

BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

6/1/2022 - 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. He requested a moment of silence to reflect on the recent tragedy in Texas and the gun violence that is permeating society.

II. WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS

III. PRESENTATIONS

A. TESOL Teacher of the Year Award, Bucks County Community College

The commissioners recognized Meg Eubank for her being named 2022 Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages Association Teacher of the Year, an award that honors exceptional English language teaching. Ms. Eubank spoke about the challenges of teaching students virtually from around the globe during the pandemic, as well as some of her work with local non-profits.

B. High School Poet of the Year

The commissioners recognized Lauren Burchell, a junior at Central Bucks High School West, as Bucks County's "2022 High School Poet of the Year" applauding her creative gift of poetry and commending her contribution to the literary tradition of the community. Ms. Burchell read her poem "One Fish, Two Fish, Girl Fish, Boy Fish."

C. Child Welfare Professionals Appreciation Week

The commissioners proclaimed June 6-12, 2022 as "Child Welfare Professionals Appreciation Week," as an expression of gratitude and admiration for the important and difficult work performed each day by the professionals at the Bucks County Children & Youth Social Services Agency. Director Marge McKeone was accompanied by staff as she accepted the proclamation and thanked the commissioners for their support.

D. Lake Luxembourg Habitat Enhancement project

Gretchen Schatschneider, District Manager of the Bucks County Conservation District, presented information on a project that is about to get underway to restore the conservation pool at Lake Luxembourg in Core Creek Park. Watershed Specialist Karen Ogden provided additional information regarding funding, the timeline, and public outreach for the project. Both responded to questions posed by Sheriff Fred Harran. Chief Operating Officer Margie McKevitt noted that this project has been in the works for many years, and she confirmed that the county portion of the project will be coming from Growing Greener funds. Commissioner Marseglia also emphasized the importance of the project and the decades of planning behind it.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items

None

V. CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Harvie noted some highlights from the consent agenda. Upon motion of Commissioner DiGirolamo, seconded by Commissioner Marseglia, the following items on the consent agenda were approved by the Bucks County Board of Commissioners by a vote of 3-0:

A. Approve minutes from the May 18, 2022 meeting.

B. Resolutions

1. Area Agency on Aging

- a. With: Law Office of Karen M. Quinn
Bristol, PA
Amount: \$150/hour** + expenses (County 33.3%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension to provide legal services.
7/1/22 – 6/30/23

2. BH/DP

- a. With: AHEDD, Inc.
Camp Hill, PA
Amount:
Purpose: Approve contract amendment to add rate for supported employment services.
7/1/21 – 6/30/22

3. Children & Youth

- a. With: A Woman's Place
Doylestown, PA
Amount: \$22,032** (County 20%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide shelter services.
7/1/21 – 6/30/23
- b. With: RTM LLC,
d/b/a The Academy Community Based Services
Norristown, PA
Amount: \$150,000** (County 10%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension of the Truancy Prevention/Diversion program.
7/1/22 – 6/30/23

- c. With: RTM LLC,
 d/b/a The Academy Community Based Services
 Norristown, PA
 Amount: (\$100,000)
 Purpose: Rescind contract funded by the American Rescue Plan
 Act (ARPA) to provide truancy prevention/diversion
 program.
 3/3/21 – 12/31/24
- d. With: Turning Points for Children
 Philadelphia, PA
 Amount: \$15,000** (County 20%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide foster care services.
 7/1/21 – 6/30/22

4. Courts

- a. With: Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC)
 Harrisburg, PA
 Amount: \$19,995 (Revenue)
 Purpose: Approve acceptance of grant award and conditions of
 MOU supporting Bucks County's Mental Health Court
 4/1/22 – 3/31/23
- b. With: Charles D. Jonas, Esquire
 Levittown, PA
 Amount: (\$20,617.74)
 Purpose: Approve termination of contract for Conflict Council.
 1/1/22 – 6/30/22
- c. With: John S. Han, Esquire
 Doylestown, PA
 Amount: \$20,617.74** (County 100%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to represent parties in criminal cases
 when there is a conflict of interest with the Public
 Defender's office.
 7/1/22 – 12/31/22

5. Emergency Health Services

- a. With: Aria Health d/b/a Jefferson - Northeast
Philadelphia, PA
Amount: \$18,000 (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase and extension for physician
services from Regional EMS Medical Director.
7/1/22 – 6/30/23

6. General Services

- a. With: Jones Engineering Associates
Fairless Hills, PA
Amount: \$30,000 ** (County 100%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase to provide engineering
services for the Bucks County Law Enforcement Virtual
Training Facility project.

7. Health Department

- a. With: AMI Expeditionary Healthcare, LLC
Reston, VA
Amount:
Purpose: Approve contract extension for COVID-19 vaccination
services.
1/1/22 – 5/31/22

8. Housing & Community Development

- a. With: Delta Community Supports, Inc.
Blue Bell, PA
Amount: \$28,000 (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract increase for 2021 CDBG funding for
renovations and upgrades to the Red Ridge Avenue
group home.
10/1/21 – 9/30/22
- b. With: Pennsylvania Department of Housing and Community
Development
Harrisburg, PA
Amount: \$210,621 (Revenue)

Purpose: Approve application and acceptance of 2022 Emergency Solutions Grant to fund Rapid Rehousing and Housing Locator activities.
10/1/22 – 4/1/24

9. Neshaminy Manor

- a. With: New Jersey Respiratory, Inc.
Fairfield, NJ
Amount:
Purpose: Approve contract extension to provide respiratory care management services to residents.
6/14/22 – 6/13/23
- b. With: Vital Healthcare Solutions, LLC
Wernersville, PA
Amount: \$2,000** (County 0%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide behavioral healthcare services and evaluations for the residents.
6/3/22 – 6/2/23

10. Planning Commission

- a. With: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Harrisburg, PA
Amount: \$70,000 (Revenue)
Purpose: Approve grant agreement for the Levittown Trail in Falls Township.
10/1/21 – 3/31/23

11. Purchasing

- a. With: Riggins, Inc.
Vineland, NJ
Amount: \$763,999.78* (County 99%)
Purpose: Approve contract to provide heating oil, diesel fuel and gasoline.
7/1/22 – 6/30/24

12. Workforce & Economic Development

- a. With: Bucks County Community College
 Newtown, PA
 Amount: \$35,160** (County 0%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide welding certificate program in
 conjunction with BCCC's Engineering Technician Applied
 Associate in Science degree.
 4/25/22 – 6/30/22

- b. With: Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22
 Doylestown, PA
 Amount: \$73,500** (County 0%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide for intern wages, intern
 manager, and mobile lab fees.
 2/1/22 – 12/31/23

- c. With: NouSoma Communications, Inc.
 Haverford, PA
 Amount: \$91,690** (County 0%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide media services in support of
 the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).
 4/13/22 – 6/30/22

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

VI. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Resolutions

13. Law Library

Item 13a – Deputy Court Administrator Tom Stoehr provided additional information on both this contract and the contract for on-line materials. Mr. Stoehr responded to questions from Commissioner Marseglia.

Upon motion of Commissioner DiGirolamo, seconded by Commissioner Marseglia, the following Resolution from the regular agenda was approved by the commissioners by a vote of 2-1 with Commissioner Marseglia opposing.

- a. With: Thomson Reuters – West
 Carol Stream, IL
 Amount: \$1,325,772* (County 100%)
 Purpose: Approve contract to provide print materials and

subscriptions for Law Library, District Courts, and Court of Common Pleas.

6/1/22 – 5/31/27

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

Agricultural Land Preservation Board – Bartley E. Millett

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

D. Other Civics

Shamrock Reins - \$1,500

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

VII. CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER REPORT

Ms. McKevitt reported on the following:

The Bucks Built Startup Fund is a cooperation between the county, the Bucks County Industrial Development Authority, and Bucks Built, which helps fund early-stage startup companies. The deadline to apply for the third round is June 13th.

A Household Hazardous Waste collection will be held on Saturday, June 25th at Central Bucks High School South in Warrington. Sign-up is online.

Board of Elections Director Tom Freitag provided an update on the mandatory recount of ballots for the Republican U.S. Senate candidates from the recent primary election.

Director of Emergency Services Audrey Kenny provided an update on the county's emergency preparedness efforts, especially as they relate to the recent school shootings.

Parks and Recreation Director Angela Nagle spoke about the opening of facilities for the summer and the incentives being offered to recruit employees.

Thank you to retiring Purchasing Director Maureen McIlvaine for all her years of dedicated service to county government and for helping with the transition. Thank you to Liz Gates, the new Purchasing Director, for the last two years as Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer.

VIII. SOLICITOR REPORT

After also thanking Ms. McIlvaine and congratulating Ms. Gates, Solicitor Joe Khan reported on the standing Executive Session held the day before the public meeting to discuss personnel and employment matters, collective bargaining agreements, and pending and prospective litigation.

Mr. Khan noted that First Assistant County Solicitor Amy Fitzpatrick has overseen this year's election litigation. At the request of Chief Clerk Gail Humphrey, he provided an

update on the various election cases currently playing out in the courts.

Mr. Khan reported that the Department of Consumer Protection has been receiving increased complaints from non-native English-speaking residents alleging deceptive business practices in used car sales, which is typically a top source of complaints from Bucks consumers generally. He urges anyone with concerns to contact Consumer Protection via the hotline at 1(800)942-2669; via Twitter at @bucksconsumer, or by email at consumerprotection@buckscounty.org,

IX. BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENTS – All Items

Commissioner Harvie responded to concerns expressed by Kris Kiely of Warrington regarding the ballot drop boxes.

X. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner DiGirolamo spoke about Memorial Day, reflecting on its meaning and the various ceremonies and parades throughout the county. He thanked all the municipalities and people involved.

Commissioner DiGirolamo echoed Ms. McKevitt's comments thanking Maureen McIlvaine for her years of service and wishing the best to Liz Gates in her new position.

Commissioner Marseglia congratulated the Department of Corrections on a recent successful inspection. She recognized the work getting ready for it and said that they did very well.

Commissioner Harvie echoed Commissioner DiGirolamo's comments thanking all the organizations, municipalities, and volunteers who contributed to the events occurring over Memorial Day weekend. The Commissioner also reported on the recent identification and burial of the remains of Army Private Walter Wildman after almost 80 years. Killed in WWII in 1944, Private Wildman was from Bristol Borough.

Commissioner Harvie also thanked Ms. McIlvaine and congratulated Ms. Gates.

XI. 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, June 15, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. in the Bucks County Commissioners' Meeting Room.

Approved: June 15, 2022
BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
(Official copy on file with chief clerk)

BY:

Gene DiGirolamo
Commissioner, Secretary

ATTEST:

Gail Humphrey, *Chief Clerk*