#### AGENDA WORK SESSION

# BLAIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM 2B, BLAIR COUNTY COURTHOUSE TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2018, 10:00 A.M.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
- 4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** September 25<sup>th</sup> Work Session, which was recessed and reconvened on September 28<sup>th</sup>; the Special Meeting setting the salaries of Elected Officials, which was held September 27<sup>th</sup>, and the October 2<sup>nd</sup> Business Session.
- 5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 6. **COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**
- 7. **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **Resolution 370-2018:**

- a. Payment of three (3) Warrant Lists dated October 8, 2018, in the amounts of \$1,171,213.98; \$4,029.56; and \$14,638.88, which include payments of the following invoices:
  - <u>2017 Project Fund/Bond/Courthouse Water Infiltration Project:</u> To John Rita, in the amount of \$500.00, for professional services rendered during the month of October 2018.
  - **2017 Project Fund/Bond/Reassessment Project:** To WBK, in the amount of \$875.00, for professional services rendered during the month of August 2018.
- b. Correction of Budget Transfer: Removing a transfer request in the amount of \$140.75 To 34156-42000 (Domestic Relations) From 01105-42000 (Human Resources) originally approved on Consent Agenda 359-2018 dated October 2, 2018, for the September Justifacts Invoice for background and/or reference checks.
- c. <u>Budget Transfer:</u> The following transfer is for improvements to the Highway/Records Improvement Building:

From 011091-6060 Records Management To 01103HW-46060 Highway: \$1,050.00 \$1,050.00

- d. Budget Transfer: The following transfer is for payment of insurance deductible:
  From 01101-41999 Commissioners To 01158-44960 District Attorney:
  \$1,250.00
- e. NBIS Bridge Inspection and Inventory: Requesting approval for payment of Invoice No. 15 received from Stiffler McGraw in the total amount of \$13,196.40 for Bridge #26, White Bridge Road over Frankstown Branch of the Juniata River, in the amount of \$1,567.66; Bridge #29 Spencer Creek Driver over Spencer Run, in the amount of \$1,815.95; Bridge #48 Irish Flats Lane over Little Juniata River, in the amount of \$3,256.31; Bridge #48 Irish Flats Lane over Little Juniata River, analysis, in the amount of \$1,913.98; and Bridge #48 Irish Flats Lane over Little Juniata River, Harcon Lift Rental, in the amount of \$4,642.50. Expenses will be paid from the Act 44 Reserve Account (No. 59) and are 80% reimbursable.
- f. Blair County Bridge #10/Friesville: Requesting approval for payment of Invoice #08, received from Keller Engineers, Inc., in the total amount of \$16,848.29, for preliminary design services for bridge replacement. Expense will be paid from the Marcellus Shale Legacy Fund and is 95% reimbursable.
- g. Employment: Alysha K. Walker, FT, Clerk Typist 1, Prothonotary, \$14,141.40/yr., effective 10/01/18; Kendre Verbeck, FT, Victim/Witness Advocate, Victim/Witness, \$19,801.60/yr., effective 10/01/18; Branson W. Pfahler, FT, Maintenance Tech/Plumber, Maintenance, \$16.43/hr., effective 10/01/18/; Melissa L. Stump, FT, Caseworker II, CYF, \$32,116.50/yr., effective 10/08/18, Ellen M. Diehl, PT/Fill-In, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$14.42/hr., effective 10/08/18; Elijah C. Gage and Joshua D. Beck, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$19.54/hr., effective 10/08/18; Kermit J. Alwine, from FT, Sergeant, Sheriff's Office, \$15.75/hr., to FT, Lieutenant, Sheriff's Office, \$38,020.06/yr., effective 10/01/18.
- h. **Resignations:** Veronia J. DeFrancesco, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$19.54/hr., effective 09/28/18.
- i. <u>Terminations:</u> Jacob M. Wike, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$19.54/hr., effective 10/05/18.

#### 8. STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS

A. Blair County Library System:

Annual update.

## B. Blair County Bridge #10/Friesville:

Requesting approval to amend the agreement between the County of Blair and Keller Engineering, Inc., extending the completion of Part 1 – Preliminary Design from October 13, 2018 to October 13, 2019.

#### 9. **OLD BUSINESS**

10. ADJOURN

WORK SESSION: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2018, 10:00 A.M.:

Location: Conference Room 2B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New Addition.

Members Present: Commissioner Erb, Commissioner Tomassetti, Commissioner Beam,

County Administrator Schmitt and Solicitor Karn.

Others Present: Brian Wiser (Keller Engineers, Inc.), Jennifer Knisely, Katie Martin, Dick

Hall, MaryAnn Bistline, Jane Knisely, Janet Eldred and Lucy Wolf (Blair County Library System), Jenn Sleppy (Finance), Luke Bowser (Rep. John McGinnis' Office), Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror), Rocky Greenland

(Public Works), Nicole Hemminger and Melissa Harpster

(Commissioner's Office).

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Commissioner Erb called the meeting to order.

# **MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION:**

Commissioner Erb called for a moment of silent reflection.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Commissioner Erb requested those present to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** September 25<sup>th</sup> Work Session, which was recessed and reconvened on September 28<sup>th</sup>; the Special Meeting setting the salaries of Elected Officials, which was held September 27<sup>th</sup>, and the October 2<sup>nd</sup> Business Session.

