

BUCKS COUNTY CONSORTIUM MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 6, 2025

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 6, 2025, 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:

Megan Abbott, Bristol Township
John Davis, Doylestown Borough
Caroline Brinker, Doylestown Borough
Caitlin Hernandez, Doylestown Borough
Noni West, Doylestown Borough
Stephanie Mason, Doylestown Township
Andrea Mergner, Doylestown Township
Nick Valla, Middletown Township
Laura Hucklebridge, Middletown Township
Devan Ambron, Milford Township
Sarah Kline, Milford Township
Dan Fox, New Britain Township
Bob Pellegrino, Northampton Township
Bill Wert, Northampton Township
Mike Solomon, Northampton Township
Ashley Casey, Northampton Township
Joe Murphy, North Wales Water Authority
Lisa Sobetsky, North Wales Water Authority
Larry Kremsky, North Wales Water Authority
Vanessa Heindel, North Wales Water Authority
John Stratz, Pennel Borough
Kris Barndt, Quakertown Borough
Doug Propst, Quakertown Borough
Scott McElree, Quakertown Borough
Christopher Garges, Solebury Township
Cathi Cataldi, Solebury Township
Zachary Zubris, Solebury Township
Renee Scally, Solebury Township
Gregg Schuster, Upper Makefield Township
Judy Caporicco, Upper Makefield Township
Lisa Panzer, Upper Makefield Township
Barbara O'Neill, Upper Southampton Authority
Joe Groome, Upper Southampton Authority
Savanna Bolger, Upper Southampton Authority
Mike Eisele, Upper Southampton Authority

Tim Hagey, Warminster Township Authority
Daulton George, Warminster Township Authority
Barbara Zielinski, Warminster Township Authority
Mike Walsh, Warminster Township
John Ramey, Warminster Township
Jill Maier, Warminster Township
Kyle Seckinger, Warwick Township
Becki Marencik, Warwick Township
Skye Sorresso, Warwick Township

Sponsors:

Mike Italia, Barry Issett & Associates
Sean Emberson, Barry Issett & Associates
Michele Fountain, CKS Engineers
John Evarts, CKS Engineers
Janet Steiner, Comcast
Zack Vigneault, CS McKee
Rick Mellor, Delaware Valley Trusts
Beth Kaufman, Equitable Advisors
Chuck Raudenbush, Hough Associates
John Gault, Millennium Strategies
Timika Powell, Penn Community Bank
Daniel O'Brien, RBC Capital Markets, LLC
Megan Cooper, Univest Financial Corporation
Anna Linn, Univest Financial Corporation
Bill Vitello, Victory Bank
Rose Hoffman, Victory Bank
Stephanie Teoli Kuhls, WK2 Consulting

Presentation:

Ms. Marencik welcomed Bucks County Commissioners, Diane Ellis-Marseglia, Board Chair and Robert J. Harvie Jr., Board Vice Chair.

Commissioner Board Chair, Diane Ellis-Marseglia, discussed the following current topics within Bucks County:

- Bucks County Co-Responder Program - The Bucks County Co-Responder Program pairs social service professionals/Co-Responders with police officers to divert people away from the criminal justice system. The Co-Responders respond to 911 calls involving individuals who are suffering from mental health and drug concerns in all areas of the population including children, teens, adults, and older adults. Police usually arrive at the scene first and, once the scene/situation is deemed safe, the officer will call for the co-responders' help. Commissioner Marseglia noted that the Co-Responder Program is currently established within 28 Bucks County municipalities and encourages any municipality without the program established, to contact her to establish this in their community.

- Diversion, Assessment, Restoration, and Treatment (DART) Center in Doylestown Township occupying the former site of the Bucks County Women's Community Corrections Center at 1270 Almshouse Road. The new DART Center will serve adults in the criminal justice system suffering from mental illness with the goal of diverting them from further penetration into the system by reducing recidivism and supporting recovery through treatment and community support. Opening date is slated for February 2026.
- Bright Path Center will be located next to the existing Lenape Valley Foundation site at 500 N. West Street, on the grounds of, but separate from, Doylestown Hospital. Bright Path Center will unite an array of behavioral health crisis services under one roof and deliver acute, trauma-informed, person-centered care in a calming environment. Opening date is scheduled for July 2025.
- "Blue Card" - refers to a suicide prevention card provided with your License to Carry Firearms (LTCF) permit, a program launched by Sheriff Harran to promote public safety alongside gun rights, requiring Bucks residents 21+ to apply online.
- The Bucks County Suicide Prevention Task Force is a dynamic group of professionals and volunteers who are all committed to the mission of decreasing rates of suicide and ending the mental health stigma in our county. We are fighting to reduce deaths by suicide by educating our residents on depression and mental health, reducing the stigma of seeking help, and improving access to services.

Bucks County Commissioner Robert J. Harvie Jr., Board Vice Chair discussed the following current topics within Bucks County:

- Bucks County Veterans Response Team - which is a support system of veteran police officers from various departments who are trained on VA resources available for justice-involved, homeless or in distress veterans.
- Bucks County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge Program - With the partnership of Bucks County-based veterans' advocate Ed Preston and the Pennsylvania Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (PAVVMF), the County in late 2022 began the work of dedicating its government-owned bridges to the 136 residents who gave their lives in the Vietnam War.
- County wide update on Sustainability partnership within Bucks County - The Sustainable Energy Partnership of Southeast PA (Partnership) has been working together since September 2020 to explore pathways to purchase renewable energy to power county operations in Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Montgomery counties.
- Update on Bucks County's Economic Development

Ms. Marencik thanked Commissioners Marseglia and Harvie for their information presented to the membership.

Bucks Couty Consortium Professional Development Scholarship

Ms. Marencik announced that the Bucks Couty Consortium will be accepting applications for it's Professional Development Scholarship for 2026. Ms. Marencik noted that all submissions should be sent to Ashley Casey, Consortium Coordinator no later than December 15, 2025.

2nd Vice President Vacancy

Ms. Marencik announced that in 2026. there will be a vacancy for the 2nd Vice President. All letters of interest should be submitted to Ashley Casey no later than November 24, 2025.

2026 Budget

Upon motion by Stephanie Mason, seconded by Bob Pellegrino, the 2026 Budget, was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills:

Upon motion by Stephanie Mason, seconded by Bill Wert, the Treasurer's Report for October 2025, was unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion by Bob Pellegrino, seconded by Stephanie Mason, October 2, 2025, meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Casey
Consortium Coordinator