

**MINUTES OF THE KENT COUNTY LEVY COURT
COMBINED BUSINESS MEETING
KENT COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX
555 BAY ROAD, DOVER, DE
LEVY COURT CHAMBER, ROOM 203
TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025**

Call to Order

The Business meeting of the Kent County Levy Court was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Masten.

Invocation

The Invocation was led by Commissioner Angel.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Hertz.

Moment of Silence for our Troops

A moment of silence was observed for our Troops and led by Commissioner Sweeney.

Roll Call

Allan F. Angel	Commissioner
Jeffrey W. Hall	Commissioner
Paul Hertz	Commissioner
Terry L. Pepper	Commissioner – * Absent
Robert Scott	Vice President
George W. Sweeney, Sr.	Commissioner
Joanne Masten	President

There are six (6) Commissioners present; one (1) absent at Roll Call.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- M-25-112** **Motion** to adopt agenda as presented made by Mr. Scott; seconded by Mr. Angel; carried by Roll Call vote six (6) yeas; one (1) absent.

Public Comments on Agenda Items other than Public Hearing Items

Note: Public Comments for Public Hearing Item(s) will be during their public hearings. - None

**Mr. Pepper came online at 7:10 p.m.*

PRESENTATIONS

Resolution 4104, Retirement of Dianne Rager

The following was read into the record by Ms. Lorri Tanaka:

Whereas the retirement of **Dianne M. Rager**, an employee of Kent County, State of Delaware, from her duties as Chief Deputy in the Register of Wills Office, presents a suitable opportunity for expressing the esteem in which we hold Dianne M. Rager, as a good and faithful public servant.

Therefore, be it resolved that the County of Kent expresses its warmest appreciation and thanks to Dianne M. Rager for the able and loyal manner in which she performed her public duties.

Be it further resolved that this resolution be her evidence of a right to the pension provided by the Kent County Employees' Retirement Program; and that this Resolution be and hereby is incorporated into the official minutes of the May 20, 2025, meeting of the Kent County Levy Court.

- M-25-113** **Motion** to approve Resolution 4104 made by Mr. Scott; seconded by Mr. Hertz; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas.

Ms. Rager and her husband Pete were invited to come forward and join the commissioners, County Administrator, Kevin Sipple and Register of Wills DJ Cox at the front of the dais for presentation of the resolution. Everyone joined in congratulating her on her retirement and thanking her for her years of service with the county. Ms. Rager stated she wanted to "thank everybody for the opportunity...the county." She added a special thanks to those she worked with for always "having my back," as well as her family for their support.

Employee of the Month – June 2025

Ms. Tanaka read the following into the record:

Kent County Department Heads have selected **Amy Brannen** from the Register of Wills Office as the June 2025 Employee of the Month.

Amy is a Wills Clerk II in the Kent County Register of Wills Office. She began her career with the County in February 2024 as a Wills Clerk I. With a strong background in administrative and office management, Amy brings valuable expertise and professionalism to her role. Her dedication and contributions led to her promotion to Wills Clerk II in August 2024.

Amy's current responsibilities include reviewing and verifying estate inventories, examining wills for real estate and asset transfers, processing estate claims, and ensuring compliance with inventory requirements for probated estates. She also prepares and indexes records for archiving and assists the public through research, as well as by corresponding with legal representatives and court personnel to ensure accurate filings. Beyond her exceptional customer service and positive attitude, Amy consistently demonstrates a strong commitment to the success of our office. Her eagerness to learn and take on new challenges has enabled her to master numerous roles within the office, often taking the initiative to understand processes beyond her primary duties.

According to the Kent County Registrar of Wills, DJ Cox "Amy approaches each day with a friendly, upbeat attitude that uplifts everyone around her. Whether engaging with the public, assisting coworkers, or managing her daily responsibilities, she consistently brings a smile and a calm, reassuring presence to every situation. Her dedication and positive energy leave a lasting impression each day.

