

BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

May 19, 2021

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 Diane M. Ellis-Marseglia, Chair; Commissioner Robert J. Harvie, Vice Chair; and Commissioner Gene DiGirolamo. Commissioner Ellis-Marseglia welcomed everyone to the meeting and Eric Nagy, Director of Policy and Projects, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTIONS

Commissioner Marseglia invited those county row officers who were present to introduce themselves. They were District Attorney Matthew Weintraub and Kristian Ballerini, Treasurer.

PROCLAMATIONS

The Commissioners recognized Casey Epstein-Gross, a senior at Solebury School, as Bucks County’s “2021 High School Poet of the Year” applauding her creative gift of poetry and commending her contribution to the literary tradition of the community. Accompanied by Dr. Ethel Rackin, director of the Bucks County Poet Laureate Program, Ms. Epstein-Gross read several of her poems.

The Commissioners proclaimed May 21, 2021 as “World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development,” to celebrate the rich tapestry of cultures, and to support ongoing dialogue in pursuit of mutual understanding and sustainability. Accepting the proclamation was Celia Sharp from the Bucks County Human Relations Council, accompanied by Project and Diversity Officer Bernard Griggs. Kris Ballerini, chair for the Bucks County Human Relations Council, also said a few words about the council’s objectives and Ms. Sharp shared some homemade empanadas with the commissioners.

The Commissioners proclaimed the week of May 16 – 22, 2021 as “Emergency Medical Services Week,” to thank those who have dedicated their lives to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of others through the administration of swift, life-saving medical treatment. This proclamation was accepted by Larry Loose, Director of Emergency Health Services; Evan Resnikoff, President of the Bucks County EMS Chief’s Association and Chief of the Newtown Ambulance Squad; and Colleen Campbell, Chief of St. Mary’s EMS.

The Commissioners proclaimed May 2021 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. Accepting the proclamation virtually on behalf of the Opportunity Council were Eileen Albillar, and Executive Director Erin Lukoss.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda Items

None

CONSENT AGENDA

General Services Director Kevin Spencer provided additional information regarding agenda item 12a and the update in fees charged at the golf course.

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

- A. Minutes from the May 5, 2021 regular meeting
- B. Resolutions

1. AREA AGENCY ON AGING	a. Associates Home Care, Inc. Bensalem, PA	Approve contract to provide in-home services for seniors. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$150,000** (County 0%)
	b. Better Home Care, LLC Feasterville, PA	Approve contract to provide in-home services for seniors. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$30,000** (County 0%)
	c. Bristol Township Senior Citizens Center Bristol, PA	Approve contract increase to support senior center services during the pandemic. 7/1/20 – 6/30/23	\$22,154** (County 0%)
	d. Carvell Health Services Huntington Valley, PA	Approve contract to provide in-home services for seniors. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$70,000** (County 0%)

e.	Comfort Home Care, Inc. Feasterville, PA	Approve contract to provide in-home services for seniors. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$50,000** (County 0%)
f.	Community Home Health Feasterville, PA	Approve contract to provide in-home services for seniors. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$30,000** (County 0%)
g.	Dacha Corporation Philadelphia, PA	Approve contract to provide adult day services for seniors. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$20,000** (County 0%)
h.	Dr. Kenneth R. Carroll, PhD Swarthmore, PA	Approve contract increase and extension to provide psychological consulting services. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$20,000** (County 0%)
i.	Effectv North Wales, PA	Approve contract to promote the APRISE program. 6/21/21 – 10/24/21	\$10,000** (County 0%)
j.	Expert Home Care, Inc. Feasterville, PA	Approve contract to provide in-home services for seniors. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$75,000** (County 0%)
k.	Family Caregivers Network, Inc. Pennsburg, PA	Approve contract to provide in-home services for seniors. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$30,000** (County 0%)
l.	Gem Home Care, Inc. Huntington Valley, PA	Approve contract to provide in-home services for seniors. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$30,000** (County 0%)
m.	New Life Home Health Care Agency, Inc. Huntington Valley, PA	Approve contract to provide in-home services for seniors. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$30,000** (County 0%)
n.	NHCM Inc. d/b/a Prestige Home Care Agency Philadelphia, PA	Approve contract to provide in-home services for seniors. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$125,000** (County 0%)
o.	Pennsylvania Department of Aging Harrisburg, PA	Approve Cooperative Grant Agreement to provide federal and state funding for services. 7/1/21 – 6/30/25	\$23,159,596 (Estimated Revenue)
p.	Precise Point Inc. d/b/a Unique Aid Lansdale, PA	Approve contract to provide in-home services for seniors. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$30,000** (County 0%)
q.	Senior Care Centers of PA, Inc. d/b/a Active Day Inc. Trevose, PA	Approve contract to provide adult day services for seniors. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$50,000** (County 0%)
r.	Snipes Farm and Education Center, Inc. Morrisville, PA	Approve contract to provide community nutritional services for seniors. (Subject to final approval by County Solicitor) 6/21/21 – 12/31/21	\$86,436** (County 0%)
s.	VitaCare Home Health, Inc. Feasterville, PA	Approve contract to provide in-home services for seniors. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$25,000** (County 0%)
2.	BH/DP		
a.	Mental Health Partnerships Philadelphia, PA	Approve contract to provide peer support training. (Subject to final approval by County Solicitor) 6/1/21 – 6/25/21	\$20,625** (County 3.9%)
b.	Newfound Freedom, Inc. Bristol, PA	Approve contract to renovate and operate Transition House. 3/30/21 – 6/30/22	\$391,293.46** (County 2.1)

Note: Item 1r, approved as subject to final approval by county solicitor, did not receive approval. Instead, a new resolution was to be submitted for the June 2, 2021 meeting.

	c.	T.E.C., Inc., d/b/a Family and Friends Point Pleasant, PA	Approve contract to provide residential services for individuals with intellectual disabilities. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$1,415,696** (County 3.9%)
3. CHILDREN & YOUTH	a.	Edison Court, Inc. Doylestown, PA	Approve contract amendment to add Community Service Work Program. 7/1/20 – 6/30/22	\$488,686** (County 19%)
	b.	The Salvation Army (Children’s Services) Allentown, PA	Approve contract to provide foster care services. 7/1/20 - 6/30/22	\$40,000** (County 20%)
4. COMMISSIONERS	a.	Bucks County Industrial Development Authority Doylestown, PA	Approve resolution authorizing a Certificate of Approval for an issuance of bonds not to exceed \$18,285,000 pursuant to Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, for George School in Langhorne.	
5. CORRECTIONS	a.	Gail Normandin-Caprio Coopersburg, PA	Approve contract to provide a Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Coordinator. 5/24/21 – 5/23/22	\$67,000** (County 0%)
	b.	Michelle Jones Gilbertsville, PA	Approve contract to provide a Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Compliance Manager. 5/24/21 – 5/23/22	\$50,000** (County 0%)
6. COURTS	a.	Avertest, LLC d/b/a Averhealth Richmond, VA	Approve contract to administer randomized drug testing program for Drug Court and Restrictive Probation program participants. 6/1/21 – 12/31/22	\$135,000** (County 0%)
	b.	Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency Harrisburg, PA	Approve and authorize acceptance of grant for the Intermediate Punishment Treatment Program. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$216,000 (Revenue)
7. EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS	a.	Informant Technologies, Inc. Lansdale, PA	Approve contract to provide a records management system for use by six county police departments. 1 year from date of execution	\$40,800 (County 100%)
8. GENERAL SERVICES	a.	Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority Doylestown, PA	Approve Sanitary Sewer Easement for TMPs 26-001-049 & 26-001-051-001.	\$1 (Revenue)
	b.	Clearwater Construction, Inc. Mercer, PA	Approve signature authorization for General Services Director of Operations, to sign all electronic documents related to the reconstruction of Bridge #45 on Stone Bridge Road over Deep Run in Bedminster Township.	\$1,705,000 (County 20%)
	c.	Dewberry Architects Inc. Fairfax, VA	Approve contract increase for architectural and construction administration services for the Mail Sorter Room reconfigure, needed due to COVID-19 pandemic.	\$22,730** (County 0%)
	d.	John Chmielewski Upper Black Eddy, PA	Approve Temporary Construction Easement and Agreement of Sale for a Right-of-Way Acquisition for reconstruction of Bridge #333 on Strocks Grove Road over Beaver Creek in Nockamixon Township, in lieu of condemnation. Also, authorize General Services Director of Operations to sign the Settlement Statement on behalf of the County.	\$1,610.50 (County 20%)

