental Assistance (BERA) program.
2/14/22 – 2/13/23 |
| d. | With: | Family Service Association
Langhorne, PA |
| | Amount: | |
| | Purpose: | Approve contract extension for 2020 Emergency Solutions Grant funding to continue shelter assistance.
6/30/22 – 9/30/22 |
| e. | With: | Family Service Association
Langhorne, PA |
| | Amount: | \$149,200** (County 0%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve contract for 2021 CDBG funding for emergency homeless shelter operations. |

3/1/22 – 2/28/23

- f. With: Nockamixon Township
Amount: \$13,000** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract for 2021 CDBG funding to support Eastern Upper Bucks Senior Center operations.
3/1/22 – 2/28/23
 - g. With: Penn Foundation d/b/a St. Luke's Penn Foundation Sellersville, PA
Amount: \$35,000** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to fund operational costs related to the transitional housing program through the Village of Hope.
7/1/21 – 6/30/22
 - h. With: Urban Design Ventures Homestead, PA
Amount: \$50,000** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide technical assistance for regulatory compliance for all HUD grants.
1/1/22 – 12/31/22
 - i. With: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Philadelphia, PA
Amount:
Purpose: Approve submission of 2021 Action Plan Amendment for HOME ARP grant funds to provide homelessness assistance and supportive services.

9. Human Services

- a. With: Bucks County Drug & Alcohol Commission, Inc. Doylestown, PA
Amount: \$18,000 (Revenue)
Purpose: Approve contract for reimbursement of costs for consulting services.
1/1/22 – 12/31/22
 - b. With: Hindsight Consulting Group, LLC

Philadelphia, PA
Amount: \$13,500** (County 3.9%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide trauma informed training for staff.
1/1/22 – 12/31/22

10. Juvenile Probation

- a. With: Affinity Forensic Services LLC
d/b/a PA Forensic Associates
Reading, PA
Amount:
Purpose: Approve contract extension to provide highly specialized foster care for at-risk children.
7/1/21 – 9/30/21
- b. With: CHOR Youth and Family Services Inc.
d/b/a Affinity Forensic Services LLC
Reading, PA
Amount: \$65,000** (County 20%)
Purpose: Approve contract extension to provide highly specialized foster care for at-risk children.
10/1/21 – 6/30/22
- c. With: Hope Springs Behavioral Health Inc.
Warminster, PA
Amount: \$100,000** (County 50%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide court ordered psychological evaluations and screenings.
2/1/22 – 1/31/23

11. Planning Commission

- a. With: Gilmore & Associates, Inc.
New Britain, PA
Amount: \$30,280 (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase to add structural engineering work for the Core Creek Park Trail Project.
10/3/18 – Completion

- b. With: MXI Environmental Services, LLC
 Abingdon, VA
 Amount: \$400,000* (County 25%)
 Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension for household
 hazardous waste services.
 4/1/22 – 3/31/23

12. Printing and Reproduction

- a. With: Lindenmeyr Munroe
 King of Prussia, PA
 Amount: \$11,713.17* (County 100%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to purchase envelopes.
 10/18/21 – 7/31/22

13. Workforce & Economic Development

- a. With: Dontech, Inc.
 Doylestown, PA
 Amount: \$1,151.25** (County 0%)
 Purpose: Approve contract increase to provide additional training
 courses for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
 (WIOA) eligible PA CareerLink® Bucks County clients.
 7/1/21 – 7/31/22
- b. With: Unique System Skills, LLC
 Nashua, NH
 Amount: \$26,000** (County 0%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide IT training and certifications
 for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
 eligible PA CareerLink® Bucks County clients.
 7/1/21 – 7/31/22

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

VI. REGULAR AGENDA

Items 14b & c – Rich Brahler, Director of Transportation Planning, provided information on these contracts to address the stormwater issues they encountered with the Newtown Rail Trail. He clarified that the work has already been done and resulted in no cost to the county.

Items 14a & b – Mr. Brahler discussed these items related to the 2nd phase of the rail trail project.

Sheriff Fred Harran, noting that he had to leave the meeting early, used this time to speak in support of Commissioner Marseglia and her long-time advocacy for mental health and social services in the county.

Upon Motion of Commissioner Marseglia, seconded by Commissioner DiGirolamo, with the vote being 3-0, the following Resolutions from the regular agenda were approved by the Bucks County Board of Commissioners.

A. Resolutions

14. Planning Commission

- | | | |
|----|----------|---|
| a. | With: | Gilmore & Associates, Inc.
New Britain, PA |
| | Amount: | \$210,210** (County 20%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve contract to provide design and engineering services for Phase 2 of the Newtown Rail Trail.
2/2/22 – 8/2/24 |
| b. | With: | James D. Morrissey, Inc.
Philadelphia, PA |
| | Amount: | \$235,830.64** (County 0%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve contract increase and extension for construction of the Newtown Rail Trail due to unforeseen stormwater issues.
5/5/22 – 6/30/22 |
| c. | With: | Pennoni Associates, Inc.
Philadelphia, PA |
| | Amount: | \$58,877.65** (County 0%) |
| | Purpose: | Approve increase to Construction Inspection Agreement for the Newtown Rail Trail in Upper Southampton. |

- d. With: SEPTA
 Philadelphia, PA
- Amount:
- Purpose: Approve revision of lease agreement for the Newtown
 Rail Trail to include TMP 31-021-004 and a portion of 31-
 015-079.
 5/22/19 – 5/22/49

B. Personnel Actions

Commissioner Harvie noted that items 3,4,6, and 7 on the Courts list will be coming off; they were included in error.

Upon motion of Commissioner Marseglia, seconded by Commissioner DiGirolamo, with the vote being 3-0, the Personnel Actions 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:

15. Bucks County Housing Development Corporation

- Raymond Myslinski

Emergency Health Advisory Council

- Robert Race, III
- Kenneth D. Coluzzi
- Kathleen Fox
- Edward J. Crohe, III
- Richard Goldsmith
- Mark Scholl

Local Emergency Planning Committee

- David M. Harris
- Robert A. Kay, Sr.
- Audrey Kenney
- Joseph Seborowski
- Diane Ellis-Marseglia
- Robert A. Woodruff
- Kasey Kollar
- Rory LaRosa
- Shelly Kerney

VII. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER REPORT

Margie McKeivitt, Chief Operating Officer, yielded time to Planning Commission Director Evan Stone, who provided an update on the Bucks 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Additional information can be found on the Planning Commission website.

Ms. McKeivitt advised that applications are being accepted until Monday, March 7th, for Community Development Block grants, Emergency Solutions grants, HOME Investment Partnership Programs, and Housing Trust Fund Programs. Please see the website for applications and additional information.

Ms. McKeivitt reported that the Bonus for Bucks program, which provides incentives to landlords who offer housing opportunities for those in need, has been extended until July.

VIII. SOLICITOR REPORT

Solicitor Joe Khan reported on Executive Sessions held since the last Commissioners' Meeting:

- January 20th – to discuss and review emergency preparedness in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic
- January 25th – to consider the purchase or lease of real property and consult with counsel about potential litigation claims.
- February 1st – Standing Executive session to discuss personnel matters, collective bargaining negotiations, and pending and potential litigation

IX. BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS – All Items

Megan Brock from Northampton Township and Jamie Walker from Chalfont, spoke about various items such as masking/quarantining, right-to-know requests, the Board of Health and the county Twitter account.

Mr. Warren questioned whether people who have illegally crossed the southern border are being flown in to be placed in local communities.

The following individuals expressed appreciation and spoke in favor of the recent distribution of free COVID-19 test kits and county masking policies:

- Nancy Sherlock from Morrisville
- Bonnie Piestrak from Lower Makefield Township
- Paul Roden from Lower Makefield Township

X. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner DiGirolamo addressed Mr. Warren's questions about flights coming into Bucks County and advised that he has no knowledge of this happening. The commissioner suggested that this is a question for our congressman or senators.

Expressing his frustration, Commissioner DiGirolamo spoke at length about redistricting across Pennsylvania. He discussed various concerns and issues, including the complications it is causing with the Board of Elections.

Commissioner Marseglia spoke about the importance of mental health, noting the

significant portion of the county budget that goes toward social services. Referencing the “40 Developmental Assets” identified by the Search Institute as the building blocks of healthy development, the commissioner encouraged anyone interested in mental health to get involved and volunteer with any of the numerous organizations and community partners that deal with mental illness and/or mental health initiatives.

In response to Mr. Warren’s question, Commissioner Harvie also confirmed that he is not aware of any flights of illegal immigrants coming into the county.

Commissioner Harvie reported that the annual Point-In-Time count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons in the county was held last week. Data is still being compiled.

Commissioner Harvie explained that the county is required to mail out ballot applications to everyone that had checked the box last year to be a permanent mail-in voter. The letters for Bucks County voters are being sent out in the mail this week. Once received, voters can return the application, go on-line to apply, scan the QR code to apply, or opt out of future mailings.

Commissioner Harvie wished a Happy Lunar New Year to everyone who celebrates this holiday.

Noting that it is African American History month, Commissioner Harvie reflected on his time as a history teacher and the challenges of finding adequate documentation about the many contributions of African Americans. He said there are a lot of stories, but not all get told.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The next public meeting of the Bucks County Board of Commissioners will be held on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. in the Bucks County Commissioners’ Meeting Room.

Approved: February 16, 2022
BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
(Official copy on file with chief clerk)

BY:

Gene DiGirolamo
Commissioner, Secretary

ATTEST:

Gail Humphrey, *Chief Clerk*