Congratulations Amy on a job well done! Amy resides in Commissioner Sweeney's and Pepper's districts.

Amy joined everyone at the front of the dais for congratulatory remarks and commemorative photos.

The commissioners thanked Amy for she does for the county and congratulated her for being selected the Employee of the Month.

Amy expressed her appreciation for this honor, adding she is thankful to DJ Cox for nominating her as well as those who voted for her.

INTRODUCTIONS

Trudena Horsey, Human Resources Director: It is truly a pleasure to introduce tonight, Miss Porsche Oden. Porsche was hired in April. She...well, let me go back. Porsche came to the county, she started off as a temp in the HR office in January of '24, and that was at a time when we

needed her the most. We were down a HR tech, Allen Kujala had retired, and she really came, stepped in and helped keep the office running. She stayed on, she picked up, she would go be a floater in the mail room and in the admin office and we have just come to love Porsche. It was truly a blessing and an honor when the position became available in the mailroom when April retired that Porsche had a chance to interview and ultimately was selected for the position. So, she comes to you as a new full-time employee, but she's been with the county for a year and some months and we're happy to keep her on and we hope that she'll thrive in the county and just become one of our team members and family members. So, I'd like to introduce Porsche Oden.

Porsche: Good evening. I just want to say thank you for the opportunity and I'm glad to be a part of Kent County Levy Court and get to know everyone.

Mrs. Masten welcomed Porsche to the Kent County family, adding she looks forward to many years of working together.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

PETITION FOR CONDITIONAL USE REQUIRING SITE PLAN APPROVAL

Mr. Scott:

Application #: CS-15-05 Rev. DE Turf Sports Complex; Applicant & Owner: Kent County, A Political; Zoning District / Proposed Use: AC (Agricultural Conservation) / To construct 3 additional structures totaling 9,997± sq. ft.; Area & Location / ID#: 126.35± acres (Project area 2.0± acres) on the east side of Bay Rd. and the north side Milford Neck Rd., southeast of Frederica / MD-00-141.00-01-32.00-000

Sarah Keifer, Director of Planning Services: Good evening, commissioners. First, just a word about how the hearings tonight will be conducted. This public hearing is being conducted for the purpose of giving the citizens of the county the opportunity to present testimony on the applications before the Levy Court. Everyone will have a chance to speak. All statements are to be made from the podium at the front of the room. For the record, please give your name and address. Copies of any written statements or exhibits used during the hearing should be presented for identification and inclusion in the record. For each application before the Levy Court, the president will introduce the application, then the Levy Court will receive testimony from all of those in favor. Testimony will then be received from those who may be opposed. After everyone has had an opportunity to speak, the hearing on the application will be closed, and the Levy Court will take what action it deems appropriate. Levy Court's

decision will be based upon public hearing testimony given at this meeting and a recommendation submitted to the Levy Court by the Regional Planning Commission. I would ask that that recommendation be included by reference in the permanent record of the meeting established by the Clerk of the Peace. The public notice of this hearing was published in the April 30, 2025, edition of the Delaware State News.

The first item before Levy Court tonight, CS-15-05, this is a revision to the existing conditional use site plan for DE Turf. What they're proposing...currently it is a commercial recreation facility, high intensity, and the proposal is to add a storage building, additional bleachers and a stadium support building. The entire site is about 126 acres, but the project area is only two (2) acres. The site is southeast of Frederica. The proposal meets all of the original conditions of approval, and the Regional Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of the application. I'm happy to answer any questions you might have.

Public Hearing Opened on Application CS-15-05

IN FAVOR

Jon Falkowski, Becker Morgan Group, Dover, DE: Is the screen working tonight, touch screen, it doesn't look to be on. No screen tonight, okay. I'll point with my finger. Alright, I'll have him advance the slides, sorry this isn't working tonight. So, we're here tonight on behalf of DE Turf. You can see the star on the plan there is the location of a new stadium support building. This has been a very successful project, and it does warrant a new stadium support building. You're all familiar with DE Turf's facility located at 4000 Bay Road, Federica. It is an existing conditional use plan; this was heard many years ago, 12, actually 13 approved turf fields, they constructed 12. We did come back for the commercial facility up front, and we've had several buildings approved administratively along the way. Next slide please. The proposed support building is almost 5500 square feet. It's to support the locker rooms, bathrooms with showers, a meeting room, a small catering kitchen, and then the support room for storage and mechanical, electrical. We did also provide on the site plan room for expansion of the building, so we did include that with the site plan, and I'll show you on the site plan the expansion of that building. And then we also included a storage building on this side of the parcel. There is one on the north quite a way away. Next slide please. So, we're here tonight because the original site plan, we have exceeded the, or about to exceed the 5000 square foot threshold that Chapter 187, has. So, you can see the buildings highlighted in yellow. Those are the original buildings, the support building and the three concession buildings and the original maintenance building. In green are several little/small projects that the Turf has built over the years that were approved by planning staff administratively and

that totaled 3900 feet, so, you can see where we were coming up on the 5000 square feet. Tonight, we're proposing just under 10000 square feet, which would have taken us over that threshold. So, we're here tonight to present the revised site plan. Next slide. This is just an overhead shot. You can see the existing stadium support building on the left with the existing bleachers and our proposal is basically to mirror that and do the...next slide, please, do the proposed building on the north side of the site. So, you can see, two new sets of bleachers totaling about 1300 capacity for seating, and then the building just behind it. And I can't point unfortunately, but you can see two dashed black lines on either side kind of flanking the building. That would be the future expansion. We'll design the building in a way that it could be expanded should there be that need. Hardscape all surrounding the building for vendors to set up their tents and patrons to walk around. And then we have a sidewalk connection that goes through the existing pavilion, which isn't labeled. It's the little green building behind the new stadium support building. So, it connects that building to all the pedestrian facilities throughout the site. And then in the bottom right-hand corner of that graphic, you'll see the location of the future storage building. Next slide please. I won't go through these in detail. These are the original conditional use standards that the original plan met, and this plan will continue to meet. Next. And then I have a few renderings to share. So, you can see the existing stadium support building and bleachers are on the right-hand side. The left-hand side, you can see the new building and bleachers. The architectural components of the building will match as far as the block and the brick and the roofing. It'll look almost identical and fit right in. And then you can see the existing pavilion connection in the back. Just a couple more views and there's a shot from the front. The idea is that you have the team rooms flanking on either side and the players can come right out of the building just like the building that's there now and come right out of the tunnel right onto the field. Next, please. That's a shot from the back, just another perspective, you can see the architectural features that match the existing facilities out there. And ground level just giving you a another shot of that, the block and the architectural features. So, we have read the staff report recommending conditional approval and we do...we will comply with all recommendations and approvals from them. So, happy to take any questions. I have Mr. Dane Yearick from DE Turf as well here if there's any questions for either of us.

Mr. Angel: Jon, over the years, it's...this place has grown, and growing and growing. And as said it's something I just saw on there where it said adequate parking. I don't think you've had enough adequate parking yet because you're still adding parking.

Mr. Falkowski: Yeah, it seems like every time we add, there's a little bit need for more. There were roughly 1,000 parking spaces on the original

plans, and they had added some gravel parking as overflow over the years. I'm not sure what the total count is now. It's probably about 1300 if I were to put a number on it. So, it should be adequate for the tournaments that...

Mr. Angel: So, there's more room for parking then, coming up?

Mr. Falkowski: We haven't discussed...

Mr. Angel: That grass, I mean, it is what it is.

Mr. Falkowski: Yeah, if they have the really large tournaments, there is some lining of the streets, if you will. I know there's always the field 13 location that hadn't been developed yet, but still kind of earmarked for that field 13.

Mr. Angel: Thank you.

Mr. Hertz: Yeah, this is a pretty nice stadium you're building here. Are you eyeing in the future to hold DIAA state title events?

Mr. Falkowski: I'd have to defer to Dan. If Dan...you speak to that?

Daniel Yearick, Executive Director of DE Turf Sports Complex, 4000 Bay Road, Frederica, DE: To answer your question, so we are lined up...if the facility is complete in time by 2026, we will have the girls' and boys' lacrosse semifinals and state championships in the stadium. Still in works with the DIAA regarding field hockey and soccer. There's...those are still in works. But our plan is to hopefully be a neutral site for all of Delaware high school sports in the future if they wish to come to the DE Turf.

Mr. Hertz: Thank you.

WebEx participants in favor of this application who wished to address Levy Court were asked to press *3 on their mobile device or raise their electronic hand on their computer. There was no response.

IN OPPOSITION - None

WebEx participants opposed to this application who wished to address Levy Court were asked to press *3 on their mobile device or raise their electronic hand on their computer. There was no response.

Public Hearing Closed on Application CS-15-05

M-25-114 Mr. Scott: I make a **Motion** for Application CS-15-05 reference DE Turf Complex, based on staff and RPC's recommendation; seconded by Mr. Sweeney.

Roll Call

Mr. Angel: Yes, no opposition and reasons stated.

Mr. Hall: Yes, per staff and RPC recommendations.

Mr. Hertz: Yes, per staff and RPC recommendations.

Mr. Pepper: Yes, for all reasons stated and DE Turf has quickly become one of the crown jewels of Kent County. We need to support that and continue its' growth so they can support Kent County as well, yes.

Mr. Scott: Yes.

Mr. Sweeney: Yes, per all reasons stated, no public opposition, and to repeat what Commissioner Pepper just said, the DE Turf has become the biggest economic driver in Kent County since the Dover Motor Sports, and we appreciate all their efforts to continue in that vein.

Mrs. Masten: Yes, for all reasons stated.

Roll Call vote reveals seven (7) yeas. Application CS-15-05 has been approved.

KENT COUNTY ORDINANCE

Mr. Hall:

Ordinance LC25-08 Distribution of Ag Products: An Ordinance to amend Kent County Code, Vol. II, Chapter 205, Zoning, as amended by revising Article V – Permitted Uses, §205-53, Permitted use table and §205-54 Agricultural Uses and Article VI Conditions of Approval, §205-67 Agricultural uses to add Distribution of Agricultural Products as a permitted use with conditions in the AC (Agricultural Conservation) and AR (Agricultural Residential) zoning districts

Ms. Keifer: The next item before you tonight is Ordinance LC25-08. This is an amendment to the zoning ordinance regarding creating a new use classification of distribution of agricultural products. It would permit the use as permitted with some conditions in the AC and AR zoning districts. Among the conditions, it's primarily setbacks and landscaping buffers to reduce any impact on nearby development. The Regional Planning Commission did consider this, and they voted unanimously to recommend

approval of the ordinance. I'm happy to answer any questions you might have.

Public Hearing Opened on Ordinance LC25-08

IN FAVOR

William Donald Clifton, Secretary of Agriculture for the State of Delaware: The Delaware Department of Agriculture has submitted written comments during the planning commission process. You may have seen those, but they are available I'm certain for your review. In addition...is that loud? A little background on myself. I'm a lifelong farmer in northeast Sussex County more than 45 years, my son John now is the 4th generation of Cliftons' operating a farm in Sussex County, and we're very proud of that. I spent my life trying to preserve agriculture and enhance the opportunities for my family and all Delaware farming families. Besides a career in production agriculture, I've served twice as the Delaware Executive Director of the USDA Farm Service agency. I've been a peer educator and executive director of the Delaware Farm Bureau. I was honored to be nominated to be DDA secretary by Governor Meyer, and I am now proud to serve since January 28th of this year. I was noticing the county seal on the wall behind you, and it has three ears of corn on it. I would also...we don't, I don't think we have a state flag in here, but I know you all are familiar with it. I want to call your attention to the state flag. On prominent display are a farmer with his hoe in hand, and ear of corn, a shock of wheat and a cow. These agricultural symbols dominate Delaware's state flag. This certainly was not by accident in the designing of the flag. It's up to us in the 21st century to ensure that these do not become merely historical symbols, but symbols of the present situation. In this ordinance...this ordinance is a protection and an enhancer of agricultural opportunities, and I was in the *Inaudible today looking at a situation with the aquaculture that is trying to emerge in Delaware. There's a lot of support for it, but we don't have, currently the handling and the distribution facilities necessary to enable those interested in oyster farming to be able to establish themselves and to create this industry, which could be an amazing economic driver. Now, in DDA we're charged with devising and executing measures necessary for the development of the agricultural interests of the state. Among a long list of duties DDA administers the Agricultural Lands Preservation Program, which a lot of you are familiar with, I'm sure. According to Title III of the Delaware code, it is possibly the program DDA is most identified with. Delaware's program is one of the more successful state efforts across the nation as measured by the percentage of statewide farmland preserved at around 30%. That's really a remarkable achievement. The program utilizes the purchase of easements, which prevents development of these lands for other than agricultural purposes. As farmland values have appreciated, the

prospects for encouraging farmland owners to pursue the sale of such easements is diminished. There's not enough money budgeted to be able to purchase these easements to the extent of the interest. We've asked this year for...in the budget process \$10 million to purchase easements on...to preserve farmland. In the queue, we have a need for a \$157 million. So, you can see the challenge that we have in getting beyond the 30 % that we currently have preserved to a 50 % or a 60 %, you know, to as high a level as possible. It's becoming more and more difficult as the lands become...appreciate in value and the values of...that the owners expect to get for selling the easements becomes more and more. The Ag Lands Preservation Program notwithstanding; the best farmland preservation strategy is to enhance the profitability of farming itself. This requires enhancing, not restricting the marketing and distribution of the commodities which can be produced by Delaware's remaining farmers. Improving the handling and distribution of Ag products enhances the opportunity to market our commodities profitably by our farm families. This ordinance contributes to this and in our opinion at DDA, that is a worthy goal of your support. Thank you for your consideration. Does anyone have any questions?

TJ Schiff, 16007 South DuPont Highway, Harrington, DE: As I was saying, I'm a third generation Kent County farmer, and I fully support this ordinance as proposed and would be happy to answer any questions.

WebEx participants in favor of this application who wished to address Levy Court were asked to press *3 on their mobile device or raise their electronic hand on their computer. There was no response.

IN OPPOSITION - None

WebEx participants opposed to this application who wished to address Levy Court were asked to press *3 on their mobile device or raise their electronic hand on their computer. There was no response.

Public Hearing Closed on Ordinance LC25-08

M-25-115 Mr. Hall: I **Move** to approve Ordinance LC25-08 Distribution of Ag Products, an ordinance to amend County Code Volume II, Chapter 205, Zoning as amended by revising Article V Permitted Uses, Section 205-53, Permitted use table and Section 205-54, Agricultural Uses and Article VI Conditions of Approval, Section 205-67 Agricultural uses to add Distribution of Agricultural Products as permitted use with conditions in the AC (Agricultural Conservation) and AR (Agricultural Residential) zoning districts; seconded by Mr. Pepper.

Roll Call

Mr. Angel: Yes, reasons stated by Commissioner Hall, RPC approval and no opposition.

Mr. Hall: Yes, per staff and RPC recommendation.

Mr. Hertz: I think this is a great thing for the farmers, Kent County and the whole state. The only problem I have is I didn't like how we got here. I think we could have gotten here a lot sooner and saved both sides a lot of fees on lawyers and stuff if things have gone the right way and stuff, so I'm really disappointed in how it was mishandled from the start. I just hope Mr. Schiff that you do...you are considerate of the neighbors around there, but I will...I'm voting yes.

Mr. Pepper: First, I would like to thank Secretary Clifton for taking time to come in and support this project. I think farming in Delaware and Kent County is truly threatened; threatened by development, threatened by offers from the solar companies, and it being difficult for farmers to farm. So, whatever we can do to make it easier for farmers to farm we've got to do. So, for all the items that have been said, that support the motion, I support this.

Mr. Scott: Yes, Secretary Clifton I also want to appreciate your comments and thank you for coming in. Based on the farmers in my district, the outreach and the statements of how much better this is going to be for them, it's going to give them an outlet that they possibly didn't have some time ago. So, I think as a whole, I think part of me is kind of like Commissioner Hertz. It's a shame that both sides of us ended up spending what we spent to get to this point. But the important thing is, is now we're here and the important thing is, is now that we try to make things right on both sides of the fence. So, with that my vote is a yes.

Mr. Sweeney: Secretary Clifton, thanks for being here. You had some enormous shoes to fill by taking this role and, just the fact that you're willing to come here as Mr. Scuse was and show your support of farmers, I think you're doing a heck of job. Keep it up. Based on RPC approval and staff recommendation my vote is yes.

Mrs. Masten: Secretary Clifton it's always a pleasure to see you, even more importantly for you to come out in favor of a project like this. So, thanks again and keep up the great job, but obviously my vote is yes, for all the reasons that have been stated.

Roll Call vote reveals seven (7) yeas. Ordinance LC25-08 has been approved.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Sweeney:

Lift **Resolution 4120**, TABLED on May 13, 2024, from the Table for action: A Resolution in Support of Local Governance

M-25-116 Mr. Sweeney: Madam President **Move** to lift Resolution 4120 from the table; seconded by Mr. Hertz; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas

Mr. Sweeney: If you guys...if you all will remember last week, we had the discussion, and the resolution that was put forth last week had specifics. This resolution has removed that specificity and Ms. Keifer, who I do not see in chambers anymore, did a great job of going back and looking at 1600 and 1700 legislation that really pointed out subsidiary and what it means in Delaware and to leave local decision-making authority up to the local governments. So, I move to approve Resolution...I believe Ms. Tanaka that we need to read Resolution 4120 into the record.

Resolution 4120

Whereas the Principle of Subsidiarity is the concept that decision-making authority should be placed where responsibility for outcomes will occur and in close proximity to where actions are taken; and,

Whereas the Principle of Subsidiarity holds that decisions and actions should be made at the most local level possible by the elected officials closest to community members; and,

Whereas the State of Delaware has enabled local governments, including counties, to have jurisdiction over zoning and land use recognizing local elected officials are best positioned to make such decisions in the best interest of the communities they serve; and,

Whereas legislative efforts to preempt local decision-making authority undermines local government's ability to govern effectively in alignment with community needs and values,

Now, therefore be it resolved that the Levy Court respectfully urges the General Assembly to respect and uphold the Principle of Subsidiarity and ensure that local governments retain reasonable authority to regulate zoning and land use in a way that reflects local values and priorities.

Be it further resolved that Kent County Levy Court stands ready to work collaboratively with state policymakers to address statewide priorities

while ensuring a balanced approach that honors the vital role of local government and the will of voters; and that this Resolution be and hereby is incorporated into the official minutes of the May 20, 2025, meeting of the Kent County Levy Court.

- M-25-117** Mr. Sweeney: **Move** to approve Resolution 4120, a Resolution in Support of Local Governance and to ask the administration to deliver 62 copies to every state senator and every state representative; seconded by Mr. Angel; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Hertz:

1. **Resolution 4105**, A Resolution calling a Public Hearing upon a proposal to extend Kent County Sewage Disposal District No. 1 Felton Area - Jarrell Ridge Property

- M-25-118** I make a **Motion** to approve Resolution 4105, a Resolution calling a Public Hearing upon a proposal to extend Kent County Sewage Disposal District No. 1 - Jarrell Ridge Property; seconded by Mr. Hertz; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas.

2. Introduction of **4106, A Resolution** upon a proposal to extend Kent County Sewage Disposal District No. 1 pursuant to Section 4606, Chapter 46, Title 9 of the Delaware Code, as amended - Felton Area - Jarrell Ridge Property for Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

3. **Resolution 4107**, A Resolution calling a Public Hearing upon a proposal to extend Kent County Sewage Disposal District No. 1 - Garrison Lake V - Hovnanian Properties

- M-25-119** Mr. Hertz: I make a **Motion** to approve Resolution 4107, a Resolution calling a Public Hearing upon a proposal to extend Kent County's Sewage Disposal District No. 1 - Garrison's Lake V – Hovnanian Properties; seconded by Mr. Scott; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas.

4. Introduction of **4108, A Resolution** upon a proposal to extend Kent County Sewage Disposal District No. 1 pursuant to Section 4606, Chapter 46, Title 9 of the Delaware Code, as amended - Garrison Lake V - Hovnanian Properties for Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Angel:

Action Item from April 29, 2025, Budget Review Workshop re: Employee Insurances Proposals

Mr. Angel: Question for legal. There are four (4) motions that are on here, we have to do these individually?

Mr. Eliassen: That is the preferred method.

1. Travel Accident Insurance

M-25-120 Mr. Angel: Thank you. I **Move** to renew and award the Employee Travel Accident Insurance coverage to New York Life L&W Insurance - Broker) at the cost of \$1,000 per year for Fiscal Year 2026 as the lowest possible responsive bidder meeting specifications and further authorize the President of Levy Court to execute the service agreement upon approval of the County Attorney; seconded by Mr. Sweeney; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas.

2. Long Term Disability Insurance

M-25-121 Mr. Angel: I **Move** to award the Long-Term Disability Insurance coverage to Madison National Life Insurance Co. (The Municipal Pool/Ochs Inc. – Broker) at a cost of \$0.218 per \$100 of monthly salary with a \$4,050 monthly benefit limit for Fiscal Years 2026 & 2027 as the lowest responsive bidder meeting specifications unless another cooperative/trust can offer better coverage/rates and further authorize the President of Levy Court to execute a services agreement upon approval by the County Attorney; seconded by Mr. Sweeney; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas.

3. Life Insurance with Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance

M-25-122 Mr. Angel: I **Move** to award the basic employee Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance coverage to The Standard Insurance Co. (L&W Insurance – Broker) at a rate of \$0.18 per \$1,000 of salary rate for basic life (\$5,000 for eligible retirees) with a rate of \$0.017 per \$1,000 of salary rate for AD&D benefits for eligible employees, and the optional voluntary life/disability/AD&D insurance coverages at the rates quoted for Fiscal Years 2026 & 2027 as the lowest responsive bidder meeting specifications unless another cooperative/trust can offer better coverage/rates, and further authorize the President of Levy Court to execute a services agreement upon approval by the County Attorney; seconded by Mr. Scott; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas.

4. Dental Insurance (Self-insured)

- M-25-123** Mr. Angel: I **Move** to renew the existing agreement with Delta Dental of Delaware, Inc. at an administrative fee of \$3.61 per month per contract for a two-year term; retain the current plan design, \$2,000 calendar year maximum benefit, and cost share; and further authorize the President of Levy Court to execute a services agreement upon approval by the County Attorney; seconded by Mr. Sweeney; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas.

INFORMATION ITEMS - None

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS – None

OTHER BUSINESS

- M-25-124** Mr. Scott:
Motion to go into Executive Session immediately following the Business Meeting, for preliminary discussion on site acquisition for a publicly funded capital improvement; legal strategy session regarding collective bargaining or pending or potential litigation; and personnel matters pursuant to 29 Del.C. 10004(b)(2), (4), and (9); seconded by Mr. Angel; carried by Roll Call vote seven (7) yeas.
- M-25-125** **Motion** to Adjourn to Workshop made by Mr. Sweeney; seconded by Mr. Scott; carried by seven (7) ayes. **8:11 p.m.**


Brenda A. Wootten
Clerk of the Peace
Kent County