	e. Lowes Companies, Inc. Warrington, PA	Approve contract for repair and maintenance supplies for county buildings and properties. 1/1/21 – 12/31/21	\$40,000 (County 100%)
	f. Palman Electric Inc. Huntington Valley, PA	Approve electrical contract for 5th floor Justice Center build out.	\$544,616** (County 100%)
	g. Plasterer Equipment Sellersville, PA	Approve purchase of one John Deere 35G Compact Excavator and accessories.	\$48,294.24** (County 100%)
9. HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	a. Bucks County Opportunity Council, Inc. Doylestown, PA	Approve contract for 2020 Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement (PHARE) funding for housing services. 2/25/21 – 8/25/22	\$72,000 (County 0%)
	b. Family Service Association of Bucks County Langhorne, PA	Approve COVID-19 CARES Act contract extension for the expansion of the Emergency Homeless Shelter. 5/1/21 – 7/31/21	
	c. YWCA Bucks County Trevose, PA	Approve contract extension for 2019 Emergency Solutions Grant funding for Rapid Re-Housing services. 7/1/21 – 7/31/21	
	d. YWCA Bucks County Trevose, PA	Approve contract for 2020 Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement (PHARE) funding for diversion assistance. 2/25/21 – 8/25/22	\$20,000 (County 0%)
10. HUMAN RESOURCES	a. Pennsylvania Social Services Union, Local 668, SEIU Harrisburg, PA	Ratify and approve contract with PSSU, Unit 44-45, for approximately 30 employees in seven departments. 1/1/21 – 12/31/23	
	b. Pennsylvania Social Services Union, Local 668, SEIU Harrisburg, PA	Ratify and approve contract with PSSU, Unit 46, for approximately 67 employees in eight departments. 1/1/21 – 12/31/23	
11. LAW DEPARTMENT	a. Toll Brothers Horsham, PA	Approve contract amendment to extend the outside settlement date to December 31, 2021.	
12. PARKS & RECREATION	a.	Approve increase of fees at various recreation facilities.	
	b. River Valley Landscapes Wrightsville, PA	Approve contract to provide playground equipment for Playwicki Park in Langhorne.	\$23,915 (County 100%)
13. REGISTER OF WILLS	a. Kofile, Inc. Dallas, TX	Approve payment of invoice for data migration, configuration, and integration services. 4/1/20 – 12/31/20	\$24,582 (County 100%)
14. YOUTH CENTER	a. County of Luzerne Wilkes Barre, PA	Approve contract to provide temporary housing for detention of out-of-county juveniles. 1/1/21 – 12/31/21	\$350/day /resident (Revenue)

*Unit Cost/Estimated for operational purposes only.

** Unit Cost/Not to Exceed

REGULAR AGENDA

Item 15a – Mr. Weintraub provided clarification about this advanced level technology to help law enforcement and responded to a question from Commissioner Harvie.

Items 16a & b – Health Department Director Dr. David Damsker provided additional information regarding these two immunization grants. He provided an update on the COVID-19 pandemic and vaccination efforts, and he

encouraged everyone to get vaccinated. Emphasizing this point, he said that of the 50 people currently in the hospital for COVID, 49 of them were not vaccinated.

Items 17a, b & c – Dianna Krall, Assistant Director of Workforce & Economic Development, provided additional information on these items which include training and supportive services for dislocated workers, support for businesses, and incentives for employment retention.

Upon motion of Commissioner Harvie, 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.

15. DISTRICT ATTORNEY	a. Grayshift, LLC Atlanta, GA	Approve contract to provide forensic software licenses. 6/27/21 – 6/27/22	\$27,995 (County 100%)
16. HEALTH	a. Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Communicable Diseases Harrisburg, PA	Approve increase of federal immunization grant for COVID-related work. 7/1/20 – 6/30/21	\$4,745,350.96 (Revenue)
	b. Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Communicable Diseases Harrisburg, PA	Approve federal immunization grant. 7/1/21 – 6/30/22	\$342,328 (Revenue)
17. WORKFORCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	a. Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry, Bureau of Workforce Development Administration Harrisburg, PA	Approve Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act grant funds. 10/1/19 – 6/30/22	\$310,000 (Revenue)
	b. Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry, Bureau of Workforce Development Administration Harrisburg, PA	Approve Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act grant funds. 1/1/21 – 6/30/21	\$105,780 (Revenue)
	c. Wawa, Inc. Pittsburgh, PA	Approve contract to provide goal-attainment incentives for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Youth Title 1 Training Program participants. 5/19/21 – 12/31/21	\$50,000** (County 0%)

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

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

David Boscola, Chief Financial Officer, provided additional clarification on the following budget adjustments:

2021 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS
Agenda Description
May 19, 2021

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS - Adjust Operating Budget for additional grant funds

Adjustment	Department	Amount
Adjustment #9	Health Department	4,745,400
	Health Department (Revenue)	(4,745,400)
Adjustment #10	Workforce & Economic Development	105,800
	Workforce & Economic Development (Revenue)	(105,800)
Total Adjustment to General Fund Balance		-

Upon motion of Commissioner DiGirolamo, seconded by Commissioner Harvie, with the vote being 3-0, these Budget Adjustments were approved.

PERSONNEL

Upon motion of Commissioner Harvie, seconded by Commissioner DiGirolamo, with the vote being 3-0, the following Personnel Actions were approved:

COMMISSIONERS LIST								
May 19, 2021								
As recommended by the Department of Human Resources								
Item numbers 1 through 47								
APPOINTMENTS								
	REQUISITION #	NEW HIRE NAME	POSITION TITLE	DEPARTMENT	UNION CODE	HOURS	EFFECTIVE DATE	COMPENSATION
1	4630	James K. Alicea	Corrections Officer	Main Jail	01	40.0	5/24/2021	22.14 PH
2	4656	Haris A. Bhatti	Technical Intern - PD	Information Technology	00	40.0	5/24/2021	10.00 PH
3	4630	Michael Cianfrani	Corrections Officer	Main Jail	01	40.0	5/24/2021	22.14 PH
4	4558	Logan Collins	Seasonal Help - PD	Parks Recreation Services	00	40.0	5/6/2021	8.25 PH
5	4557	Adatte Estangel	L P N	NM Licensed Practical Nurses	33	40.0	5/25/2021	29.31 PH
6	4559	Kathryn Fitzer	Nursing Assistant	NM Nursing Assistants	03	40.0	5/25/2021	20.78 PH
7	4562	Bethann Habermehl	Unit Manager	NM Administration	86	40.0	5/25/2021	39.74 PH
8	4630	Bernard B. Hardiman	Corrections Officer	Main Jail	01	40.0	5/24/2021	22.14 PH
9	4656	Trevor C. Heinzmann	Technical Intern - PD	Information Technology	00	40.0	5/24/2021	10.00 PH
10	4656	John Hughes	Technical Intern - PD	Information Technology	00	40.0	5/24/2021	10.00 PH
11	4630	James Jenkins	Corrections Officer	Main Jail	01	40.0	5/24/2021	22.14 PH
12	4656	Norsang Lama	Technical Intern - PD	Information Technology	00	40.0	5/24/2021	10.00 PH
13	4630	Kyle S. McCallister	Corrections Officer	Main Jail	01	40.0	5/24/2021	22.14 PH
14	4630	Keith E. Mitchell	Corrections Officer	Main Jail	01	40.0	5/24/2021	22.14 PH
15	4630	Ryan P. Moroney	Corrections Officer	Main Jail	01	40.0	5/24/2021	22.14 PH
16	4630	Jasmin Patterson	Corrections Officer	Main Jail	01	40.0	5/24/2021	22.14 PH
17	4582	Samantha J. Polichetti	Caseworker	Children and Youth	04	37.5	5/24/2021	25.36 PH
18	4653	Christopher R. Quinn	Fiscal Analyst	Finance	00	40.0	5/24/2021	22.00 PH
19	4563	Alexandria Russano-Mandato	Food Service Attendant - PD	NM Dietary Services	03	24.0	5/22/2021	13.27 PH
20	4630	Maurice A. Skipper	Corrections Officer	Main Jail	01	40.0	5/24/2021	22.14 PH
21	4630	Caelan M. Stewart	Corrections Officer	Main Jail	01	40.0	5/24/2021	22.14 PH
22	4633	George M. Tronser	Project Administrator - Fiscal Operations	Housing & Community Development	00	40.0	5/24/2021	57,500.00 PA
23	4630	Athanasios Tsinganos	Corrections Officer	Main Jail	01	40.0	5/24/2021	22.14 PH
24	4653	Yu-Wen Wang	Fiscal Analyst	Finance	00	40.0	5/24/2021	22.00 PH
25	4630	Matthew C. Weber	Corrections Officer	Main Jail	01	40.0	5/24/2021	22.14 PH
26	4586	Colin R. Wisniewski	Seasonal Help - PD	Parks Recreation Services	00	40.0	5/8/2021	9.18 PH
POSITION CHANGE								
	REQUISITION #	NAME	POSITION TITLE	DEPARTMENT	UNION CODE	HOURS	EFFECTIVE DATE	COMPENSATION
27	N/A	Kale M. Leary	Corrections Officer TO Records Officer	Main Jail	01	40.0	5/22/2021	28.79 PH TO 30.81 PH
TRANSFER								
	REQUISITION #	NAME	POSITION TITLE	DEPARTMENT	UNION CODE	HOURS	EFFECTIVE DATE	COMPENSATION
28	4668	Natalie A. Goff	Nursing Assistant TO Laundry Aide	NM Nursing Assistants TO NMH Laundry Services	03 TO 02	40.0	5/22/2021	21.20 PH TO 22.16 PH
SEPARATION								
	NAME	POSITION TITLE	DEPARTMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE		COMPENSATION		
29	Mary C. Barr	Clerk II	Children and Youth	6/30/2021		21.61 PH		
30	Crystal A. Biemuller	Corrections Officer	Main Jail	5/24/2021		25.68 PH		
31	Jeanine S. Brady	Registered Nurse	NM Registered Nurses	6/1/2021		37.20 PH		
32	Michele F. Carney	Assistant Project Administrator	Housing & Community Development	5/14/2021		50,003.20 PA		
33	Danielle Guiteras	Assistant Public Defender	Public Defender	5/21/2021		58,000.00 PA		
34	Patricia E. Guldin	Casework Supervisor	Children and Youth	7/6/2021		39.96 PH		
35	Bernadette L. Harris	House Arrest Coordinator	Main Jail	6/4/2021		32.92 PH		
36	Joseph C. Johnson	Nursing Assistant - Pool	NM Nursing Pool	3/30/2021**		21.42 PH		
37	Maphata P. McDonald	Nursing Assistant	NM Nursing Assistants	5/6/2021		20.78 PH		
38	Joseph Procopio	Security Screener - PD	Security	5/13/2021		13.24 PH		
39	Nicholas T. Rhinesmith	Caseworker	Children and Youth	5/20/2021		25.36 PH		
40	Betty I. Saintus	Nursing Assistant - Pool	NM Nursing Pool	3/30/2021**		21.42 PH		
41	Alex M. Sharp	Dispatcher Trainee - PD	911 Emergency Response	5/8/2021		18.77 PH		
*Estimated Date **Never Started ***Agreement ****Reinstatement								
CORRECTION								
	REQUISITION #	NAME	POSITION TITLE	DEPARTMENT	UNION CODE	HOURS	EFFECTIVE DATE	COMPENSATION
42	N/A	Stefanie D. Bodman	Project Manager, Homeless Services TO Program Manager, Homeless Services	Housing & Community Development	00	40.0	7/3/2021	73,440.00 PA TO 75,000.00 PA
43	4656	Daniel S. Cook	Technical Intern - PD	Information Technology	00	40.0	5/17/2021 TO 5/24/2021	10.00 PH
44	N/A	Sean P. Hordijkenko	Corrections Officer TO Sergeant Corrections	Main Jail	01 TO 81	40.0	5/8/2021	28.79 PH TO 31.76 PH
45	4656	Matthew Lynn	Technical Intern - PD	Information Technology	00	40.0	5/17/2021 TO 5/24/2021	10.00 PH
46	4656	Arth Patel	Technical Intern - PD	Information Technology	00	40.0	5/17/2021 TO 5/24/2021	10.00 PH
47	4588	Evan R. Sparadlin	Seasonal Help - PD	Parks Recreation Services	00	40.0	5/6/2021 TO 5/8/2021	8.25 PH

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

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

Drug & Alcohol Commission (3-year term)
Joshua Buchanan new appointment term expires 12/1/22*
*finishing term of another appointee

Workforce Development Board
Mateen Afzal new appointment term expires 11/6/24

OTHER CIVICS

None

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER REPORT

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

Vaccine Efforts – The Health Department will begin focusing community outreach efforts on vaccine hesitancy. Information and pop-up clinics will be available at various community events throughout the Spring and Summer. Continued focus is also on the homebound population; please call the Health Department to arrange an in-home vaccination.

