

# BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

5/4/2022 - 10:30 AM

## 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. PRESENTATIONS

### A. Older Americans Month Proclamation

The Commissioners proclaimed May 2022 as "Older Americans Month," recognizing the efforts of the Bucks County Area Agency on Aging in helping to maintain the quality of life that older residents so richly deserve. Kathy Bennett, Director of The Bucks County Area Agency on Aging, thanked the Commissioners for the recognition and presented a slide show on some of the programs and events they provide for county seniors. Accompanying Ms. Bennett was Bill McTigue, Deputy Administrator of AAA.

### B. Community Action Month Proclamation

The Commissioners proclaimed May 2022 to be "Community Action Month," recognizing the hard work and dedication of the Bucks County Opportunity Council in its role as the county's designated non-profit community action agency. Executive Director of the Opportunity Council Erin Lukoss accepted the proclamation, accompanied by Heather Foor, Director of Client Services, and Connie McGarvey, Public Relations Coordinator.

### C. Stamp Out Hunger Proclamation

The Commissioners proclaimed May 14, 2022, as "30<sup>th</sup> Annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive Day," commending the National Association of Letter Carriers for their efforts to end food insecurity. Tom Tosti, President of the Bucks County Central Labor Council, accepted the proclamation and spoke about the nationwide food drive.

Commissioner Harvie noted that the proclamations are coordinated by the Communications Department, and he thanked them for their hard work.

## III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items

Josh Hogan from West Rockhill spoke about the appointment to the Board of Health. Commissioner Harvie and Audrey Kenny, Director of Emergency Services, both responded to his questions.

Andy Warren, former Commissioner from Middletown Township, had questions on agenda items 7a & 7b.

## IV. CONSENT AGENDA

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

A. Approve minutes from the April 20, 2022 meeting.

B. Resolutions

1. Area Agency on Aging

- a. With: Expert Home Care, Inc.  
Feasterville, PA  
Amount: \$150,000\*\* (County 0%)  
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide home health, personal care, and home support services for seniors.  
7/1/22 – 6/30/24
- b. With: Information Age Technologies  
Mt. Pleasant, PA  
Amount: \$50,000\*\* (County 0%)  
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension for technical support and services related to State Management System.  
7/1/22 – 6/30/24
- c. With: Linton's Managed Services  
Blue Bell, PA  
Amount: \$30,000\*\* (County 0%)  
Purpose: Approve contract to provide dietician services.  
7/1/22 – 6/30/25
- d. With: Snipes Farm and Education Center, Inc.  
Morrisville, PA  
Amount: \$127,253\*\* (County 0%)  
Purpose: Approve contract to provide community nutritional services for seniors.  
5/1/22 – 12/31/22
- e. With: VitaCare Home Health, Inc.  
Feasterville, PA  
Amount: \$50,000\*\* (County 0%)  
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide home health, personal care, and home support services for seniors.

7/1/22 – 6/30/24

2. BH/DP

- a.     With:             Community Options, Inc,  
                              Princeton, NJ  
          Amount:       \$16,644\*\* (County 3.9%)  
          Purpose:      Approve contract increase to provide supported  
                              employment and residential services.  
                              7/1/21 – 6/30/22
  
- b.     With:             Elwyn of Pennsylvania and Delaware  
                              Elwyn, PA  
          Amount:  
          Purpose:      Approve contract amendment to add additional rate to  
                              provide residential treatment and support services.  
                              7/1/21 – 6/30/22
  
- c.     With:             Shared Support South, Inc.  
                              Warrington, PA  
          Amount:       \$28,736\*\* (County 3.9%)  
          Purpose:      Approve contract increase to provide in home and  
                              community support services.  
                              7/1/21 – 6/30/22

3. Children & Youth

- a.     With:             Bucks County Opportunity Council  
                              Doylestown, PA  
          Amount:       \$81,697\*\* (County 3.9%)  
          Purpose:      Approve contract increase to provide bridge and  
                              transitional housing services.  
                              7/1/21 – 6/30/22
  
- b.     With:             Diakon Child, Family, and Community Ministries  
                              Topton, PA  
          Amount:       \$657,000\*\* (County 3%)  
          Purpose:      Approve contract to provide Family Preservation/After-  
                              Care, Intensive Permanency, and Stabilizing While  
                              Assessing Trauma (SWAT) intensive programs.

7/1/21 – 6/30/22

c.     With:             Diakon Child, Family, and Community Ministries  
                              Topton, PA  
       Amount:         \$175,000\*\* (County 11%)  
       Purpose:         Approve contract to provide foster care and kinship  
                              services to children.  
                              7/1/21 – 6/30/23

d.     With:             Family Care for Children and Youth, Inc.  
                              Milton, PA  
       Amount:         \$52,000\*\* (County 20%)  
       Purpose:         Approve contract to provide foster care services.  
                              7/1/21 – 6/30/23

e.     With:             Valley Youth House Committee, Inc.  
                              Bethlehem, PA  
       Amount:         \$1,200,000\*\* (County 16%)  
       Purpose:         Approve contract to provide emergency shelter,  
                              independent living, and group home services.  
                              7/1/21 – 6/30/22

#### 4.     Corrections

a.     With:             Jay R. Reynolds, Inc.  
                              Willow Street, PA  
       Amount:         (\$46,603.84)  
       Purpose:         Approve decrease and extension of plumbing contract for  
                              the Women's Correctional Facility expansion project.  
                              3/22/21 – 4/29/22

b.     With:             Wescott Electric Company  
                              Glen Riddle, PA  
       Amount:         \$15,969\*\* (County 100%)  
       Purpose:         Approve increase and extension to electrical contract for  
                              Women's Correctional Facility expansion project.  
                              3/21/21 – 4/29/22

#### 5.     Emergency Communications

- a.     With:             APCO Institute  
                              Daytona Beach, FL
- Amount:
- Purpose:     Approve contract extension to provide emergency medical, law enforcement, and fire dispatch protocols for the CAD system.  
                              1/1/22 – 12/31/22

6.     General Services

- a.     With:             Altec Industries Inc.  
                              Kingston, PA
- Amount:       \$227,892 (County 100%)
- Purpose:     Approve purchase of bucket truck for General Services.
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- b.     With:             Benner & Wild  
                              Doylestown, PA
- Amount:       \$3,642.59 (County 100%)
- Purpose:     Approve payment of attorney fees for assistance with right-of-way and temporary construction easement for Bridge #48 on Rolling Hill Road over Deep Run in Bedminster Township.
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- c.     With:             Eastern Highway Specialists, Inc.  
                              Wilmington, DE
- Amount:       \$972,194.90 (County 100%)
- Purpose:     Approve contract for the rehabilitation of Bridge #279 on West Rock Road over Three Mile Run in East Rockhill Township.
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- d.     With:             Francis G. & Lanette S. Peiffer  
                              Ottsville, PA
- Amount:       \$6,043.50 (County 100%)
- Purpose:     Approve temporary construction easement and agreement of sale for right of way acquisition (fee simple) for Bridge #48 on Rolling Hill Road over Deep Run in Bedminster Township. Also, authorize General Services Director of Operations to sign the settlement statement on behalf of the County.

- e.     With:             Hunter Truck Sales & Service, Inc.  
                              Butler, PA  
Amount:             \$217,573 (County 100%)  
Purpose:             Approve purchase of tri-axel dump truck for General Services.
- f.     With:             JBC Associates, Inc.  
                              King of Prussia, PA  
Amount:             \$28,669.79 (County 20%)  
Purpose:             Approve contract increase and extension to provide on-site construction inspection services for reconstruction of Bucks County Bridge #45 on Stone Bridge Road over Deep Run in Bedminster Township.  
                              5/8/22 – 7/31/22
- g.     With:             Koch Holdings, Inc. d/b/a Koch 33 Ford  
                              Easton, PA  
Amount:             \$24,360 (County 100%)  
Purpose:             Approve purchase of 3 emergency upfit packages for Ford Police Interceptor vehicles for the Park Rangers.
- h.     With:             NextGen Security, LLC  
                              Exton, PA  
Amount:             \$69,607\*\* (County 100%)  
Purpose:             Approve increase and extension of security electronics contract for 5th floor Justice Center build out.  
                              2/25/22 – 7/8/22
- i.     With:             Remington & Vernick Engineers  
                              Yardley, PA  
Amount:             \$35,000/project\*\* (County 100%)  
Purpose:             Approve contract to provide generic engineering services for various projects.  
                              5/4/22 – 5/3/27
- j.     With:             Robert McHenry  
                              Fairless Hills, PA  
Amount:             \$13,780.65 (Revenue)  
Purpose:             Approve contract for rental of county property located at 418 Second Ave. in Bristol.  
                              5/15/22 – 5/14/23

