

## THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

## BRISTOL SS

At a meeting of the Bristol County Commissioners holden in Dighton within and for the County of Bristol on the fifteenth day of July A.D., 2021 by successive adjournments from the March term of the same year.

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

Commissioner Kitchen called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

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

- |                    |                       |                   |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Matthew H. Carr | Worker's Compensation | Effective 7/10/21 |
| 2. Debra Gwozdz    | Org. # change         | Effective 7/1/21  |

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

On the motion, Roll Call:

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

Motion carries.

The following AP & Payroll Warrants were reviewed and approved:

Payroll Warrant	#22003	7/8/21	\$63,600.67
Payroll Warrant	#21122	7/7/21	\$149,496.45
AP Warrant	#22005		\$4,479,193.96
Payroll Warrant	#22004	7/15/21	\$153,667.02

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

Motion carries.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders to approve the minutes of June 29<sup>th</sup> & July 9, 2021.

On the motion, Roll Call:

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

Motion carries.

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, second by Commissioner Mitchell, it was voted, pursuant to Massachusetts Chapter 150 of the Acts of 2018, to authorize County Treasurer Christopher T. Saunders to borrow **\$64,000,000.00** (\$ 64 million) in long term borrowing for the expansion and renovation of the Bristol County Agricultural High School.

On the motion, Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Mitchell	Yes
Commissioner Saunders	Yes
Commissioner Kitchen	Yes

Motion carries.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to engage **Atlantic Elevator South Co., Inc.**, 1900 Fall River Avenue, Seekonk, MA 02771, to file and arrange for the required annual inspection and safety test for the elevator at the **New Bedford Registry, 25 N. Sixth Street**, New Bedford, MA which is required by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts General Laws, Section 64, Chapter 143.

It was further voted to authorize the County Treasurer to issue a check for one (1) unit, permit application fee of \$ 400.00 and \$ 23.00 for the Permit Processing Fee, to be made payable to the Atlantic Elevator South Co., Inc. for electronic filing (Quote# Q-22806).

It is noted that this will be charged to Budget Item **#10614-54479** for vendor **282**.

On the motion, Roll Call:

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

*Motion carries*

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 July 9, 2021 from the **MHA Health Benefits Trust, One Winthrop Square**, in the amount of **\$62,788.95 (only MEDEX)** for the County of Bristol Monthly Membership Premiums for July 2021..

To be paid to Vendor #7778 from the following accounts:	<b>Account #01-21581</b>	<b>\$62,536.45</b>
	<b>Account #13420-54437</b>	<b>\$252.50</b>

On the motion, Roll Call:

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

*Motion carries.*

County Administrator Gomes noted that the Commissioners have received a Tax Abatement request from Jeremy L. Fuller of 1056 Forbes Street, New Bedford. The necessary communications have been sent to the Board of Assessors in New Bedford and the \$5.00 check has been deposited with the County Treasurer's Office. A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders to receive and place on file.

On the motion, Roll Call:

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

*Motion carries.*

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted, in accordance with the recommendation of Scott Aguiar, Facilities Superintendent to award the emergency roof repair at the **New Bedford 3<sup>rd</sup> District Court to Gorman Construction, Inc.**, PO Box 195, Raynham, MA 02767. Quote # 71421 includes two visits to resolve a leak issue, \$2,400.00 and \$2,800.00, for a total repair cost of **\$5,200.00**.

To be paid to #7947 from **10618/52269**.

On the motion, Roll Call:

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

*Motion carries.*

Scott Aguiar, Facilities Superintendent brought up the issue of providing AC for the Director of Accounting's Office. He has received three quotes to install a heating/AC mini split: Advance Heat & Air \$12,200; SS Corp. \$11,980 and Araujo Bros. \$10,479.00. Commissioner Kitchen said that it would be discussed as part of the budget review.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell to go out of order and move to executive session at 5:20 pm to discuss strategy regarding union and non-union contract negotiations.

On the motion, Roll Call:

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

*Motion carries.*

The Commissioners returned from executive session at 5:39pm.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve a two year contract renewal with County Administrator Gomes with a 2% increase each year and an increase in bereavement days from 4 to 5 days. Said contract will be effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023.

On the motion, Roll Call:

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

*Motion carries.*

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve the recommendation and Side Agreement dated June 10, 2021 between the Bristol County Southern District Registry of Deeds and its UAW union employees as recommended by Register of Deeds Sherrilynn Mello. Said salary changes would be effective July 1, 2021 upon approval of the FY 2022 Budget.

On the motion, Roll Call:

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

*Motion carries.*

A motion was made by Commissioner Saunders to give the Register a straight 3% for the year, no 2%-2% split in July and January. Commissioner Mitchell seconded for the purpose of discussion. Commissioner Mitchell stated that his position was going to be 2% for all administrators. He stated that salary adjustments need to be discussed prior to having them just submitted in the budget.

Commissioner Saunders made a motion to amend his vote to a 2% salary increase for the Registers. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell. Commissioner Kitchen stated he was in favor of the 3%. He feels that the elected official deserves more.

On the motion, Roll Call:

Mr. Mitchell	yes
Mr. Saunders	yes
Mr. Kitchen	no

*Motion carries.*

Upon motion of Commissioner Saunders, second by Commissioner Kitchen it was voted to increase the salary of County Treasurer Saunders by \$10,000 for Fiscal Year 2022.

On the motion, Roll Call:

Mr. Mitchell	no
Mr. Saunders	yes
Mr. Kitchen	yes

*Motion carries.*

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted to approve a 2% increase for all non-union employees in the Treasurer's Office.

On the motion, Roll Call:

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

*Motion carries.*

Commissioner Kitchen would reach out to Treasurer Saunders to discuss the budget for his office.

Upon motion of Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Saunders, it was voted, to approve and forward to the Treasurer's Office for payment, invoice #27421 dated July 8, 2021, in the amount of \$3,040.00 from **M-V Electrical Contractors, Inc.**, 10 Conduit Street, Acushnet, MA 02743 for electrical work at the New Bedford 3<sup>rd</sup> District Court. Electrical work was requested by the State and will be directly reimbursed to the County.

To be paid to Vendor #5208 from 10618/52262.

On the motion, Roll Call:

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

*Motion carries.*

A motion was made by Commissioner Mitchell, second by Commissioner Saunders to adjourn at 5:50 pm.

On the motion, Roll Call:

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

*Motion carries.*

**APPROVED**

**DATE**

07/27/2021







**BRISTOL COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS**