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 twenty-fourth day of June A.D., 2025 by successive adjournments from the March term of the same year.

Present: Commissioner John R. Mitchell, Commissioner John T Saunders and Commissioner Julie K. Ruggiero.

Commissioner Mitchell called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

Also in attendance, County Administrator Maria Gomes, Tammy Moutinho, Register of Deeds Amaral, Mello and McDonald and Lynne Ferreira.

The Register s were invited to the meeting to discuss operating hours for the Registries. The employee Union had proposed closing at 4 pm and giving up both of their 15 minute breaks. There was discussion on the matter. Both Commissioners Mitchell and Ruggiero had concerns about the earlier closing hour. There was some discussion on a split shift.

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero to approve the 8am to 4 pm hours at the Registry of Deeds locations.

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Mr. Saunders No
Ms. Ruggiero No
Mr. Mitchell No

Motion fails.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to ratify the executive session vote of June 17, 2025 to pay **WPI Construction, Inc. 5 Checkerberry Island Webster, MA 01570,** $339,000.00 as partial payment for the *New Bedford Superior Court* roof replacement project (Bid #24-04).

To be paid to Vendor **#6926** from **10611/52269**.

On the Motion, Roll Call:

Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero to approve the minutes of June 10, 2025.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ruggiero, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell to approve the Zoom meeting #1 minutes of June 17, 2025.

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero to approve the Zoom meeting #2 minutes of June 17, 2025.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted approve the vacation carry-over request from Superintendent Derek Costa for the BCAHS Administrators and an Administrative Assistant as listed below:

ADMINISTRATORS			**From**	**To**	**Total**
Emp. #	**Name**	**Date**	**FY 25**	**FY 26**	**FY 26**
21073	Derek Costa	06/30/2025	10	25	35
20813	Braga, Kevin	06/30/2025	5	25	30
21186	Andrew Kingsland	06/30/2025	5	25	30
21148	Karen Minster	06/30/2025	8	15	23
20423	Ryan Miranda	06/30/2025	1	25	26
21166	Samantha Stone	06/30/2025	7	15	22

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT			**From**	**To**	**Total**
Emp. #	**Name**	**Date**	**FY 25**	**FY 26**	**FY 26**
28071	Michelle Nogueira	06/30/2025	5	20	25

Said carry-over will only be allowed through September 30, 2025 or in accordance with the current employee's contract language.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to allow the Chairman to sign the Fiscal Year 2025 Audit Engagement Letter with Lynch Marini and Associates, Inc.

A sick bank notification for Matthew Carr was received from the Bristol County Agricultural High School. A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero to receive and place on file.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to approve and forward to the Treasurer's Office for payment, in accordance with the documentation, invoice #BCCO612025 received from the **Children's Advocacy Center of Bristol County 58 Arch Street, Fall River, MA 02724** for **June and year-end** operating expenses**,** in the amount of **$3,500.00.**

It is noted this is for vendor **# 6891** and will be charged to **01000-54490**.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to approve that a window study be conducted for the **New Bedford Southern District Registry of Deeds**. Said window study will be paid for by the Southern District Registry of Deeds.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to authorize payment of Compensation Time to any custodial employee with compensation hours on the books as of June 30, 2025.

Compensation time will be paid from any remaining funds in the **overtime account** or **13420/51100.**

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to accept the creditable service of **Berlin Newson**, a Custodian with Bristol County and a former employee with the City of Fall

River. Mr. Newson will be allowed to count that service time for the purpose of computing his County vacation allowance. Creditable service carryover from the City of Fall River is 5.1667 years.

Tammy Moutinho reported on the status of the buildings. New Bedford 3rd District is experiencing some Chiller issues due to the extreme heat. Advance Air is addressing the issue tomorrow. Carpet needs to be cleaned in New Bedford 3rd District.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to approve the **estimate** Order No.279 dated May 14, 2025, for the commercial carpet cleaning at the **New Bedford 3rd District Court,** provided by **Dream Carpets**, **Inc.** 233 Bridle Way, Tiverton, MA 02878 in the amount of **$3,955.00.** It should be noted that Dream Carpets was the lowest bidder.

Vendor # 6527 to be paid from **10618-52299 of the FY'25 budget to be encumbered.**

New Bedford Superior Court carpeting is being planned. She would also like to address the Clerk's Office.
Fall River Registry needs some painting repairs.
Fall River Children's Museum Water Room needs repair. Quotes have been received.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to approve the low bidder **Re fab** 328 Bedford Street Lakeville, MA 02347 for the Quote #2794 dated April 24, 2025in the amount of $11,761.00 to paint and repair the **Water Room at the Fall River Children's Museum. Work to be completed after July 1, 2025.**

To be paid to Vendor **#8521** from **10612/52269 once invoiced.**

Tammy also discussed the pending roof repairs at the Children's Museum. Fall River CPA has awarded $250,000.00. Immediate repairs are estimated at $200,000.00. The County has not set aside any money for this project.

Tammy would like to get a storage shed for Attleboro. Ms. Gomes mentioned that a shed is factored in the FY'26 Budget.

Air Masters has submitted a Change Order for work on the current project at the Taunton Superior Court. There is valve work that needs to be done.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to approve The repair of the Steam Valves associated with the Taunton Superior Court and the Bristol Northern Registry of Deeds Building. **Air Masters** (Rise Group) would be providing the valves and **Elite plumbing & Mechanical, LLC** will do the installation plumbing of those valves. Project cost not to exceed $15,000 for the Taunton Registry of Deeds and $5,000 for the Taunton Superior Court. Welding work may be required.

$10,000 to be encumbered from 10613/52269.
$5,000 to be encumbered from 10613/52299.
$5,000 to be encumbered from 10610/52269.

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

1.	Matthew Carr	RTW 6/23/25	Effective 6/23/25
2.	Beth Sylvia	Wage Change	Effective 7/01/25
3.	Gary Salamone	New-Janitor	Effective 6/25/25
4.	Dr. Melissa Murdock	Address Change	Effective 6/01/25
5.	Dr. Christopher Murdock	Termination	Effective 6/14/25
6.	Brooke Kelly	JV Soccer Coach	Effective 8/14/25
7.	Danielle Chevalier	Floriculture Chair	Effective 8/29/25
8.	Dawn Fornari	Retiring	Effective 6/30/25
9.	Katie Kochan	Resignation	Effective 6/30/25
10.	Ashley Fullen	Vocational Coordinator	Effective 7/01/25
11.	Sydney Hussey	Spring Expo	Effective 5/5/25
12.	Diana Hopkins	Wage Increase	Effective 6/13/25

Received notices from the Bristol Northern Registry of Deeds on the following employment matters:

1.	Francis McGuirk	PT Assistant	Effective 7/1/25
2.	Cuong Vu	IT Tech Consultant	Effective 7/1/25
3.	Carol Godlewski	PT	Effective 7/1/25

Received notice from the Southern District Registry of Deeds on the following employment matter:

1.	Bernadette Galego	PT Continued	Effective 7/1/25

Received notice from the Bristol County Print Shop on the following employment matter:

1.	Victoria Bradshaw	New Hire	Effective 7/1/25

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero to approve the CP's as presented.

The following warrants were reviewed and read into the record:

Payroll Warrant #25138	06/26/25	$244,819.74
AP Warrant #25136	06/24/25	$839,148.55
AP Warrant #25137	06/24/25	$166,952.23
AP Warrant #25128	VOID	($531.38)
AP Warrant #25128	06/24/25	$351.38

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero to approve the Warrants and department budgets as presented.

The Fiscal Year 2026 individual department budgets were reviewed.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to approve the **Fiscal Year 2026** Budget for the Bristol County Northern Registry of Deeds, submitted by Register Barry J. Amaral, in the amount of **$2,608,620.81.**

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to approve the **Fiscal Year 2026** Budget for the Bristol County Southern District Registry of Deeds, submitted by Register Sherrilynn Mello, in the amount of **$2,163,602.29**.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to approve the **Fiscal Year 2026** Budget for the Fall River Registry of Deeds, submitted by Register Bernard J. McDonald III, in the amount of **$1,469,900.31.**

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to approve the **Fiscal Year 2026** Budget for the **Bristol County Print Shop** in the amount of **$107,700.00.**

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to increase County Treasurer Christopher Saunders base salary by $12,000 for fiscal year 2026. Total base salary for fiscal year 2026 will be $122,544.20.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to approve the **Fiscal Year 2026** Budget for the **Bristol County Treasurer's Office** in the amount of **$618,078.51.**

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to approve the **Fiscal Year 2026** Budget for the **Bristol County Commissioner's Office** in the amount of **$418,200.58**.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to approve the **Fiscal Year 2026** Budget for the **Bristol County Building's Budget** in the amount of **$3,845,945.14**.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero it was voted to approve the **Fiscal Year 2026 Deeds Excise Agreement** which allows the County to retain additional deeds excise revenue and forward the document to the County Treasurer.

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero to adjourn at 5:34 pm.