THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BRISTOL SS

At a meeting of the Bristol County Commissioners holden in Taunton within and for the County of Bristol on the fifth day of March A.D., 2024 by successive adjournments from the September term of the previous year.

Present: Chairman Paul B. Kitchen, Commissioner John R. Mitchell and Commissioner John T. Saunders phone in remotely.

Commissioner Kitchen called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

A roll call was taken.

Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Also in attendance at the meeting Maria Gomes, County Administrator and Tammy Moutinho, Facilities Superintendent.

Received notices from the Bristol County Agricultural High School on the following employment matters:

1.	Alyssa Andrade	Reclassification	Effective 2/04/24
2.	Russell Pion	Long Term Sub	Effective 2/12/24
3.	Marilyn Breare	Sub. Teacher	Effective 2/19/24
4.	Benjamin Medeiros	FMLA	Effective 2/26/24
5.	Nancy Dorschied	Sub. Teacher	Effective 2/26/24
6.	Kerrie Blanchard	FMLA	Effective 2/15/24
7.	Nicole Freire	Bus. Office Admin. Assistant	Effective 3/4/24
8.	Shelly Buckley	Termination	Effective 2/26/24
9.	Justin Gadry	JV Basketball Coach	Effective 9/01/24
10.	Linda Hough	Account # change	Effective 10/23/24
11.	Matthew Day	Lead Maintenance Foreman	Effective 3/4/24
12.	Sydney Hussey	Return to Teachers Aide	Effective 3/5/24
13.	Dawn Fornari	RTW from FMLA	Effective 3/5/24
14.	Shelly Buckley	Termination (date correction)	Effective 2/26/24
15.	Karyn F. Wilson	Coding correction	Revised for 8/28/23
16.	Christina DePaula	New Title-PT Para Teacher's Aide	Effective3/19/24
17.	Dr. Christopher J. Murdock	Veterinary Science Medical Dir.	Effective 3/11/24

Received notices from the County Treasurer on the following employment matters:

1.	Nicole Rapoza	Re-hire	Effective 2/26/24

Received notices from the Bristol County Commissioner's Office on the following employment matter:

1.	Glenn F. Souza	Workers Comp.	Effective 2/19/24

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders to approve the CP's as presented and previously approved.

On the Motion, Roll Call

Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

The following warrants were previously approved and/or reviewed and read into the record:

AP Warrant #24075	2/13/24	$572,155.25
AP Warrant #24076	2/13/24	$6,750.00
Payroll Warrant #24085	2/15/24	$220,208.05
AP Warrant #24087	2/20/24	$900,055.05
AP Warrant #24088	2/20/24	$2,857,636.14
Payroll Warrant #24086	2/22/24	$228,348.16
Payroll Warrant #24090	2/29/24	$215,109.11
Payroll Warrant #24092	3/7/24	$213,511.99
AP Warrant #24091	3/5/24	$294,754.48
AP Warrant #24093	3/5/24	$70,532.86

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders to approve the warrants as listed.

On the Motion, Roll Call

Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell to approve the minutes of January 23, 2024, February 6, 2024 and February 29, 2024.

On the Motion, Roll Call

Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted, to authorize the Chairman, Paul B. Kitchen, to execute the Certificate from Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division for an Order of Land Taking **dated January 24, 2024** and noted as **Order of Taking, Layout #19-TE-1 through 19-TE-5** in the **City of New Bedford.**

On the motion, roll call:

Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, second by Commissioner Mitchell, it was voted to approve the request of David Santoro to use the ***Taunton Superior Court*** to hold an **Eagle Court of Honor** May 14, 2024 from 6:00 pm to approximately 8:00 p.m.

On the motion, roll call:

Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders it was voted to approve and forward to the Treasurer's Office for payment, invoice #**6418** in the amount of **$7,500.00** received from **Lynch Marini & Associates, Inc.,** 99 Longwater Circle, Suite 200, Norwell, MA 02061 as a progress billing invoice for the Fiscal Year 2023Audit.

Vendor **#2493** charged to **13420-52233.**

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

The County has entered into contracts with the State of Massachusetts Trial Court to provide direct reimbursement for several projects currently going on in various courts. Administrator Gomes stated that contracts have been signed and that the invoices will first be paid by the County and then copies of the checks and ledger will be sent to the State in order to initiate the reimbursement back to each appropriate org and object.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and forward to the Treasurer's Office for payment process ***Invoice #02212401*** from **Energy Conservation Inc.**, PO Box 726 Hanson, MA 02341 in the amount of **$81,250.00** for the mini splits installed in the courtroom at the **Taunton Superior Court,** and then follow thru with the agreement with the Trial Court to provide a direct reimbursement of the total amount.

To be processed to Vendor#8412 from 10610/52299.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and forward to the Treasurer's Office for payment process ***Invoice #02152401*** from **Energy Conservation Inc.**, PO Box 726 Hanson, MA 02341 in the amount of **$74,724.00** for the energy saving lighting improvements at the **Attleboro 4th District Court** and then follow thru with the agreement with the Trial Court to provide a direct reimbursement of the total amount.

To be processed to Vendor#8412 from 10619/52299.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Administrator Gomes also stated that invoice #12725 for **Jeff Ollivierre's Carpets** in the amount **$61,485.00** will also be processed as a direct reimbursement and charged to 10611/52299. This matter was discussed at the 9/6/23 Commissioner's Meeting as Ollivierre was the lowest bidder under State contract.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve the request of Register of Deeds Barry J. Amaral to authorize **Lynne Ferreira** to sign documents in the event of absence of Mr. Amaral.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Two employee accident reports were read into the record. Michael Machado, slip on ice 2/14/24 and Glenn Souza slip on ice 2/14/24. Mr. Souza is currently still out injured and a Form 101 has been filed with the Industrial Accident Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders to receive and place on file.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell it was voted to accept the grant award of Community Preservation Act ('CPA') funds from the ***City of New Bedford*** in the amount of **$285,000** for the rehabilitation and restoration of the **New Bedford Superior Courthouse** façade as detailed in the County's application, with the terms and conditions as detailed in the City of New Bedford award letter dated February 16, 2024. The Commissioners had previously approved the CPA application and county funding at their meeting of 11/09/23.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell it was voted to authorize County Administrator Gomes to enter into contract with the *Massachusetts Trial Court* for the direct reimbursement of funds in the amount of **$2,872.00** that will be paid to ***North Star Concrete, Inc***, 433 Oak Grove Ave Fall River, MA 02723.

To be paid to Vendor #**8480** from **10619/52269** when invoiced. (Check copy need for Trial Court reimbursement)

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders it was voted to approve the estimate #E377 of **J. Roia Electrical** 1160 Meridian Street Fall River, MA 02720, in the amount of $2,520.00 for various electrical work at the **Attleboro 4th District Court**.

To be paid to Vendor #7971 from 10619/52262 when invoiced.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve the request from Derek Costa, Superintendent/Director of the Bristol County Agricultural High School, dated **February 20, 2024,** designated as surplus, and to declare all the identified property as surplus.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioners Saunders it was voted to approve the request of **Alex Stylos of *The District,*** located at 11 Court Street in Taunton, to use the rear parking lot area behind the Registry of Deeds building and the Superior Court on weekends for outdoor events during the 2024 season. An insurance policy has been provided to the County Commissioner's showing the events are covered by an insurance policy.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

ARPA Funding

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the **Town of Westport** ARPA Application **#1233** in the amount of **$163,000.00** as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor **#5171** from the **ARPA** funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the **Town of Seekonk** ARPA Application **#1228** in the amount of **$71,992.44** as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor **#5540** from the **ARPA** funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes

Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the **Town of Seekonk** ARPA Application #1234 in the amount of **$92,989.25** as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor #**5540** from the **ARPA** funding as designated by the County Treasurer.
On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the **Town of Seekonk** ARPA Application #1240 in the amount of **$19,250.00** as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor #**5540** from the **ARPA** funding as designated by the County Treasurer.
On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the **Town of Dartmouth** ARPA Application #1225 in the amount of **$584,518.50** as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor #**611** from the **ARPA** funding as designated by the County Treasurer.
On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the **City of Attleboro** ARPA Application #1230 in the amount of **$2,387,972.13** as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor #**1264** from the **ARPA** funding as designated by the County Treasurer.
On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the **City of Fall River** ARPA Application **#1079** in the amount of **$145,000.00** as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor #**538** from the **ARPA** funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

County Administrator Gomes provided a spreadsheet and Munis printout related to County ARPA application and remaining overall ARPA funds.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to withdraw **County ARPA applications 1063, 1064, 1065 and 1068.**

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

A communication was received from Joe Pinsonneault, Executive Director of the Fall River Children's Museum asking that a basement carpet be removed.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, Seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve the ***estimate*** dated February 16, 2024 from **Common Sense Environmental, Inc. 38 Elm Street New Bedford, MA 02740** in the amount of $500-600 for inspection of carpet mastic samples at the Fall River Children's Museum.

To be paid to Vendor #**8409** from **10612/52269** when invoiced.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Tammy Moutinho reported a courtroom lock issue.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, Seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and forward to the Treasurer's Office for payment process ***Invoice #3109*** from **Palmer Lock & Key 47 Route 44 Raynham, MA 02767** in the amount of **$1,161.73** for the emergency repair of Courtroom #1 lock at the **Attleboro 4th District Court.**

To be processed to Vendor #**7637** from **10619/522969**.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

An estimate was received from Elite Plumbing and Heating for a condensate tank replacement at the Fall River Children's' Museum. The estimate dated 2/26/24 was for $11,307.75.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to receive and place on file.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Commissioner Kitchen asked Tammy to obtain more prices since the tank has been temporarily repaired.

County Administrator Gomes reviewed some FY'25 Budget distribution dates with the Commissioners. The Register of Deeds should be invited in to the 4/16/24 meeting.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted, in accordance with the recommendation of Peter Carreiro, Benefits Coordinator, to forward to the Treasurer's Office for payment, invoice dated February 28, 2024 from the **MIIA Health Benefits Trust, One Winthrop Square**, in the amount of **$405,016.74** for the County of Bristol Monthly Membership Premiums for **March, 2024.**

To be paid to Vendor **#7778** from the following accounts:	**Account #01-21581**	**$404,719.74**
	Account #13420-54437	**$ 297.00**

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to accept the Renewal Proposal from **MIIA Health Benefit Trust** for Fiscal Year 2025 with an increase in rate of **4.22%,** and to authorize the Chairman to sign the acceptance.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

The Commissioners discussed the OPIOID Funds and the possibility of distributing the funds to the Bristol County Fire Chiefs Association for the use of eligible programs. Commissioner Kitchen would reach out to the Chiefs Association.

Tammy Moutinho has worked with the City of Taunton and local contractor Jack Gaspar to transfer the torch from the Taunton Superior Court that is currently in storage at the TMLP Cleary Center on Somerset Avenue in Taunton. A letter would be prepared to thank the contractor for his donation of service.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders to send a letter of thanks to Mr. Gaspar of Hyde Paving for offering to transport, free of charge, the historical torch to Crocker Architectural.

Tammy explained that the boiler bids have been delayed until March 14th for the Taunton Superior Court boiler replacement. Alternates were discussed. Alternates may be added to the IFB for bids.

A Zoom meeting will be scheduled possibly on Monday, March 18th at 12 noon.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders to adjourn at 5:00 pm.

On the motion, roll call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

APPROVED
DATE 3/18/24

BRISTOL COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS