

BUCKS COUNTY CONSORTIUM MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, March 7, 2024

Call to Order:

A meeting of the Bucks County Consortium was held at 9:25 a.m. at Middletown Township on March 7, 2024, and called to order by Consortium President, Becki Marencik.

Roll Call, Introductions and Community Updates:

The following Bucks County communities were represented at the meeting:

Jessica Ireland, Bristol Township
Megan Abbott, Bristol Township
John Larson, Chalfont New Britian Sewer Authority
Tim Hartman, Falls Township Authority
John Ryba, Falls Township Authority
Steve Bradshaw, Langhorne Borough
Ashley Casey, Middletown Township
Stephanie Teoli Kuhls, Middletown Township
Nick Valla, Middletown Township
Mega Bhandary, Middletown Township
Devan Ambron, Milford Township
Katherine McGovern, Newtown Township
Bob Pelligrino, Northampton Township
Bill Wert, Northampton Township
Steve Hicks, Plumstead Township
Kyle Detweiler, Telford Borough
John Ramey, Warminster Township
Kyle Seckinger, Warwick Township
Becki Marencik, Warwick Township
Skye Sorresso, Warwick Township
Stacy Mulholland, Wrightstown Township

Sponsors:

Delaware Valley Trusts, Carol Bigham
Equitable Advisors, Beth Kaufman
Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc, Lance Weatherly
TMA, Steve Noll
Univest, David Ohman
William Penn Bank, Tracey Carroll

Sponsors Spotlight:

None.

President's Open Remarks

Verizon Franchise Contract Update: Becki Marencik announced that representatives from municipalities that have a 2025/2026 expiration of their Verizon Franchise met via zoom with Dan Cohen from Cohen Law to discuss creating a Consortium for renewal. She added that if any municipality did not participate in the zoom and would like to join, please contact Ashley Casey, Consortium Coordinator.

2024 Summer Trip to Harrisburg or Washington D.C. : Ms. Marencik announced that the Bucks County Consortium Executive Committee discussed organizing a trip for the membership to Harrisburg or Washington D.C., which has been done in the past. She added that more information will be announced.

Presentation: AI and Its Use in Local Government – Demonstration of Chat GPT

Stephanie Teoli Kuhls welcomed and provided an introduction of Dr. Dylan Hayden. Dr. Hayden is a seasoned public leader and a trailblazer in integrating AI and emerging technologies in government. Dr. Hayden has combined his deep knowledge of policy and administration with cutting-edge tech insights.

Dr. Hayden explained in detail exactly what AI is and what some of the AI Tools/Platforms are. He explained that there are various versions of Chat GPT being offered – free/paid for versions. He provided a brief presentation on how to get started with using AI.

Dr. Hayden then spent a couple minutes discussing how AI can be used in local government. He was able to review some examples and case studies of how cities are using AI. He reviewed the importance of creativity in prompt writing.

Ms. Teoli Kuhls demonstrated five examples of Middletown Township's use of AI on Ghat GPT over the past couple months.

Ms. Teoli Kuhls and Dr. Hayden follow up with their demonstrations with questions from the membership.

Ms. Marencik thanked Ms. Teoli Kuhls and Dr. Hayden for their time and participation in today's demonstration.

Carol Bigham, Delaware Valley Trust noted to Ms. Teoli Kuhls and Dr. Hayden that this would be a great training to add at the Delaware Valley Trust.

Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills:

Upon motion by John Ramey, seconded by Kyle Seckinger, the Treasurer's Report for February 2024, was unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion by Bill Wert seconded by Nick Valla, the February 1, 2024, meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Salary Survey

Nick Valla updated the membership that the 2024 Salary Survey will be released by April 4th Consortium meeting. He thanked all municipalities that participated.

Adjournment:

Mrs. Marencik announced that the March Bucks County Consortium meeting will be held at Middletown Township on Thursday, April 4, 2024, at the Northampton Valley Country Club. Please RSVP to Ashley Casey by Monday, March 18, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Casey
Consortium Coordinator