

# BUCKS COUNTY CONSORTIUM

Thursday, September 5, 2019

## Meeting Minutes

### **1. Call to Order:**

A meeting of the Bucks County Consortium was held at 9:00 a.m. at Warrington Township, on September 5, 2019, and called to order by Consortium President Angela Benner.

### **2. Roll Call, Introductions and Community Updates:**

The following Bucks County communities were represented at the meeting:

Caroline Brinker, Doylestown Borough  
Stephanie Mason, Doylestown Township  
Angela Benner, Dublin Borough  
Nick Valla, Middletown Township  
Mega Bhandary, Middletown Township  
Eileen Bradley, New Britain Township  
Michael Walsh, New Britain Township  
Kathy Wetzel, Richland Township  
Paul Stepanoff, Richland Township  
Ann Alker, Upper Southampton Township  
Joseph Golden, Upper Southampton Township  
Gregg Shuster, Warminster Township  
Barry Luber, Warrington Township  
Christian Jones, Warrington Township  
Karen Palmer, Warrington Township  
Ashley Casey, Warwick Township  
Kyle Seckinger, Warwick Township  
Becki Wilhelm, Warwick Township

### **Sponsors:**

Chris Englebert, Englebert Financial  
Kathy Thomas, High Swartz  
Aaron Nelson, Hugh Associates  
Tracey Carroll, Penn Community Bank  
Dan Fagan, Senator Santarsiero office

### **3. Presentations:**

**Presentation of "All the Queen's Horses"** As city comptroller of Dixon, IL, Rita Crundwell stole \$53 million of public funds across 20 years—making her the perpetrator of the largest case of municipal fraud in American history. She used the funds to build one of the nation's leading quarter horse breeding empires, all while forcing staff cuts, police budget slashing, and neglect of public infrastructure. "All the Queen's Horses" investigates her crime, her lavish lifestyle and the small town she left in her wake.

After the presentation Ms. Benner led a group discussion. Ms. Benner and the members discussed the following questions:

- What were the red flags that should have alerted leaders of this fraud?
- What can we as managers do to assure we are not becoming too complacent with long-term dept heads?
- How can we create a culture where "speaking up" or "whistleblowing" is encouraged?
- Do any of you have any strategies in place in your organization that you would like to share?

### **4. Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills:**

Upon motion by Eileen Bradley, seconded by Bob Pelligrino, the Treasurer's Report for June, July, & August 2019 was unanimously approved.

**6. Approval of Minutes:**

Upon motion by Eileen Bradley, seconded by Stephanie Mason, the June 6, 2019 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

**7. Other Business:**

Ms. Benner made an announcement that the Executive Board has agreed that the Bucks County Consortium will reimburse for bid advertisements as long as the municipality/borough provides the following: a copy of the invoice, proof of advertisement, proof of payment in the form of a cancelled check. All requests are to be sent to Ashley Casey to obtain approval.

**8. Upcoming Events:**

Mr. Benner made an announcement that the Bucks/Montco Consortia of Communities Joint Holiday Party will be held on Friday, December 6, 2019, from 1-4 pm at the Talamore County Club, 723 Talamore Drive, Ambler, PA 19002. Ashley Casey noted that the Montco Consortium has decided that there will also be an ugly sweater contest.

**9. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM. The next meeting is scheduled for 9:00 AM on October 3, 2019, at Middletown Township.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Casey  
Consortium Coordinator