Commissioner Erb called for corrections or changes to the meeting minutes of the September 25<sup>th</sup> Work Session, which was recessed and reconvened on September 28<sup>th</sup>; the Special Meeting setting the salaries of Elected Officials, which was held September 27<sup>th</sup>, and the October 2<sup>nd</sup> Business Session. **There were no corrections or changes noted.** 

Motion by Commissioner Beam, seconded by Commissioner Tomassetti and unanimously approved to accept the minutes as prepared.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Commissioner Erb called for public comment. There were no comments noted.

## **COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Erb called for commissioners comments.

Commissioner Erb announced two upcoming public meetings regarding the 2019 County Budget. The first upcoming 2019 Preliminary Budget Message will be held on Monday, October 15, 2018 beginning at 11:00 am in Conference Room 2B in the Courthouse. The second meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 16, 2018 beginning at 7 pm at the Northern Blair County Recreation Center, Tipton, PA.

Commissioner Tomassetti read a statement regarding his recent announcement to not seek reelection to the Blair County Board of Commissioner's in 2019.

Commissioner Beam announced that today is the last day to register to vote and to change your political party or address. Election/Voter Registration Office will be open until 4 pm and mail in forms must be post marked by mid-night.

Commissioner Beam announced that a Voting Machine Forum will be held on Wednesday, October 24, 2018 from 2 pm to 5 pm at the Blair County Convention Center. Attendees will have the opportunity to see demonstrations on several voting machines, cast sample ballots, and express their opinions on the machines.

# **CONSENT AGENDA:**

# **Resolution 370-2018:**

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- i. **Terminations:** Jacob M. Wike, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$19.54/hr., effective 10/05/18.

Commissioner Tomassetti noted his abstention due to conflicts of interest for payment of an invoice to John Rita and payment of an invoice to Keller Engineers, Inc.

Commissioner Beam voted Nay to letter a, the payment of an invoice to John Rita for \$500.00, with Commissioner Erb voting Yea and Commissioner Tomassetti abstaining due a professional relationship with Mr. Rita. There being a tie vote and as permitted by the Ethics Act, Commissioner Tomassetti again noted his conflict, and then proceeded to cast his vote in favor of payment of the invoice, in light of the fact that the County has a previously approved contract with Mr. Rita.

Motion by Commissioner Beam, seconded by Commissioner Tomassetti and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 370-2018.

# STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:

## **Blair County Library System:**

Annual update.

Jennifer Knisely, System Administrator, Blair County Library System, presented the Commissioners with a copy of the book titled "Quackers" by Liz Wong, and the Library System's annual update for FY 2017/2018.

Ms. Knisely stated that over the last five audited fiscal years (2012-2013 to 2016-2017) the libraries have over \$700,000.00 more in expenses than income. She stated that the 2017-2018 financials are not final, but it appears that seven out of the eight libraries are reported to be operating at a loss again this year.

Ms. Knisely stated that resource sharing introduced to the Library System in 2016, brought all 8county library collections into one searchable database; then in 2017, all 8-county libraries began allowing patrons to request items to be sent to their library of choice, and finally in 2018 the libraries made resource-sharing agreements with Bedford, Lackawanna and Cambria Counties.

Ms. Knisely stated that the resource-sharing programs allow the libraries to increase the number of books shared from less than 400 per month during 2016 to over 2,000 per month in 2018. She stated that the libraries logged over 290,000 visits to the libraries this year that reflects an increase of 10,000 from the previous year.

Ms. Knisely stated that on average, the libraries had over 400-uses of its WiFi connections for each of the 365 days in 2017 and 2018. She stated that by using market rates of \$15.00 per item, 270,440 circulations can be assumed to have saved county residents over \$4,000,000.00 this year.

Ms. Knisely stated that when county residents use the libraries, they may not consider the economic value of the libraries but instead are drawn to the libraries by the collections, programs and services provided. She stated that a vibrant library system needs sustainable sources of funding in order to provide and maintain innovative programs, important services, and current collections.

Ms. Knisely thanked the Board of Commissioners on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Blair County Library System for their continued support of the Library System through millage appropriation. She stated that the millage appropriation has been a sustainable source of funding needed to plan and design services and to maintain current collections and programs. She stated that the libraries generate the largest percentage of their funding through fundraising and contributions from private entities.

Discussion followed.

#### **Blair County Bridge #10/Friesville:**

Brian Wiser requested approval to amend the agreement between the County of Blair and Keller Engineering, Inc., extending the completion of Part 1 – Preliminary Design from October 13, 2018 to October 13, 2019.

Mr. Wiser stated that Part 1 of the agreement between the County of Blair and Keller Engineers, Inc., for replacement of Bridge #10/Friesville expires on October 13, 2018. He requested to amend the agreement allowing for a 12-month extension until October 13, 2019. Mr. Wiser stated that the time extension is necessary to coincide with the design schedule and to allow adequate time to address any comments on the previously submitted Design Field View and Waterway Permit, along with completion of the Constructability Review and other needed tasks.

Discussion followed.

**Resolution 371-2018:** A resolution approving to amend the agreement between the County of Blair and Keller Engineering, Inc., for replacement of Blair County Bridge #10/Friesville, extending the completion of Part 1 – Preliminary Design from October 13, 2018 to October 13, 2019.

Motion by Commissioner Beam, seconded by Commissioner Tomassetti. Votes are as follows: Commissioner Erb – AYE, Commissioner Tomassetti ABSTAINED from vote due to a conflict of interest, Commissioner Beam – AYE. Motion carried to adopt Resolution 371-2018.

# **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

### **ADJOURN:**

Meeting Adjourned,

Helen P. Schmitt, County Administrator