

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: TUESDAY, September 10, 2024, 1:00 P.M.

Location: Commissioners Meeting Room, Basement.

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Kessling called the meeting to order.

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION:

Commissioner Kessling called for a moment of silent reflection.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Commissioner Kessling requested that those participating in the meeting please stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES – 8/22 & 9/3

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Webster, Commissioner Burke, and Chief Clerk Socie.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Lori Guyer (Commissioners), Lindsay Dempisie and Brandon Meck (Finance), A.C. Stickel (Controller), Glenn Neilson (Fort Roberdeau), Brian Walters (Human Resources), Becky Robinson (Purchasing), Mindy Hostler (CYF), Melissa Gillin, Trina Illig, and Ginny Christy (Social Services), Dennis Wisor (Blair Senior Services), Erin Kay (Contact Altoona), Arniee Burns (NAMT Blair County), Ashleigh Nearhoof (Evolution Counseling), Carol Dannenberg (Holidaysburg Community Watchdog), Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror), and Nate Taylor (Public Access Channel).

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:

Chief Clerk Socie stated there was a correction from the September 3, 2024 Board of Commissioners Meeting: There was one Executive Session held on Thursday, August 29, 2024, not Friday, August 30, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. with Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Webster, Commissioner Burke, Solicitor Gabriel, and the HR Director to discuss one-1 individual personnel matter.

Chief Clerk Socie also confirmed there was one-1 Executive Session held on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. with Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Webster, and Commissioner Burke to discuss the purchase of land.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commissioner Webster called for public comment.

Mayor Stevens asked to hear more details about the Executive Session discussion on the purchase of land.

Commissioner Kessling responded the discussion is ongoing.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT:

Commissioner Kessling called for commissioner comment.

Commissioner Kessling stated that tomorrow is 9/11 and he asked everyone to remember the 3000 people that died, include those that had fallen and those that went to help.

Proclamation:

Commissioner Kessling read the following proclamation:

Suicide Prevention Month 2024
Suicide Prevention Day, September 10, 2024

WHEREAS, in the state of Pennsylvania, one person dies by suicide nearly every five hours, making it the third leading cause of death for ages 10-34 and the 5th leading cause of death for ages 35-54, and

WHEREAS, in Blair County, 17 people died by suicide in 2023; and

WHEREAS, over 5.4 million people in the United States have lost a loved one to suicide; and

WHEREAS, each member of our community is valued and irreplaceable; and

WHEREAS, talking openly about stress and psychological health builds trust, reduces barriers to care, and enables early

intervention; and

WHEREAS, though we recognize there is no single cause or single solution to suicide, we know that access to support and

support can save lives, and

WHEREAS, most suicides are preventable. By learning the signs and symptoms, we can work together to help prevent

suicide.

WHEREAS, local and statewide suicide prevention efforts should be developed and encouraged to the maximum extent possible, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Blair County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim September 2024 as "Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month" and September 10, 2024 as "Suicide Awareness and Prevention Day" in Blair County.

Proclaimed this 10th day of September, 2024.

County of Blair

David Kessling, Chairman

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Amy Webster, Vice-Chairman

Date: _____

Sherry Socie, Chief Clerk

Laura Burke, Secretary

Date: _____

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution 423-2024:

a. Payment of the following four-4 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
09/10/2024	240910TC	227,640.09
09/10/2024	240910SS	17,428.24
09/10/2024	240910CY	241,014.54
09/10/2024	240910WW	445,563.03

b. Ratification of the following seven-7 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
09/10/2024	240910AA	259,708.65
09/03/2024	240903WW	550,358.71
09/01/2024	240901FN	117,016.69
09/03/2024	240903HI	519,846.08
09/03/2024	240903FS	3,858.32
08/30/2024	240830RA	3,130.69
08/30/2024	240830RF	7,808.94

c. Ratification of Total Payroll for the paycheck dated 9/6/2024 in the total amount of \$853,093.44.

d. **Budget Transfer:** To cover Volunteer Medical Insurance:

<u>From</u>	\$	<u>To</u>
01101GCO-44900 General County Operations	\$514.05	08607-44900 Fort Roberdeau

e. **Budget Transfer:** To cover Insurance Deductible fees:

<u>From</u>	\$	<u>To</u>
01101GCO-44960 General County Operations	\$3,940.00	01209PO-44960 Prison

f. **Budget Transfer:** To cover maintenance costs at the Prison:

<u>From</u>	\$	<u>To</u>
01101GCO-41999 General County Operations	\$6,500.00	01209PO-43070 Prison

g. **Budget Transfer:** To cover Vehicle Insurance from PCoRP:

<u>From</u>	\$	<u>To</u>
06602602-44930 EMA	\$586.00	01602-44930 EMA

h. **Employments:** Standridge, Melissa, FT, Department Support, Prothonotary, \$11.03/hr., effective 09/09/2024. Suder, Lori, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.53/hr., effective 09/09/2024.

i. **Status Changes:** Bryan, Brenda, PT, Department Support, Treasurer, \$11.58/hr., to FT, Deputy Treasurer, Treasurer, \$1,538.81 biweekly, effective 09/02/2024.

Commissioner Burke noted he abstentions on the payments to Thomas and Chandra Jandora, Burke & Co. LLC, and Hollidaysburg Borough, due to a conflict of interest.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 423-2024 with abstentions as noted.

STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:

Blair Senior Services:

i. Dennis Wisor requested approval for the submission of the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) Fiscal Year 23/24 Fourth Quarter Report for the period of April 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024.

Resolution 424-2024: Approving the submission of the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) Fiscal Year 23/24 Fourth Quarter Report for the period of April 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024.

Commissioner Burke abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 424-2024.

ii. Dennis Wisor requested approval for the acceptance of the FY 24/25 Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) initial allocation received from the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, in the amount of \$2,219,073.00.

Resolution 425-2024: Approving the acceptance of the FY 24/25 Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) initial allocation received from the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services in the amount of \$2,219,073.00.

Commissioner Burke abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest.

Motion by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 425-2024.

Social Services:

- i. Trina Illig requested approval for the submission of a Grant Extension/Modification Request Form for the Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement (PHARE) Fund 2020/2021 Grant Agreement between the County of Blair and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania acting through the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) for the period of August 16, 2023 to August 16, 2025.

Ms. Illig added that the original contract expired in 2023, but the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania did not have a process to extend the grant period until now. She would like to take advantage of the new extension process and ask for another 12 months. The Department of Health requires Labor and Industry to use certified Abatement Contractors which are hard to find, and that has slowed the process, but all the funds are committed to projects.

Resolution 426-2024: Approving the submission of a Grant Extension/Modification Request Form for the Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement (PHARE) Fund 2020/2021 Grant Agreement between the County of Blair and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania acting through the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) for the period of August 16, 2023 to August 16, 2025.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 426-2024.

- ii. Trina Illig requested approval for acceptance of the FY 23/24 Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement (PHARE) Grant Agreement with the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) for Blair County in the total amount of \$165,000.00: \$40,000.00 for the Blair County Housing Assistance Program; and \$125,000.00 for the Blair County Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Ms. Illig stated that the Blair County Housing Assistance Program, which has assisted 46 households and 100 individuals so far this year with fuel and rental assistance. The Blair County Housing Rehabilitation funds are used towards the Lead Hazzard program and emergency repairs such as water and sewer projects.

Resolution 427-2024: Approving the acceptance of the FY 23/24 Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement (PHARE) Grant Agreement with the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) for Blair County in the total amount of \$165,000.00: \$40,000.00 for the Blair County Housing Assistance Program; and \$125,000.00 for the Blair County Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 427-2024.

- iii. Missy Gillin requested approval of the Letter of Agreement between the County of Blair, Department of Social Services, and Alternative Community Resource Program (ACRP) for referral of appropriate individuals between both parties, effective date of signatures of both parties, and renewed as agreeable between both parties.

Resolution 428-2024: Approving the Letter of Agreement between the County of Blair, Department of Social Services, and Alternative Community Resource Program (ACRP) for referral of appropriate individuals between both parties, effective date of signatures of both parties, and renewed as agreeable between both parties.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 428-2024.

- iv. Trina Illig discussed and requested approval for the selection of project(s) to be included in the FFY 2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application for the County of Blair on behalf of the seventeen (17) non-entitlement municipalities (Boroughs of Bellwood, Duncansville, Martinsburg, Newry, Roaring Spring, and Williamsburg and the Townships of Allegheny, Catharine, Freedom, Greenfield, Huston, Juniata, North Woodbury, Woodbury, Snyder, Taylor, and Tyrone) and, in addition, the Bellwood Antis Public Library.

Ms. Illig stated that once the application process for projects requesting these grant funds has begun, she will hold public hearings to discuss the projects. Currently, the Bellwood Antis Public Library has been identified as necessitating architectural barriers be removed in order to facilitate Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance in their 5 restrooms and the parking lot.

Resolution 429-2024: Approving the selection of project(s) to be included in the FFY 2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application for the County of Blair on behalf of the seventeen (17) non-entitlement municipalities (Boroughs of Bellwood, Duncansville, Martinsburg, Newry, Roaring Spring, and Williamsburg and the Townships of Allegheny, Catharine, Freedom, Greenfield, Huston, Juniata, North Woodbury, Woodbury, Snyder, Taylor, and Tyrone) and, in addition, the Bellwood Antis Public Library.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 429-2024.

Children, Youth and Families:

- i. Mindy Hostler requested approval of the FY 23/24 Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and BCL Partners, LLC. d/b/a Schaffner L.Y.F.E. Youth Center.

Resolution 430-2024: Approving the FY 23/24 Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and BCL Partners, LLC. d/b/a Schaffner L.Y.F.E. Youth Center.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 430-2024.

- ii. Mindy Hostler requested approval of the 2024 Agreement for Purchases Under Bidding Threshold between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Slingers Throw House for a private event to be held on September 19, 2024 in the amount of \$690.00. Said fee shall be paid with Caseworker Visitation Grant Funds.

Ms. Hostler stated this purchase is for their yearly training and team-building event, and each year they utilize a different business within the community.

Resolution 431-2024: Approving the 2024 Agreement for Purchases Under Bidding Threshold between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Slingers Throw House for a private event to be held on September 19, 2024 in the amount of \$690.00. Said fee shall be paid with Caseworker Visitation Grant Funds.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 431-2024.

- iii. Mindy Hostler requested approval of the 2024 Agreement for Purchases Under Bidding Threshold between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Legion Park for rental of the Social Hall, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 19, 2024, in the total amount of \$125.00. Said fee shall be paid with Caseworker Visitation Grant Funds.

Resolution 432-2024: Approving the 2024 Agreement for Purchases Under Bidding Threshold between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Legion Park for rental of the Social Hall, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 19, 2024, in the total amount of \$125.00. Said fee shall be paid with Caseworker Visitation Grant Funds.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 432-2024.

Fort Roberdeau:

- i. Glenn Nelson presented the 2023 Audit Report by Young, Oakes, Brown & Company (YOBCO).

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to accept the 2023 Fort Roberdeau Audit Report by Young, Oakes, Brown & Company (YOBCO).

- ii. Glenn Nelson requested approval for the acceptance of the 2023 Audit Report and the Management Representation Letter prepared by Young, Oakes, Brown & Company (YOBCO).

Resolution 433-2024: Approving the acceptance of the 2023 Audit Report and the Management Representation Letter prepared by Young, Oakes, Brown & Company (YOBCO).

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 433-2024.

Human Resources:

Brian Walters requested approval of the Last Chance Agreement between the Count of Blair and SEIU (Service Employees International Union) Local 668 -Custodial/Highway/Maintenance, effective date of approval.

Resolution 434-2024: Approving the Last Chance Agreement between the Count of Blair and SEIU (Service Employees International Union) Local 668 -Custodial/Highway/Maintenance, effective date of approval.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 434-2024.

Finances:

Lindsay Dempsie requested approval to submit the County Settlement Allocation Report for the reporting period of January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024 to the PA Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust.

Resolution 435-2024: Approving to submit the County Settlement Allocation Report for the reporting period of January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024 to the PA Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust.

Ms. Dempse stated the total spent for this half of the year is \$18,001.83 and directly related to the Medical Assistance Treatment program at the prison. This is a new report that is due biannually instead of annually.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 435-2024.

Commissioners:

Commissioner Kessling requested approval of the FY 24/25 Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families and Jennifer Evans, Snyder County Children, Youth and Families Director.

Resolution 436-2024: Approving the FY 24/25 Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families and Jennifer Evans, Snyder County Children, Youth and Families Director.

- Commissioner Kessling added that as part of the settlement agreement in conjunction with the state, the county is required to have consultants come in to assist our CYF department. This is one of the consultants that is assisting the CYF department.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 436-2024.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

Adjourn:

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and approved to adjourn today's meeting.



Sherry Socie, Chief Clerk

