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 fourth day of February A.D., 2025 by successive adjournments from the September term of the same year. Present: Chairman John R. Mitchell, Commissioner Julie K. Ruggiero and Commissioner John T Saunders joined remotely.

Roll Call
Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

Also in attendance from the County: Maria Gomes, County Administrator and Facilities Superintendent, Tammy Moutinho.

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Mitchell at 4:04 pm.

All votes will require a Roll Call.

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

1.	Dawnne Steele	Substitute Teacher	Effective 2/10/25
2.	Amy Sirois	School Adjustment Counselor	Effective 8/28/24
3.	Jorge Cardenas	Substitute Custodian	Effective 1/22/25
4.	Christine Carley	Substitute Teacher	Effective 1/16/25

The CP for Christine Carley was placed on hold for further clarification of the position.

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

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

The following warrants were reviewed and read into the record:

Payroll Warrant #25088	01/30/25	$254,182.36
Payroll Warrant #25090	02/06/25	$243,718.91
AP Warrant #25086	02/04/25	$401,008.72
AP Warrant #25087	02/04/25	$43,617.27

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero to enter into the record and approve the warrants as listed.

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 January 21, 2025.

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero, it was voted to approve the travel allowance of **$200.00 per month** and the phone allowance of **$40.00 per month** for the Assistant Facilities Superintendent/Senior Building Custodian Brian Moniz. Phone allowance will be paid quarterly and the travel monthly beginning in February.

To be paid from 10611.

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero, 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 January 17, 2025 from the **MIIA Health Benefits Trust, One Winthrop Square**, in the amount of **$441,186.20** for the County of Bristol Monthly Membership Premiums for **February, 2025.**

To be paid to Vendor #7778 from the following accounts:	**Account #01-21581**	**$440,871.70**
	Account #13420-54437	**$ 314.50**

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero, it was voted to approve and forward to the Treasurer's Office for payment, invoice #20175 from **Revize LLC ('Revize Software Systems"), 150 Kirts Blvd., Suite B Troy, MI 48084** in the amount of **$2,990.00** for the annual fee for the County of Bristol website service.

To be paid to Vendor #8178 from **13420/52239**.

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero, it was voted to acknowledge **George T. Wilkinson Inc**. as the firm who is eligible for the tax deduction incentive under section 179D of the Internal Revenue Code regarding the Energy Act of 2005 and energy savings. This incentive applies to

the New Bedford Superior Court new boilers installed in 2024. Chairman Mitchell is authorized to sign the Declaration of Allocation.

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero, it was voted to accept the **Employee Warning Notice** developed for the facilities department and to have the document used to address employee warning and disciplinary matters.

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero, it was voted to approve the preventative elevator maintenance and wellness check plan for the elevator at the New Bedford Register of Deeds building. Said maintenance to be paid from **Deeds Excise** at the Southern District Registry of Deeds building.

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

There was a brief discussion on the notice received from MIIA regarding the range of increase in health insurance costs that the Trust is expecting for FY'26. The range increase is expected to be from 9.9% to a maximum of 19.9% with the MIIA Trust average at 14.8%.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero, it was voted to approve the request from Derek Costa, Superintendent/Director of the Bristol County Agricultural High School, dated **October 30, 2024 #1,** designated as surplus, and to declare all the identified property, hereto attached, as surplus. (Technology equipment)

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero, it was voted to approve the request from Derek Costa, Superintendent/Director of the Bristol County Agricultural High School, dated **October 30, 2024 #2,** designated as surplus, and to declare all the identified property, hereto attached, as surplus. (Technology equipment)

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Ms. Ruggiero yes

Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero, it was voted to approve the request from Derek Costa, Superintendent/Director of the Bristol County Agricultural High School, dated **October 30, 2024 #3,** designated as surplus, and to declare all the identified property, hereto attached, as surplus. (Technology equipment)

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero, it was voted to approve the request from Tammy Moutinho, Facilities Superintendent, dated **January 30, 2025,** designated as surplus for disposal various items in the Boiler Room at the New Bedford 3rd District Court.

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero, it was voted to ***table*** the review of the Crocker Architectural Sheet Metal Company Inc. change order for extended scaffolding rental at the **Taunton Superior Court** for the period of **10-31-24 through 01-31-25** until accounts can be reconciled to determine the funding source.

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

The change order from Thielsch was reviewed and placed on hold while other options were explored by the facilities superintendent. She has been reviewing the option to replace the thermostatic controls on the radiator units. Both the Taunton Registry of Deeds building and the Taunton Superior Court would be looked at. There is also a steam coil inside the housing unit blower attached to the boiler system that needs to be replaced.

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero to authorize the Facilities Superintendent to move ahead with the thermostatic controls and to get a price on replacing the coil unit.

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

There is a request from the Assistant Clerk Magistrate asking if the AC units can be removed from the windows of the court room. Commissioner Mitchell asked Tammy to make arrangements to have that done.

The New Bedford 3rd District Court condensers will start to be dismantled in April. Tammy is preparing to have some judge's parking moved during this dismantling. Arrangements have been made with the New Bedford Traffic Division to have some meters bagged for use by the two judges as parking spots.

Commissioner Mitchell made it clear to the Facilities Superintendent that Judge Harrington should be included in all discussions that involve this project. He should be copied on emails. No one other than Tammy or Brian should be communicating with the judge. Chairman Mitchell and Tammy will meet with the judge sometime in March.

The generator at the New Bedford 3rd District Court needs to be switched on manually.

The County Administrator asked for a list of building projects where maintenance would need to be built into the budget. For example, if a new roof were to be considered for the Attleboro District Court, that estimate should be built into the budget as a potential project cost.

Old Business

The City of Fall River School Department finally returned the signed contract regarding the grant of $30,000 in Opioid Funds to the City of Fall River School Department. The contract will now be forwarded along with the vote to the Treasurer's Office for payment.

Commissioner Mitchell discussed the Wellness Funds. Peter Carreiro had discussed options of healthy snacks or gym equipment. Because the County departments are too spread out, gym equipment doesn't seem to work. Administrator Gomes also mentioned that in the past, she had used those funds to arrange chair massages. The Administrator would work on this with Peter.

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Ruggiero to go into executive session at 5:01 pm to discuss strategy with respect to litigation and contract negotiations. The Commissioners would not be returning to Open Session.

On the Motion, Roll Call:
Ms. Ruggiero yes
Mr. Saunders yes
Mr. Mitchell yes

APPROVED 2/20/25
DATE

BRISTOL COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS