## THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BRISTOL SS March 28, 2023

The March term of the County Commissioners was commenced in Taunton this day, it being the fourth Tuesday of said March.

Present: Commissioner Paul B. Kitchen, Commissioner John R. Mitchell and Commissioner John T. Saunders.

Also in attendance: County Administrator Gomes, Interim Facilities Director Brian Moniz, Benefits Coordinator Christopher Boudreau, Colleen Jordan and Tammy Moutinho.

Commissioner Kitchen called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Notice was received from the Bristol County Agricultural High School regarding the following employment matter:

1. Shane Fleury	Sub. Teacher	Effective 3/29/23
2. Joslyn Pelletier	PT Animal Science Teacher	Effective 4/03/23
3. Debra Steeves	Termination-Food Svc.	Effective 3/31/23

Notice was received from the Southern District Registry on the following employment matter:

1.	Madie-Lyn Bourgeois	Clerk-FMLA Leave	Effective 3/14/23

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, second by Commissioner Mitchell to approve the CP's as presented. Unanimous.

The following warrants were reviewed/previously approved and noted for the minutes:

3/16/23	\$193,847.86
3/14/23	\$304,222.45
3/14/23	\$502,223.46
3/14/23	\$1,500.00
3/23/23	\$190,856.43
3/21/23	\$634,289.81
3/30/23	\$200,509.98
	3/14/23 3/14/23 3/14/23 3/23/23 3/21/23

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, second by Commissioner Mitchell to approve the warrants as presented. Unanimous.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders to approve the minutes of March 7, 2023. Unanimous.

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, second by Commissioner Mitchell to approve the minutes of March 16, 2023. Unanimous.

Accident reports for custodians Michael Machado (DOI 2/28/23) and Glenn Souza (DOI 2/28/23) were received and placed on file. Motion made by Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders.

A letter from the Teamsters Union Local 59 regarding a request to commence negotiations was received. A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders to receive and place on file.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and forward to the Treasurer's Office for payment, charging the appropriate authority, an **Invoice** #19, dated March 8, 2023, in the amount of \$4,287.50 to Valerio, Dominello & Hillman, LLC, One University Avenue, Suite 300B, Westwood, MA 02090.

To be paid to Vendor #7806 from 030-09-000-1430-00-48-4-00-52235.

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell, to support the pending Massachusetts Special Legislation submitted by Representative Paul A. Schmid, III, identified as <u>H2655</u>, (HD 997) An Act directing the Bristol County Retirement Board to grant creditable service to Michael Cioper.

The District in Taunton sent General Manager Collen Jordan to the meeting.

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 2023 season. An insurance policy has been provided to the County Commissioner's showing the events are covered by an insurance policy.

An email had been received from Brock Cordeiro of Dartmouth requesting a proclamation.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioners Saunders it was voted to issue a Proclamation declaring the month of November 2023, *Pancreatic Awareness Month* in Bristol County Massachusetts.

## ARPA Funding/Discussion

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the ARPA Application #1104 from the Town of Dartmouth for \$24,985.00 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.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the ARPA Application #1108 from the City of Taunton for \$30,000.00 as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor #200 from the ARPA funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the ARPA Application #1033 from the City of Taunton for \$1,574,000.00 as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor #200 from the ARPA funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the ARPA Application #1034 from the City of Taunton for \$2,085,190.00 as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor #200 from the ARPA funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the ARPA Application #1140 from the City of Taunton for \$200,000.00 as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor #200 from the ARPA funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the ARPA Application #1116 from the City of Fall River for \$56,592.99 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.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the ARPA Application #1134 from the City of Fall River for \$2,000,000.00 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.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the ARPA Application #1096 from the Town of Berkley for \$400,000.00 as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor #5160 from the ARPA funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

Commissioner Kitchen briefly discussed deadline for municipalities submitting applications to the ARPA Portal. He would obtain more information from Jane Gonsalves and discuss further at the April 4, 2023 meeting.

County Administrator Gomes discussed the distribution of the FY 2024 Budget templates and asked the Commissioners to decide on a date for the return of those budgets. The templates will be sent out on March 31<sup>st</sup> with a return date of April 25, 2023. Additional date deadlines will be reviewed in a future meeting.

Insurance broker Christopher Boudreau was present to provide a brief update on the status of the Boston Mutual Group Life Insurance plan. He indicated that several group members had indicated interest in leaving the group. Rates will definitely increase based on the number of members who leave the group. No definite rates at this time.

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, second by Commissioner Mitchell to table discussion on the Boston Mutual Plan until a date in April when more information is available. Commissioner Kitchen indicated that he was not inclined to vote to leave the group.

A second national OPIOID Settlement has been reached with various companies. There was discussion on whether the County wished to apply for funds under the newest Settlement.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to authorize County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to act as the County's designee to register and apply for the latest round of OPIOID Settlement Funds related to the Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walmart and Walgreens Settlement.

## Old Business

Administrator Gomes stated that she had spoken to the trial court's facilities director and received his approval on the installation of a door at the New Bedford 3<sup>rd</sup> District Court.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders it was voted to accept the proposal of **Jose Cardozo Contracting Co.**, dated December 29, 2022 in the amount of \$3,282.00 to install a doorway at the *New Bedford 3rd District Court*.

It will be paid to Vendor #2893 from 10618/52299 when invoiced.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders to move to Executive Session at 4:52 pm for the purpose of discussing non-union contract negotiations. The Commissioners would be returning to open session.

On the motion, Roll Call:

Mr. Mitchell

yes

Mr. Saunders

yes

Mr. Kitchen

yes

The Commissioners returned to open session at 5:11 pm. One vote to approve the contract with Facilities Superintendent Tammy A. Moutinho was taken.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders to adjourn at 5:12 pm.

APPROVED

DATE.

BUISTOL COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS