



# Bucks County Association of Township Officials

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## BUCKS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

### MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Bucks County Association of Township Officials was held via Zoom on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 12:00 p.m.

#### **MEMBERS:**

\*Michelle Benitez, Bensalem Township  
Maggie Rash, Buckingham Township  
\*Barbara Lyons, Doylestown Township  
Ken Lichtenstein, Plumstead  
\*David Nyman, East Rockhill Township  
William Jones, New Britain Township  
Dick Weaver, Newtown Township  
Ruth Schemm, Warrington  
\*Judith Algeo, Warwick Township  
Chester Pogonowski, Wrightstown Township  
Terry Clemons, Clemons Richter & Reiss, P.C.  
Vince Deon, Northampton Township  
Fred Gaines, Warrington Township  
Tom Cino, Upper Makefield Township  
Jim Hopkins, Springfield Township  
Stephanie Shortall, New Britain Township  
Stacey Mulholland, Executive Director

\*NOT PRESENT

**1. Call to Order:** President Maggie Rash called the Executive Board Zoom meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

**2. Approval of the Minutes** – of March 13, 2024.

**MOTION:** A motion by Ms. Rash and seconded by Mr. Weaver to approve the minutes of February 14, 2024; Motion carried unanimously.

**3. Treasurer’s Report – January 2024**

**A. Approve March 2024 Financials-** Mr. Weaver provided details of the monthly report.

**MOTION:** A motion by Mr. Pogonowski, seconded by Ms. Schemm to approve the February 2024 Financial Statements; Motion carried unanimously.

**4. President’s Report**

**A. Resolutions** – Ms. Rash revisited the only resolution submitted to BCATO for the membership to act on at the 2024 Annual Convention. It was submitted by Wrightstown and seeks to amend the Fire Tax. Ms. Rash reviewed the recently amended resolution pertaining to local tax collectors. As stated, the resolution would now permit a township, under certain circumstances, to appoint a tax collector. The idea is to ensure the municipality has a tax collection system in place, however, for a multitude of reasons, tax collectors do not support this resolution. Following the discussion, the Board agreed not to support the resolution at PSATS.

**B. Solicitor-** Ms. Rash informed the Board that Vicki Kushto of Clemons, Richter, Reiss would now serve as the primary BCATO Solicitor, succeeding Solicitor Clemons.

**5. Executive Directors Report**

**A. BCATO Suite-** Ms. Mulholland reminded the Board to visit the BCATO Suite at the Hershey Lodge during the upcoming educational conference and encouraged members to share that information with their colleagues.

**B. Committees-** Ms. Mulholland shared that there is an interest in joining BCATO by members outside second-class townships such as an engineering firm, and an EAC member. The Board also revisited the current committees which although on our website are largely inactive. Ms. Schemm agreed the committees need to be revisited and updated to reflect current issues such as Act 12. Ms. Schemm offered to take the lead on reorganizing and prioritizing committees. The Board also requested we revisit this issue during the May meeting.

**6. Solicitors Report-** Nothing to report

**7. Legislative Business-** Ms. Mulholland informed the Board that although it was reported the House would be voting on a package of Act 12 bills, that has not been scheduled. Ms. Mulholland also informed the Board that the Burial Grounds Act had passed the Senate, and a different bill was being teed up for a vote in the House. She will keep the board informed of the bill's progress.

**8. Other Business-** Ms. Mulholland reported that at a recent Bucks County Association of Police Chiefs, DA Schorn shared a presentation on the recent surge in skill games popping up across the county. Ms. Mulholland followed up with DA Schorn and invited her to join a BCATO Zoom to share this information with the BCATO Executive Board, which she was pleased to do.

**9. Adjournment** With no further business, Ms. Rash made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jones, to adjourn the Zoom meeting at 12:54 pm; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stacey Mulholland  
Executive Director