American Rescue Plan Act – The county has received \$61 million, representing the first half of funding to assist with ongoing COVID-19 relief efforts. The Commissioners and Human Services will be hosting a round table discussion in early June, bringing together non-profit social services providers to discuss current and future needs. Also, as part of the update to the comprehensive plan, a business survey will be sent out to examine the current business climate and the impacts of COVID.

Primary Election – Thanks to the county staff who worked tirelessly yesterday. Special thanks to Commissioner Harvie for his leadership all day; Chief Clerk and Division Leader for Board of Elections, Gail Humphrey; Director of Board of Elections, Tom Freitag; and Randy Miller, who flawlessly led the effort to manage the process flow of each ballot.

SOLICITOR REPORT

On the occasion of World Day for Cultural Diversity, Solicitor Joe Khan reflected on the progress made over the past fifteen months to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in the county. This includes the hiring of Project and Diversity Officer Bernard Griggs, the Ban the Box and Fair Pay policies, and the creation of the New Americans Advisory Commission. Mr. Khan also noted the diversity that has been achieved in the Law Department, where most of the attorneys are now women and/or people of color.

Mr. Khan advised the department will be seeking Mansfield Certification. This national certification for law departments, named for the first American woman admitted to the bar, recognizes law departments that are proactive in making sure everyone gets fair consideration for hiring, promotions, and serving on high profile cases. Looking forward, as the county considers law firms to represent them, they will also be looking to promote firms that embrace the same goals of advancing equity and inclusion in their ranks. Mr. Khan announced that he would be reaching out to the Bucks County Bar Association to help him assemble a working group of local attorneys to recommend standards and practices that he can present to the Commissioners.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Harvie commented on the election, saying that employees from all over the county worked shifts ranging from 6:30 am until midnight. He also thanked Randy Miller for everything he did to help train people and keep things organized throughout the day. The Commissioner said they have improved upon their experiences this past November, with the exception of an issue the website vendor had with communicating the results timely.

Commissioner Harvie advised that the nonpartisan National Vote at Home Institute has been working with the county Board of Elections team for months, analyzing, interviewing, and advising. They will be issuing a report that will include guidelines and suggestions for improving the election process.

Commissioner Harvie spoke about Memorial Day, pointing out that while Veterans' Day is for anyone who has served in the military, Memorial Day specifically honors those who have given their lives while serving the country. He reflected that we are able to live our lives because of those who sacrificed theirs.

Speaking of yesterday's Primary Election, Commissioner DiGirolamo said he was in awe of what the Board of Elections and staff were able to accomplish. He advised that Ms. McKevitt was there till 3:00 am, as was her assistant Liz Gates, and Ms. Humphrey, and he thanked them on behalf of the people of Bucks County.

Commissioner DiGirolamo said it is important to remind the governor and state legislature that the counties need help with elections. He stressed the importance of being able to open and scan ballots before the election, so results are received on election night and election staff don't have to work until 3:00 am. He added that he hopes they can work together to get this accomplished before the next election in November.

Commissioner DiGirolamo spoke about a public service announcement that he and Commissioner Harvie recently made regarding the importance of getting vaccinated. Advising that all three commissioners have been vaccinated, he said that the vaccine is safe and it protects those around you.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Commissioner Harvie, 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 2, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. in the Bucks County Commissioners’ Meeting Room.

Approved: June 2, 2021

BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BY:

Diane M. Ellis-Marseglia
Commissioner, Chair

Robert J. Harvie, Jr.
Commissioner, Vice-Chair

Gene DiGirolamo
Commissioner

ATTEST:

Gail Humphrey, *Chief Clerk*