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-seventh day of December A.D., 2024 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.

Also in attendance from the County: Maria Gomes, County Administrator, Tammy Moutinho, Facilities Superintendent and Julie Ruggiero, County Commissioner Elect and Jane Gonsalves, ARPA Coordinator. Additionally in attendance there were representatives from the Town of Easton and the Town of Somerset.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kitchen at 11:03 am.

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

1. Thomas Badger — Custodian Resigned — Effective 12/16/24

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

The following warrants were reviewed and read into the record:

Payroll Warrant #25072	12/26/24	$231,310.93
AP Warrant #25068	12/20/24	$63,803.05
AP Warrant #25069	12/20/24	$1,561,853.74
Payroll Warrant #25077	01/02/24	$219,546.45

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell to adopt the minutes of December 17, 2024. Approved.

ARPA Applications

The Town of Easton representatives were present to discuss ARPA application # 1247.

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell to remove Application # 1247 from the table.

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders to approve the application, there was no second to the motion.

Town Counsel for Easton Jason Talerman asked if the Town could be heard. They were invited to join the table. He and Superintendent Lisha Cabral explained the funds request for Premium Pay for school department employees. The Superintendent explained that services would need to be cut and employees laid off if this funding was not

secured. Town Administrator Read also expressed the town's concerns. Town Counsel argued that these funds are "nondiscretionary pass thru approval". Superintendent Cabral provided some context that applied to the application. The application is for $574,955.42 for 438 employees.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the **Town of Easton** ARPA Application **#1247**, in the amount of **$574,955.42** as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor #**5162** from the **ARPA** funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

The next application was from the City of New Bedford # 1278.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders to approve for discussion.

Commissioner Saunders stated that he believes there were large gaps of time with no one overseeing ARPA for the City.

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Mr. Mitchell yes
Mr. Saunders no
Mr. Kitchen no
Motion fails. Not approved.

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 North Attleborough** ARPA Application **#1157**, in the amount of **$60,098.00** as submitted and approved through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor #**5166** from the **ARPA** funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

Town of Somerset Application #1213.

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 Somerset** ARPA Application **#1213**, in the amount of **$2,122,383.68** as submitted through the Bristol County ARPA Portal.

To be paid to Vendor #**5541** from the **ARPA** funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

The Town of Norton's appeal on the town's applications #1307 and #1309 that had not met the deadlines. These applications had been tabled from the last meeting.

Commissioner Saunders made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell to remove from the table.

There were no motions on application # 1307 and #1309.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell, it was voted to approve and authorize the ARPA Director and County Treasurer Christopher Saunders to distribute funds related to the **Bristol**

County ARPA Application **#1370** in the amount of **$1,208,000** for the new Chiller & Boiler at the New Bedford 3rd District Court.

To be paid from ARPA funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell, it was voted to **authorize the County Commissioners under MGL Chapter 110G, section 7 to sign weekly Warrants electronically**. 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 award the bid for the replacement of the condensate tank and pump at the Fall River Children's Museum building to **Elite Plumbing & Mechanical, LLC** 1 Old Slab Bridge Road, Assonet, MA 02702 as the lowest bidder for **$11,307.75**.

Other Bids:
Lemieux Heating Inc. $12,150.00
Fall River Gas Service Co. $14,594.00

To be paid to Vendor #8384 from 13420/52269 when work is invoiced.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve, in accordance with the recommendation of Peter Carreiro, Benefits Coordinator, to forward to the Treasurer's Office for payment, invoice dated December 18, 2024 from the **MIIA Health Benefits Trust, One Winthrop Square**, in the amount of **$452,280.36** for the County of Bristol Monthly Membership Premiums for **January, 2025.**

To be paid to Vendor **#7778** from the following accounts:	**Account #01-21581**	**$451,965.86**
	Account #13420-54437	**$ 314.50**

Old Business

County Administrator Gomes explained that there are currently four change orders for the boiler replacement at the Taunton Superior Court. In the event additional ARPA funds become available to the County, she suggested submitting the change orders and contracts as an amendment to the currently approved ARPA #1259.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to amend the County's **ARPA awarded Application #1259** by adding **$63,589.27** to the $1,090,000 previously awarded amount, in the event that there are funds available.

To be paid from ARPA funding as designated by the County Treasurer.

County Administrator Gomes suggested submitting one final application on behalf of the County. Commissioner Kitchen suggested using the extra funds currently in the County Budget for the New Bedford Superior Court façade project which came in over budget.

Commissioner Kitchen recommended using those funds (New Bedford Superior Façade) amounting to $264,882.00, reduce CLA's contract by $200,000 and the surplus from the denied New Bedford # 1278.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to award the bid for **Project #25.03 for the Phase 2 Masonry** project at the **Taunton Superior Court** to **Folan Waterproofing & Construction Co, Inc., 795 Washington Street, South Easton, MA 02375** as the lowest eligible and responsible bidder. Contract award is **$448,500.00.**
The County will submit an ARPA application to be placed on file for review pending the reallocation of any subsequent ARPA funding.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell, it was voted to approve the proposal from **RGB Architects** 50 Holden Street, Providence, RI 02908 dated December 5, 2024 in the amount of **$41,600** for the engineering bidding documents and construction management of the Phase 2 Masonry Project (IFB #25.03) at the ***Taunton Superior Court***, and allow the Chairman to authorize.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to authorize the County Administrator to submit an ARPA application through the ARPA Portal for the **Phase 2 Masonry Project (IFB #25.03) at the Taunton Superior Court in the amount of $490,100.00.**

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell to adjourn at 12:04 pm.

APPROVED
DATE 01/07/2025

BRISTOL COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS