

BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

March 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 asked for a moment of silence following the Pledge of Allegiance, for the people of Ukraine.

II. PRESENTATIONS

Dave Kratz, Director of Corrections, presented canine Burger and his handler, Lt. Mark Clayton. Burger will be trained as a drug dog for the Department of Corrections.

A. Girl Scouts of the USA celebrate 110 years

The Commissioners recognized the 110th anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA, the largest and most impactful leadership program for girls in the United States. Girl Scout Ella Powell accepted the certificate and presented a slideshow highlighting the history of the Girl Scouts.

B. 2022 St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshal, Bill Ryan

The Commissioners proclaimed March 12, 2022, as "Bucks County 33rd Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade Celebration Day," encouraging all Bucks Countians to attend the annual parade, which starts at Conwell-Egan Catholic High School at 10:30 am on Saturday, March 12th. Bill Ryan, the 2022 Parade Grand Marshal, thanked the Commissioners for the proclamation.

C. National Consumer Protection Week

The Commissioners proclaimed March 6th through March 12th, 2022, as "Consumer Protection Week," commending the Office of Consumer Protection and consumer advocates everywhere for their work maintaining a fair and honest marketplace for all. Consumer Protection Director Mike Bannon accepted the proclamation and thanked the Commissioners for the recognition. Commissioner Harvie also noted that the County filed a lawsuit yesterday against multiple companies who manufactured and sold products, such as firefighting foam, that contain PFAS and have polluted local water and soil for decades and that a portion of the lawsuit, which was filed jointly with the District Attorney, sought enforcement of Pennsylvania's Consumer Protection law.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items

Andy Warren, former Commissioner from Middletown Township, had questions on agenda items which were addressed as follows:

Item 3a - Randall Miller, Director of Training & Outreach responded

Items 10c, d, and e - Chief Operating Officer Margie McKevitt responded

Ed Mackhouse, from Furlong, commented on agenda item 3a.

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 except for item 10a, which was moved to the regular agenda:

A. Approve minutes from the February 16, 2022 meeting.

B. Resolutions

1. Area Agency on Aging

a. With: Baird Respiratory Therapy, Inc.
Glenside, PA
Amount: \$30,000** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide delivery of medical supplies and equipment to homebound seniors.
7/1/22 – 6/30/25

b. With: Woodside Meals on Wheels
Newtown, PA
Amount: \$25,500** (County 9%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide home-delivered meals.
7/1/22 – 6/30/23

2. Children & Youth

a. With: A Second Chance Inc.
Pittsburgh, PA
Amount: \$40,000** (County 20%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide foster care and kinship services to children.
7/1/21 – 6/30/22

b. With: Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Bucks County
Jamison, PA
Amount:
Purpose: Approve contract amendment to provide counseling and case management services.
7/1/21 – 6/30/22

c. With: Children's Home of York

York, PA
Amount: \$35,000** (County 20%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide foster care and kinship services to children.
7/1/21 – 6/30/22

d. With: CHOR Youth and Family Services, Inc.
Reading, PA
Amount: \$45,000** (County 25%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide foster care and residential services.
7/1/21 – 6/30/22

e. With: Concern Professional Services for Children, Youth,
and Families
Fleetwood, PA
Amount: \$345,000** (County 19%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide foster care and community residential care.
7/1/21 – 6/30/22

f. With: Neighborhood First Program, Inc.
Bristol, PA
Amount: \$691,708** (County 13%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide mentoring and monitoring for juvenile offenders.
7/1/21 – 6/30/22

g. With: Network of Victim Assistance, Inc.
Jamison, PA
Amount: \$638,061.80** (County 20%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide counseling and support services to victims of abuse.
7/1/21 – 6/30/23

3. Commissioners

a. With: Intercultural Works LLC
Chalfont, PA
Amount: \$73,060 (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract to design and facilitate a countywide

Diversity and Inclusion Program.
3/2/22 – 3/2/23

4. Courts

- a. With: Director of Judicial Programs
Philadelphia, PA
Amount: \$69,804 (Revenue)
Purpose: Approve application for Senior Judge reimbursable costs.
1/1/22 – 12/31/22

5. District Attorney

- a. With:
Amount: \$3,490.19* (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve out of county travel for criminal analyst to attend training at the HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Traffic Area) facility in Arizona.

6. Finance

- a. With: PELICAN Insurance
c/o AIG Insurance Management Services
Burlington, VT
Amount: \$216,119 (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract for General Liability, Professional Liability, and Mcare Assessment for Neshaminy Manor.
3/1/22 – 3/1/23

7. General Services

- a. With: George Leck & Son, Inc. d/b/a Leck Waste Services
Ivyland, PA
Amount: \$157,207.34* (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension for dumpster and trash hauling.
6/1/22 – 5/31/23

- b. With: Hydro-Marine Construction Company, Inc.
 Hainesport, NJ
 Amount: (\$20,262.50)
 Purpose: Approve contract decrease to provide maintenance and
 repairs for the Neshaminy flood control dams.
 4/1/20 – 3/31/23

- c. With: Shannon Clark
 Green Lane, PA
 Amount: \$15,900 (Revenue)
 Purpose: Approve contract for rental of county property located 30
 Church Road in Hatfield.

8. Information Technology

- a. With: Conferencing Advisors Inc.
 San Clemente, CA
 Amount: \$34,650* (County 100%)
 Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension for
 conferencing software.
 4/1/22 – 3/31/23

- b. With: Verizon Business
 Frazer, PA
 Amount: \$66,050* (County 100%)
 Purpose: Approve increase and extension of Business Services
 Agreement for circuits, network management, and LAN
 modems.
 1/1/22 – 12/31/22

9. Planning Commission

- a. With: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
 Philadelphia, PA
 Amount: \$156,781 (County 100%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide annual funding for
 transportation and regional planning programs.
 7/1/21 – 6/30/22

10. Workforce & Economic Development

- | | | |
|----|----------|--|
| a. | With: | |
| | Amount: | |
| | Purpose: | Approve amended list of recommended awards from phases one and two of the Bucks Business Recovery Grant Program, funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). |
| b. | With: | Commonwealth Financing Authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, PA |
| | Amount: | |
| | Purpose: | Approve resolution to assign grant application signors through the State of Pennsylvania. |
| c. | With: | Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry,
Bureau of Workforce Development Administration
Harrisburg, PA |
| | Amount: | \$731,665.22 (Revenue) |
| | Purpose: | Approve Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) grant to fund training and job-seeking initiatives facilitated by PA CareerLink® Bucks County.
8/1/21 – 6/30/22 |
| d. | With: | Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry,
Bureau of Workforce Development Administration
Harrisburg, PA |
| | Amount: | \$110,000 (Revenue) |
| | Purpose: | Approve Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) grant to expand Incumbent Worker Training.
8/1/21 – 6/30/22 |
| e. | With: | Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry,
Bureau of Workforce Development Administration
Harrisburg, PA |
| | Amount: | \$4,345 (Revenue) |
| | Purpose: | Approve Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) grant to fund the purchase of ADA assisted technology equipment for PA CareerLink® Bucks County.
1/1/22 – 4/30/22 |

- f. With: Stride, Inc. d/b/a MedCerts, LLC
 Livonia, MI
 Amount: \$40,000** (County 0%)
 Purpose: Approve contract increase to provide training in
 healthcare related fields, IT, office administration and
 technology,
 and machining for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
 Act (WIOA) eligible PA CareerLink® Bucks County
 clients.
 7/1/21 – 7/31/22
- g. With: Sweet Note Bakery d/b/a The Greater Knead
 Bensalem, PA
 Amount: \$12,600** (County 0%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide Bagel Optimization training
 and certifications for four employees through Workforce
 Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) eligible PA
 CareerLink® Bucks County funding.
 7/1/21 – 7/31/22

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

V. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Resolutions

Item 10a - Commissioner Harvie provided additional information regarding this agenda item. He advised that it was moved to the regular agenda for voting purposes because Commissioner DiGirolamo's sister owns Shear Style, one of the businesses on the list. Commissioner DiGirolamo explained that he did not participate in this grant application in any way and felt it was appropriate to abstain from voting on that particular grant award.

Upon motion of Commissioner Marseglia, and seconded by Commissioner DiGirolamo, all companies on the amended list of item 10a were approved by the Bucks County Board of Commissioners by a vote of 3-0, with the exception of Shear Style. Upon motion of Commissioner Marseglia, seconded by Commissioner Harvie, and with Commissioner DiGirolamo abstaining, Shear Style was approved with a vote of 2-0-1.

11. Law Department

Item 11a – Solicitor Joe Khan offered details regarding the negotiated settlement with Collegium Pharmaceutical, including the proceeds that the County should receive in the next couple of months. Mr. Khan noted that these funds will be directed to the

County's new co-responder program.

Upon motion of Commissioner DiGirolamo, seconded by Commissioner Marseglia, the following Resolution was approved by the Bucks County Board of Commissioners by a vote of 3-0.

- a. With: Collegium Pharmaceutical, Inc.
 Stoughton, MA
- Amount:
- Purpose: Authorize County Solicitor to settle and release opioid-related claims and direct Chief Financial Officer to direct settlement funds to support the County's Co-Responder program

B. 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 approved.

12.

2021 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Agenda Description

March 2, 2022

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS - Adjust Operating Budget for additional expenditures

Adjustment	Department	Amount
Adjustment #39	Solicitor	70,000
Adjustment #40	Consumer Protection	38,000
	General Fund	(38,000)
Adjustment #41	Treasurer	5,000
Adjustment #42	Recorder of Deeds	26,000
	Recorder of Deeds (Revenue)	(26,000)
Adjustment #43	Enterprise Resource Planning	5,000
	General Fund	(5,000)
Adjustment #44	Finance	5,000
	General Fund	(5,000)

Adjustment #45	Register of Wills	128,000
	Register of Wills (Revenue)	(128,000)
Adjustment #46	Prothonotary	30,000
Adjustment #47	Clerk of Courts	48,000
Adjustment #48	District Attorney	276,000
Adjustment #49	Law Library	3,000
	Main Courts	(3,000)
Adjustment #50	Security	63,000
	General Fund	(63,000)
Adjustment #51	BH/DP	556,000
	BH/DP (Revenue)	(521,000)
	BH/DP (Transfer)	(35,000)
	General Fund (Transfer)	35,000
Adjustment #52	2013 Bond	30,000
	2013 Bond (Transfer)	(30,000)
	2018 Loan (Transfer)	30,000
	2018 Loan	(15,000)
	2018 Loan (Revenue)	(15,000)
Total Adjustment to General Fund Balance		464,000

C. Personnel Actions

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

D. Board Appointments

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

13. Agricultural Land Preservation Board

- Kenneth W. Bupp
- Wesley M. Schmidt
- Jonathan R. Snipes

Children & Youth Advisory Board

- Megan Cunnane
- Sally A. Fabian-Oresic

- Karen M. Kern
- David Nieves
- Lisa A. Welsh

New Americans Advisory Commission

- Osama Al-Qasem

Workforce Development Board

- Brian Shields

E. Other Civics

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

14. A Woman's Place - \$4,000
 Boston Legacy Foundation - \$1,200
 Bucks Beautiful - \$2,000
 NOVA - \$14,000
 The Tileworks of Bucks County - \$2,000

VI. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER REPORT

Margie McKevitt, Chief Operating Officer, reported on the following:

The first Household Hazardous Waste event for the year is scheduled for Saturday, April 2, 2022, at the Lower Bucks campus of Bucks County Community College. Please visit the county website to register, or for additional scheduled events and locations.

The 2023 state budget hearing took place in February. County officials will review and determine what impacts it will have on the county. They will work with legislators to lobby for increased funding.

Chief Clerk and Deputy Chief Operating Officer Gail Humphrey reported on the annual legislative forum held last week to discuss the impact of the state budget on the county. The Bucks County delegation included state senators, House members, and representatives on the federal level. Several senior county officials presented at the meeting, including Mr. Kratz, Kathy Bennett, Director of the Bucks County Area Agency on Aging, and Mr. Boscola.

VII. SOLICITOR REPORT

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

- February 22nd – to discuss the potential sale of real estate
- February 24th – to discuss the county's emergency preparedness for COVID-

19 variants

- March 1st – standing executive session to discuss employment and pending litigation matters

Mr. Khan provided additional information regarding the PFAS lawsuit announced yesterday at the Bucks County Training Center, noting that much of the County's suit is grounded in enforcing the Environmental Rights Amendment of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

VIII. BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS – All Items

Mr. Warren had an additional question regarding agenda item 10a and questions regarding the incentives being offered to attract workers at the Prison.

Mr. Mackhouse spoke against the war in Ukraine.

The following individuals spoke about various items related to COVID-19, including masking and vaccination policies/guidance, blocking of phone numbers, right-to-know requests, and accessibility of commissioner meetings:

- Mara Witson from Chalfont
- Megan Brock from Northampton Township
- Joshua Hogan from Sellersville
- Jamie Walker from Chalfont
- Pete Phillips from Solebury
- Patricia Doeblner from Chalfont

Commissioner Harvie responded to the above questions and comments. Chief Information Officer John Regula provided additional information regarding the blocking of certain phone numbers.

IX. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Regarding the problems attracting and retaining employees at the prison, Commissioner DiGirolamo spoke about how tough these jobs are and referenced the added challenges of drugs and mental health issues.

Commissioner DiGirolamo spoke about the recent legislative forum, commenting on the bi-partisanship and everyone working together to get things done.

Commissioner DiGirolamo voiced support for the people of Ukraine.

Commissioner Marseglia responded to the comments about the blocked phones.

Commissioner Marseglia also spoke about the turmoil in Ukraine and advised that there are resources for those who are struggling. She offered the numbers for NAMI (215)343-3055 and the HUB (215)348-6201.

Commissioner Marseglia wished a Happy 35th Birthday to her assistant Anna Payne. She explained that Anna was born with cystic fibrosis and has recently been

struggling with stage four cancer as well.

Commissioner Harvie spoke about the conflict in Ukraine and advised that he had reached out to the local Ukrainian community. Those who want to help support the people of Ukraine can contact the following organizations:

United Ukrainian American Relief Committee @ UUARC.org
Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia @ ukrarcheparchy.us
Ukrainian Federation of America @ ukrainianfederationofamerica.org
Grace Ukrainian Baptist Church @ <https://graceukrainian.org>

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, March 16, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. in the Bucks County Commissioners' Meeting Room.

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

BY:

Gene DiGirolamo
Commissioner, Secretary

ATTEST:

Gail Humphrey, *Chief Clerk*