

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 nineteenth day of December A.D., 2023 by successive adjournments from the September term of the same year.

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

Chairman Kitchen called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm.

Also in attendance at the meeting Maria Gomes, County Administrator, Facilities Superintendent, Tammy Moutinho, Register Sherrilynn Mello and her Executive Director Scott Aguiar.

Chairman Kitchen asked County Administrator Gomes to read the personnel actions.

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

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Amanda Eusebio | wage account change | Effective 11/06/23 |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|

Received a notice from the County Commissioners Office on the following employment matters:

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Maria V. Gomes | Wage Increase | Effective 7/1/23 |
| 2. Paul B. Kitchen | Wage Increase | Effective 7/1/23 |
| 3. John R. Mitchell | Wage Increase | Effective 7/1/23 |
| 4. John T. Saunders | Wage Increase | Effective 7/1/23 |
| 5. Michael Vining | Print Shop Wage Increase | Effective 7/1/23 |

Received a notice from the County Treasurer on the following employment matters:

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|----------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1. Christopher T. Saunders | Wage Increase | Effective 7/1/23 |
| 2. Lisa Rogers | Wage Increase | Effective 7/1/23 |

Received a notice from Register Sherrilynn Mello, Register of Deeds Southern District:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. Scott Aguiar | Wage Increase | Effective 7/1/23 |
| 2. Scott Aguiar | New Title | Effective 1/1/24 |
| 3. Linda A Oliveira | Name Change | Effective 12/4/23 |

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

Commissioner Saunders joined the meeting remotely at 4:14 pm.

Chairman Kitchen asked that they go out of order to item #25.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders to go into Executive Session at 4:14 pm to discuss potential litigation regarding cancellation of a contract. The board would reconvene in open session.

On the Motion, Roll Call

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

The Commissioners reconvened in Open Session at 4:30 pm. No votes were taken in Executive Session.

The Commissioners returned to the regular agenda and item #2.

The following warrants were reviewed and read into the record:

Payroll Warrant #24062	Void	-\$750.18
Payroll Warrant #24063	Re-issued	\$750.18
AP Warrant #24052	12/12/23	\$348,401.83
AP Warrant #24064	12/14/23	\$264,709.77
Payroll Warrant #24066	12/21/23	\$213,352.16
Retro Payroll Warrant #24067	12/21/23	\$49,768.47

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

On the Motion, Roll Call

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders to approve the minutes of November 21, 2023.

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, in accordance with the recommendation of Peter Carreiro, Benefits Coordinator, to forward to the Treasurer's Office for payment, invoice dated November 21, 2023 from the **MIIA Health Benefits Trust, One Winthrop Square**, in the amount of **\$404,572.10** for the County of Bristol Monthly Membership Premiums for **December, 2023.**

To be paid to Vendor #7778 from the following accounts:	Account #01-21581	\$404,291.80
	Account #13420-54437	\$ 280.30

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 authorize the Chairman, Paul B. Kitchen, to execute the Certificate from Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway

Division for an Order of Land Taking **dated November 8, 2023** and noted as **Order of Taking, Layout #8922** in the **Town of Fairhaven.**

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to received and place on file the actuarial valuation of the Bristol County Other Post-Employment Benefits Plan for year ending June 30, 2023 and approve and forward to the Treasurer's Office for payment, invoice **#8310 dated November 21, 2023** in the amount of **\$3,475.00**, received from **Odyssey Advisors, 11 Hayward Avenue, Bldg.4, Colchester, CT 06415** for actuarial valuation and consulting services for fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 related to GASB 74 & 75 and OPEB.

To be paid to Vendor **#7984** from **13420/52233**.

On the motion, roll call:

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

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, second by Commissioner Kitchen, it was voted to approve and forward to the Treasurer's Office for payment, in accordance with the documentation, invoice **#BCCO1212023** received from the **Children's Advocacy Center of Bristol County 58 Arch Street, Fall River, MA 02724** for **December** operating expenses, in the amount of **\$2,500.00 each**.

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

On the motion, roll call:

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

A notice was received from the Bristol County Retirement System announcing the pension appropriations for Fiscal Year 2025 in the amount of \$57,212,965.00. A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders to notify each of the member units of their FY'25 retirement appropriation.

On the motion, roll call:

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders to accept the County Commissioner's Meeting Schedule for calendar year 2024. The schedule will be distributed to all departments.

On the motion, roll call:

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

ARPA

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 **City of Fall River ARPA Application #1207** in the amount of **\$35,200.00** 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

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, second by Commissioner Mitchell to distribute funds related to the ARPA Application **#1195** from the **Town of Freetown** for **\$20,963.04** as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor #6829 from the **ARPA** funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

On the motion, Roll Call

Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes
Mr. Mitchell yes
Unanimously approved.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, second by Commissioner Mitchell to distribute funds related to the ARPA Application **#1196** from the **Town of Freetown** for **\$425,000.00** as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor #6829 from the **ARPA** funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

On the motion, Roll Call

Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes
Mr. Mitchell yes
Unanimously approved.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders to distribute funds related to the ARPA Application #1216 from Bristol County for the New Bedford Superior Court Roof Project for **\$764,000.00** as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to account 10611/52265 from the **ARPA** funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

On the motion, Roll Call

Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Kitchen yes
Mr. Mitchell yes
Unanimously approved.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders to distribute funds related to the ARPA Application #1217 from Bristol County for the Taunton Superior Court Roof Project in the amount of **\$2,387,449.00** as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to account 10610/52265 from the **ARPA** funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

On the motion, Roll Call

Mr. Saunders yes

Mr. Kitchen yes

Mr. Mitchell yes

Unanimously approved.

The parking policy at the New Bedford 3rd District Court was discussed with the Facilities Superintendent. Clarification is being sought for whose responsibility it is to monitor the parking at the New Bedford 3rd District Court. Apparently there were three cars towed from the parking lot, two of which were incorrectly towed. Commissioner Kitchen explained that the current lease does not require the County to supervise the parking lot at the New Bedford 3rd District Court.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell, it was voted to approve the proposal dated November 28, 2023 from **D.D.S. Industries, Inc. 250 Ace Street, Fall River, MA 02720** in the amount of **\$1,600.00** to check the refrigerant circuit of the newly replaced HVAC unit where the new compressor was just replaced at the **New Bedford 3rd District Court**.

To be paid to **Vendor #8408** from **10618/52269** to be paid once invoiced.

On the motion, Roll Call

Mr. Saunders yes

Mr. Kitchen yes

Mr. Mitchell yes

Unanimously approved.

A proposal was received from Energy Conservation Inc for energy saving lighting at the Attleboro 4th District Court. The proposal was received and placed on file.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve the proposal from **K.R Rezendes, Inc. 3 Sammy's Lane Assonet, MA 02702-0897** dated December 18, 2023 in the amount of **\$24,945.00** to excavate and install a new water service to the Taunton Registry of Deeds Building at 11 Court Street.

To be paid to Vendor #8463 from the Taunton Registry of Deeds upon invoicing.

On the motion, Roll Call

Mr. Saunders yes

Mr. Kitchen yes

Mr. Mitchell yes

Unanimously approved.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve the proposal from **Elite Plumbing & Mechanical, LLC** dated December 18, 2023 in the amount of **\$1,500.00** to install a new water shutoff for meter connection at the Taunton Registry of Deeds Building at 11 Court Street.

To be paid to Vendor #8384 from the Taunton Registry of Deeds upon invoicing.

On the motion, Roll Call

Mr. Saunders yes

Mr. Kitchen yes

Mr. Mitchell yes

Unanimously approved.

A fire/sprinkler company will also be asked to provide a quote for a dedicated service line for fire services into the Taunton Registry of Deeds building.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders to table the discussion on the Tighe & Bond Design Services Proposal until the January 9, 2024 meeting.

On the motion, Roll Call

Mr. Saunders yes

Mr. Kitchen yes

Mr. Mitchell yes

Unanimously approved.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve the estimate #547 dated December 12, 2023 from **North Star Concrete, Inc.** 10 Briar Dr. Westport, MA 02790 for waterproofing of the basement office space at the Attleboro 4th District Court in the amount of \$2,101.00.

To be charged to 10619/52299.

On the motion, Roll Call

Mr. Saunders yes

Mr. Kitchen yes

Mr. Mitchell yes

Unanimously approved.

There is an old disconnected oil tank at the back of the New Bedford Superior Court that the facilities superintendent would like to have removed.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve the lowest bidder quote from **Allstar Tank Removal, LLC 30 Jefferson Ave Pawtucket, RI 02860**, to remove the old oil tank at the **New Bedford Superior Court**. Quote includes permit cost for a total of **\$525.00**.

To be charged to 10611/52269.

On the motion, Roll Call

Mr. Saunders yes

Mr. Kitchen yes

Mr. Mitchell yes

Unanimously approved.

The exterior wall at the New Bedford Superior Court may need to be repaired. Tammy is obtaining quotes.

The Fall River Registry roof replacement project will begin shortly. Some additional repairs will be included at no added cost to the County.

Commissioner Saunders had to leave the meeting at 5:05 pm.

The Facilities Superintendent Moutinho updated the Commissioners on the MacRitchie boiler design estimate project for the Taunton Superior Court. The estimated cost estimate at this time is \$1,543,259.52.

Administrator Gomes announced that the County had won its argument at the Attorney General's Office regarding the challenge regarding the prevailing wage schedule for the Taunton Superior Court Roof Project. ARPA funds have been approved and the contract has been sent to Crocker.

Superintendent Moutinho provided an initial estimate to do some window repairs at the Taunton Registry of Deeds building that will need to be repaired once the AC units are replaced. The estimate was running approximately \$10,000, which did not include any site work. It was received and placed on file.

There was a brief discussion on custodian uniform shirts. The County Administrator will send a "letter of expectation" to the union and its members regarding the uniform policy.

Old Business

The Facilities Superintendent discussed a clogged bathroom issue at the Taunton Registry of Deeds building. The estimate to run a new drain pipe is \$14,350.00.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Kitchen, it was voted to authorize Barry Amaral Taunton Register of Deeds to spend up to \$14,350.00 to replace the 4" drain line at the registry that is currently clogging. A proposal from *Elite Plumbing & Mechanical* dated 12/18/23 is attached.

To be paid by the Taunton Registry of Deeds.

The facilities superintendent would like to get letters of support for the County's CPA Funding Applications.

Unanticipated

The Fall River fire department had to close the Fall River Children's Museum on Saturday due to a CO 2 leak detection.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Kitchen, it was voted to approve a proposal dated 12/18/23 from **Elite Plumbing & Mechanical LLC** Assonet, MA 02702 for a boiler repair at the Fall River Children's Museum. Total proposal cost is \$4,720.00.

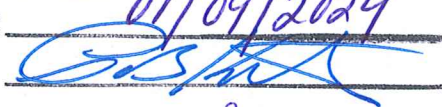
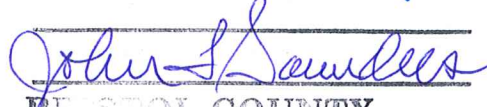
To be paid to Vendor #8384 from 13420/52269.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Kitchen to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing non-union negotiations with the County Administrator at 5:25 pm. The Commissioners would not reconvene in Open Session.

On the Motion, Roll Call:

Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Kitchen yes

APPROVED
DATE

01/09/2024


Bristol County
Commissioners