- k.     With:               Stephenson Equipment Inc.  
                                  Harrisburg, PA  
      Amount:           \$145,091 (County 100%)  
      Purpose:          Approve purchase of two wood chippers for General  
                                  Services.

7.     Housing & Community Development

- a.     With:               Bucks County Housing Group  
                                  Warminster, PA  
      Amount:           \$69,300 (County 0%)  
      Purpose:          Approve contract increase and extension to provide  
                                  housing stability and administrative services for the  
                                  Bucks Emergency Rental Assistance (BERA) program.  
                                  4/1/22 – 3/31/23
- b.     With:               Bucks County Opportunity Council  
                                  Doylestown, PA  
      Amount:  
      Purpose:          Approve contract extension to provide housing stability  
                                  services through the Bucks Emergency Rental  
                                  Assistance (BERA) program.  
                                  4/1/22 – 3/31/23
- c.     With:               Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic  
                                  Development  
                                  Harrisburg, PA  
      Amount:  
      Purpose:          Approve extension of 2020 Emergency Solutions Grant to  
                                  fund Housing Locator activities, rental and financial  
                                  assistance, and housing stability case management  
                                  services.  
                                  1/25/22 – 5/31/22
- d.     With:               U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
                                  Philadelphia, PA  
      Amount:  
      Purpose:          Approve amendment to the 2019 Annual Action Plan to  
                                  add and revise CV projects needed to respond to the  
                                  COVID-19 pandemic through CARES Act funding.

- e.     With:               U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
                                 Philadelphia, PA  
Amount:  
Purpose:               Approve submission of the 2022 Annual Action Plan for  
                                 CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs.
- f.     With:               YWCA Bucks County  
                                 Trevose, PA  
Amount:               \$245,555 (County 0%)  
Purpose:               Approve contract increase and extension for housing  
                                 stability services, administration, and financial assistance,  
                                 through the Bucks Emergency Rental Assistance (BERA)  
                                 program.  
                                 4/1/22 – 3/31/23

8.     Human Resources

- a.     With:               Catherine Mount  
                                 Audubon, PA  
Amount:               \$32,864.32 (County 100%)  
Purpose:               Approve settlement of Workers' Compensation claim.
- b.     With:               Gene Cortese, Esquire  
                                 Philadelphia, PA  
Amount:               \$8,635.68 (County 100%)  
Purpose:               Approve settlement of Workers' Compensation claim for  
                                 Catherine Mount.
- c.     With:               Sabrina Augustin  
                                 Philadelphia, PA  
Amount:               \$32,000 (County 100%)  
Purpose:               Approve settlement of Workers' Compensation claim.
- d.     With:               Lawrence DeMarco, Esquire  
                                 Philadelphia, PA  
Amount:               \$8,308.06 (County 100%)  
Purpose:               Approve settlement of Workers' Compensation claim for  
                                 Sabrina Augustin.



- e.     With:             Patricia Lamonte Sipple  
                              Hatboro, PA  
          Amount:       \$34,035.43 (County 100%)  
          Purpose:      Approve settlement of Workers' Compensation claim.
  
- f.     With:             Gene Cortese, Esquire  
                              Philadelphia, PA  
          Amount:       \$10,964.57 (County 100%)  
          Purpose:      Approve settlement of Workers' Compensation claim for Patricia Lamonte Sipple.

9.     Law Department

- a.     With:             Brad Jackman, Esq., Jackman Law  
                              Doylestown, PA  
          Amount:       \$100/hour\*\* + expenses (County 20%)  
          Purpose:      Approve amendment to agreement for legal services for the Children and Youth Agency to cover legal fee overages of up to \$7,000/month.  
                              1/1/22 – 3/31/22

10.    Open Space

- a.     With:             The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission  
                              Harrisburg, PA  
          Amount:       \$2,700 (Revenue)  
          Purpose:      Approve temporary waiver for PA Turnpike Construction and Joinder to PA Turnpike Commission temporary construction easement in Milford Township (portion TMP #23-007-162)

11.    Parks & Recreation

- a.     With:             Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection  
                              Harrisburg, PA  
          Amount:       \$500 (Revenue)  
          Purpose:      Approve contract for air monitoring station at Churchville Nature Center.  
                              3/1/22 – 2/28/27

- b.     With:               Port A Bowl Restroom Co.  
                              Plumsteadville, PA  
Amount:               \$82,983.84\*\* (County 100%)  
Purpose:               Approve contract increase and extension to provide and  
                              service portable toilets in county parks.  
                              6/1/22 – 5/31/25

12.    Sheriff

- a.     With:               Axon Enterprises, Inc.  
                              Scottsdale, AZ  
Amount:               \$192,496.47 (County 100%)  
Purpose:               Approve contract to purchase non-lethal safety  
                              equipment.  
                              5 years from receipt of equipment

13.    Workforce & Economic Development

- a.     With:               Ace Designs, Inc.  
                              Bristol, PA  
Amount:               \$17,000\*\* (County 0%)  
Purpose:               Approve contract to provide On the Job Training (OJT)  
                              for eligible Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
                              (WIOA) participants.  
                              7/1/21 – 6/30/22
- b.     With:               JobWorks, Inc.  
                              d/b/a JobWorks Education and Training Systems  
                              Fort Wayne, IN  
Amount:               \$30,000\*\* (County 0%)  
Purpose:               Approve contract increase to provide training programs  
                              through PA CareerLink® Bucks County.  
                              7/1/21 – 7/31/22
- c.     With:               Liberty Coca-Cola  
                              Philadelphia, PA  
Amount:               \$25,500\*\* (County 0%)  
Purpose:               Approve contract to provide On the Job Training (OJT)  
                              for eligible Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

(WIOA) participants.  
7/1/21 – 6/30/22

- d.     With:           Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry, Bureau of  
                              Workforce Development Administration  
                              Harrisburg, PA  
          Amount:       \$150,000 (Revenue)  
          Purpose:      Approve Business & Education Grant funds for  
                              “Investments in Internships and Technical Education”  
                              project.  
                              2/1/22 – 12/31/23
- e.     With:           Zober Industries, Inc.  
                              Croyden, PA  
          Amount:       \$34,000\*\* (County 0%)  
          Purpose:      Approve contract to provide On the Job Training (OJT)  
                              for eligible Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
                              (WIOA) participants.  
                              7/1/21 – 6/30/22

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

## V.     REGULAR AGENDA

### A.     Resolutions

Item 14a – Director of the Board of Elections Tom Frietag, accompanied by Voter Registration Supervisor Jen Miller, spoke about the benefits of the new electronic poll books. Commissioner Harvie added additional information and Mr. Frietag responded to Mr. Warren’s earlier question regarding maintenance.

Item 15a – Commissioner Harvie spoke about this resolution voicing support for mental health funding. Commissioner DiGirolamo provided additional information.

Item 16a – Commissioner Harvie explained the need for improvements to the Lower Bucks Government Services Center.

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

### 14.    Board of Elections

- a. With: KnowInk, LLC  
St. Louis, MO  
Amount: \$935,950 (County 0%)  
Purpose: Approve purchase, maintenance, and support for electronic poll books.  
3 years from receipt of equipment

15. Commissioners

- a. With:  
Amount:  
Purpose: Approve Resolution in support of appropriate funding for the mental health system in Pennsylvania.

16. General Services

- a. With: Erdy McHenry Architecture, LLC  
Philadelphia, PA  
Amount: \$88,150\*\* (County 100%)  
Purpose: Approve contract to provide architectural and land development design services for the Lower Bucks Government Services Center.  
5/4/22 – 12/31/24

B. Personnel Actions

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

C. Board Appointments

Board of Health – Lorraine S. Dougherty, MD

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

D. Other Civics

The Magic Charities Foundation - \$1,000

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

VI. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER REPORT

Margie McKevitt, Chief Operating Officer, requested that Diane Rosati, Executive Director of the Bucks County Drug & Alcohol Commission, provide an update on the Medication Take Back Day held this past Saturday. Ms. Rosati reported on the success of this collection event, advising that Bucks County is still #1 in Pennsylvania,

doubling the amount collected by the next highest county. The next event will be held in October, with more information to follow.

Ms. McKevitt advised that a Household Hazardous Waste event will be held this Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at the Upper Bucks Technical High School in Perkasié. The next event will be held on June 25<sup>th</sup> at Central Bucks High School South.

Ms. McKevitt reported on the submission of the American Rescue Act Plan quarterly report. The County has been allocated \$122 million. Some of that has already been spent and another \$188 million has been allocated to upcoming social services projects to help with COVID-19 recovery efforts.

Ms. McKevitt responded to Mr. Warren's earlier question regarding the allocation of CARES Act funding.

## VII. SOLICITOR REPORT

Solicitor Joe Khan reported on the standing Executive Session held yesterday to discuss collective bargaining negotiations, pending and prospective litigation, and personnel and employment matters. An executive session was also held on April 29<sup>th</sup> to discuss terms of employment for current and prospective employees.

Mr. Khan provided an update on the joint lawsuit filed by the Commissioners and the District Attorney's Office against a group of corporations that manufactured and sold firefighting foams. These materials contain hazardous chemicals called PFAS that have contaminated water, soil, and other natural resources. The case has been transferred to a multi-district federal court and should be heading to trial in January.

Mr. Khan reported on the recent transition to a paperless process for getting contracts and resolutions on the agenda approved and distributed. Noting the amount of work involved with this project, he thanked and congratulated the many people involved.

## VIII. BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS – All Items

Chris Spear from Milford Township expressed concerns with a proposed quarry near the Upper Bucks Rail Trail.

Mr. Warren thanked the Commissioners for the update on COVID funding and followed up on his question from the April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding item 2i.

Mr. Hogan expressed concerns about hospital moratoriums and spoke about school health guidance.

Jamie Walker from Chalfont spoke about school health guidance.

Commissioner Harvie responded to the questions regarding hospital divert statuses and the Emergency Health Task Force and Emergency Management's involvement.

Responding to Mr. Warren's question from the last meeting, Human Services Director Rachel Neff advised that the contract for Dr. Carroll was on the May 19, 2021 agenda.

## IX. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner DiGirolamo spoke about the upcoming election and the need for pre-canvassing of mail-in ballots, especially for the November election. He advised that he

is on the bi-partisan CCAP Election Reform Task Force, and their first priority is getting a bill through that allows for this.

Commissioner Harvie clarified that the electronic poll books approved today will not be available in time for this month's election but will be for the election in November.

Commissioner Marseglia reported on the Suicide Awareness Walk held this past Sunday which was attended by more than 520 people. Over \$50,000 was raised for suicide prevention efforts in Bucks County.

Commissioner Marseglia spoke about the long-time inability of the county's human services departments being able to share information across departments. She advised that an appropriation for a position to resolve this problem was not approved at the Salary Board meeting. Commissioner DiGirolamo explained his rationale for wanting to table the matter to allow time for concerns raised by the Controller to be addressed.

Commissioner Harvie reported on an event the Commissioners attended at Visit Bucks County for Tourism Week. He encouraged everyone to visit local businesses for Mother's Day.

Register of Wills Linda Bobrin said that they are sponsoring another wedding event on Monday, June 14<sup>th</sup> on the Bristol Wharf for Veterans and First Responders. Anyone interested can obtain an application by emailing or visiting the website.

Commissioner Harvie spoke about the importance of hearing the stories of older Americans. He reflected on his time teaching history and the various guest speakers he used to have visit his classroom.

Commissioner Harvie wished a Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers in the room, and he thanked them for all they do.

Commissioner Harvie advised that the County is due to receive the first part of settlement funds from the Opioid Litigation. They will be receiving \$40 to 45 million over the next eighteen years. The Commissioner announced the formation of an Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee, which will make recommendations on the best way to utilize the funds.

## 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, May 18, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. in the Bucks County Commissioners' Meeting Room.

Approved: May 18, 2022  
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*