

**BUCKS COUNTY CONSORTIUM MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, November 2, 2023**

**Call to Order:**

A meeting of the Bucks County Consortium was held at 12:15 p.m. at the Northampton Valley Country Club on November 2, 2023, and called to order by Consortium President Barry Luber.

**President's Opening Remarks:**

Barry Luber had the following open remarks: Mr. Luber thanked everyone for attending the Bucks County Consortium Annual Luncheon.

Mr. Luber added that the Consortium would like to expand the materials bids to include all counties (Bucks, Montco, Chester and Delco) and stated that Michael Walsh (New Britain Township) would be managing the bids.

**Roll Call, Introductions and Community Updates:**

The following Bucks County communities were represented at the meeting:

Jessica Ireland, Bristol Township  
Megan Abbott, Bristol Township  
Kevin Dippolito, Bristol Township  
Amy Siefker, Bristol Township  
Shawn Curran, Chalfont Borough  
Darrell Card, Chalfont Borough  
Caroline Brinker, Doylestown Borough  
Stephanie Mason, Doylestown Township  
Andea Susten, Doylestown Township  
Colleen Pursell, Dublin Borough  
Tim Hartman, Falls Township Authority  
John Ryba, Falls Township Authority  
Megan Palmer, Falls Township Authority  
Steve Bradshaw, Langhorne Borough  
Vijay Rajput, Lower Bucks County Joint Municipal Authority  
Dave Kratzer, Lower Makefield Township  
Ashley Casey, Middletown Township  
Stephanie Teoli Kuhls, Middletown Township  
Nick Valla, Middletown Township  
Mega Bhandary, Middletown Township  
Devan Ambron, Milford Township  
Jeff Vay, Milford Township  
John Granger, New Britain Township

Mike Walsh, New Britain Township  
Bob Pelligrino, Northampton Township  
Bill Wert, Northampton Township  
Alex Nagey, Northampton Township  
Kris Barndt, Quakertown Borough  
Eileen Bradley, Sellersville Borough  
Christopher Garges, Solebury Township  
Cathi Cataldi, Solebury Township  
Rich Pursell, Springfield Township  
Barbara O'Neill, Upper Southampton Authority  
Herb Schoell, Upper Southampton Authority  
Timothy Hagey, Warminster Township Municipal Authority  
Daulton George, Warminster Township Municipal Authority  
Barbara Zielinski, Warminster Township Municipal Authority  
Laura Hucklebridge, Warminster Township Municipal Authority  
John Ramey, Warminster Township  
Jessica Fox, Warminster Township  
Barry Luber, Warrington Township  
Kyle Seckinger, Warwick Township  
Becki Marencik, Warwick Township  
Skye Sorresso, Warwick Township  
Stacey Mulholland, Wrightstown Township

**Sponsors:**

Caitlin Mest, Barry Isett & Associates  
Kathy Markloff, Barry Isett & Associates  
Beth Kaufman, Equitable Advisors  
Steve Noll, TMA Bucks  
Ryan Ingham, Hough Associates  
Daniel O' Brien, RBC Capital Markets, LLC

**Sponsors Spotlight:**

Beth Kaufman, Equitable Advisors

**Presentations: Bucks County Commissioner Board Chair, Robert J. Harvie, Jr**

Commissioner Harvie began by thanking each of the Municipal representatives in attendance for the service and dedication they provide to their communities.

Commissioner Harvie provided an update on the following:

### **Dedication of bridges in Bucks County:**

He explained that the Lower Bucks County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund and the County of Bucks are working together to dedicate bridges across the county for the 136 veterans who never returned from the conflict.

### **Energy Efficiency Improvements:**

He shared that Bucks County is currently in the process of working toward a SolSmart designation to improve the ease of access to solar energy within the county. Additional information can be found on the County of Bucks website.

### **PA Whole House Repair Program:**

The Whole-Home Repairs Program will provide funding for county-wide agencies to address habitability and safety concerns, provide measures to improve energy or water efficiency and make units accessible for individuals with disabilities. Additionally, this program provides funding to the counties for construction-related workforce development.

Eligible applicants for direct funding from PA Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) under the Whole-Home Repairs Program are county government or a nonprofit entity authorized via an adopted resolution by the county government. No more than one applicant per county shall be awarded funds by DCED.

### **Fire Fighters First Responder Tax Rebates**

Under the county's newly established Active Volunteer Service Tax Rebate Program, volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel can see up to \$1,000 in county real estate tax savings each year. Volunteers may begin applying in 2025 for rebates on qualifying real estate taxes paid in 2024.

### **Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) Contract**

Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties have partnered to take a wholesale market approach to purchasing electricity for county operations. Over the past week, each county's Board of Commissioners voted to form the Southeast Pennsylvania Energy Board. They will work together with the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) to access low and stable energy prices, access renewable energy in the future, and use resources more efficiently.

Commissioner Harvie thanked the members in attendance for their time and added that he was available for any questions.

### **Nomination of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Christopher Garages, Solebury Township**

Upon motion by Becki Marencik, seconded by Stephanie Mason, Christopher Garages was unanimously appointed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the Bucks County Consortium.

**Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills:**

Upon motion by Eileen Bradley, seconded by John Ramey, the Treasurer's Report for October 2023, was unanimously approved.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Upon motion by Eileen Bradley seconded by Stephanie Teoli Kuhls the October 4, 2023, meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

**Adjournment:**

Mr. Luber announced that the Bucks County / Montco Holiday Party is scheduled for Friday, December 1, 2023, at the Talamore Country Club.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Casey  
Consortium Coordinator