

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 thirtieth day of November A.D., 2021 by successive adjournments from the September term of the same year.

Present: Commissioner Paul B. Kitchen, Commissioner John R. Mitchell (arrived 4:15) and Commissioner John T. Saunders.

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

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

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|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Sara Canuel | Teacher-New account | Effective 11/15/21 |
| 2. Roseanne Carvalho | Food Service-off FMLA | Effective 11/19/21 |
| 3. Keith LePage | Janitor/Custodian | Effective 11/23/21 |
| 4. Justin Gadry | Jr. Varsity BB Coach | Effective 11/29/21 |
| 5. Shaquille Davis | Varsity BB Coach | Effective 11/29/21 |

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

The following Payroll and AP Warrants were reviewed:

AP Warrant # 22051	11/30/21	\$423,673.72
Payroll Warrant #22052	12/2/21	\$170,414.23
Week end previously approved:		
Payroll warrant #22050	11/24/21	\$174,653.98

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, second by Commissioner Kitchen to approve the minutes of November 16, 2021.

The next item to discuss was the American Rescue Plan Act ('ARPA'). Christopher Saunders, the County Treasurer and ARPA Director was present with the newly appointed ARPA Coordinator Jane Gonsalves.

The first question for discussion was whether to use the most recent census or the numbers last provided by A & F to determine the ARPA funds that each community is eligible for. Director Saunders stated that it was up to the Commissioners to make that determination.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, second by Commissioner Kitchen it was voted to use the numbers from the latest 2020 US Census to determine the per capita number for the ARPA funds eligibility amount for each community in Bristol County less the County retained 10%.

Motion approved.

There was continued discussion on how funds would be released, whether it was released based on project submittals or percentage released increments.

It is anticipated that the ARPA Portal for Bristol County will be up and running in two weeks. Communities may submit multiple applications. Non-profits will need to make applications to the community, the community will then submit application on the non-profits behalf. Chris Saunders indicated that he could have the new Census numbers tomorrow based on the 2020 Census. Commissioner Mitchell mentioned an article in the Sunday Providence Journal. Not a great deal of money has been spent. The article has some good ideas on how the money will be used.

Connor Read, Town Administrator of Easton was unclear on the application percentage and how money would be distributed. ARPA Director Saunders stated that it would be a case by case decision of the Commissioners on how to release the funds. Commissioner Kitchen stated that it may be that to fund a position, application will need to be made yearly to fund that position. As far as a capital expenditure, that is usually one time pay out.

Kevin Dumas, Town Administrator in Mansfield asked about when application should be made for the 2nd 50%. Commissioner Kitchen responded by saying that once the County receives the funds, the new applications can be made or current application in the Portal can be processed.

Connor Read asked about what the current application looks like. Director Saunders stated that it is very user friendly. Categories of use are well defined.

County Administrator Gomes suggested that once the Bristol County Portal is up and running, a ZOOM meeting can be scheduled with all the ARPA municipal staff to demonstrate how the portal works. CLA can be part of that demonstration and answer any questions communities may have.

The 2022 Meeting Schedule for the County Commissioners was presented. A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell to approve and distribute the meeting schedule.

The Commissioners wanted to schedule a meeting for Thursday, January 20, 2022. Administrator Gomes would review the date with the Advisory Board Chairman and with the school for availability of the Student Commons meeting area.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded 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 22, 2021 from the **MIIA Health Benefits Trust, One Winthrop Square**, in the amount of **\$369,702.53** for the County of Bristol Monthly Membership Premiums for **December, 2021**.

To be paid to Vendor #7778 from the following accounts:	Account #01-21581	\$369,450.03
	Account #13420-54437	\$ 252.50

Motion carries.

County Administrator discussed the county website. The first order of business was to address a website maintenance invoice from Patrick Vincent.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted, to forward to the Treasurer's Office for payment, invoice dated November 27, 2021, quote #529, from **Patrick Vincent 1017 Middle Street, Unit 44 Fall River, MA 02721** in the amount of **\$175.00**.

To be paid to Vendor #7440 from 13420/52200	\$25.00
13420/52234	\$150.00

County Administrator Gomes presented the initial proposal from **CivicPlus**. Commissioner Kitchen had a concern with the rollout time of 4-6 months. According to the Statement of Work, the timeclock of 36 months begins upon date of signing. With a 4-6 month rollout, we lose that time out of the contract agreement before the website goes live. Additionally, the price point is too high knowing what Plymouth County paid two years ago to develop a similar product. The automatic renewal % increase is too high.

The Commissioners directed the County Administrator to continue to negotiate with CivicPlus and review any other viable options.


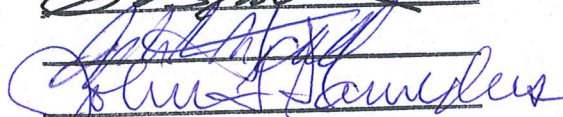
Administrator Gomes announced that the County had been awarded a \$10,000 Wellness Grant from MIIA. The funds will be distributed as Whole Foods Gift Cards to all primary subscribers in the health plan.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders to receive and place on file an invitation from the City of Taunton to participate in the Christmas Parade.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders to adjourn at 4:58 p.m.

APPROVED
DATE

12/14/21



**BRISTOL COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS**