

**COMMISSIONERS MEETING: THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2022, 10:00 A.M.**

Location: Commissioners Meeting Room, Basement.

*\*Public meetings are being held both in-person and by conference call. To participate in the meeting please dial 1-408-419-1715 or 1-408-915-6290 and enter meeting number 2468097683#*

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

**Roll Call:**

**Members Present:**

Commissioner Erb, Commissioner Burke, Chief Clerk Hemminger and Solicitor Karn.

**Members Absent:**

Commissioner Webster.

**Others Present:**

Rebecca Robinson (Purchasing), Allison Senkevich and Melissa Harpster (Commissioners Office), AC Sticker (Controller), Steffen Housum (JPO), Keith Calhoun and Megan Irwin (Domestic Relations), Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror), Don Weakland (IT), Susan Osterman (Public), and Carol A. Dannenberg (Hollidaysburg Community Watchdog).

**Public Comment:**

Commissioner Erb called for public comment.

Steffan Housum, local UMWA President, requested that the board consider increasing the \$300.00 retention bonus recently approved with the UMWA Court-Related Offices contract. He stated with the current number of open positions within the county increasing the retention bonus may help the county in retaining its employees.

Mr. Housman stated that prior to his public comment presentation he did submit his request to the board in writing. He extended his thank you to Commissioner Burke for her reply in response to his request.

**Consent Agenda:**

**Resolution #134-2022:**

- a. Payment of the following three-3 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
04/21/22	220421ww	\$93,179.93
04/21/22	220421ss	\$507,033.36
04/21/22	220421cy	\$590.00

Which include payment of the following invoices:

- UPMC Altoona, in the total amount of \$306,395.00.
- Blair Senior Services, in the total amount of \$1,132.30.
- United Way, in the total amount of \$13,167.04.

- b. **2022 Budget Transfer:** County’s fee to Founders Series of Lockton Companies.

From	\$	To
01101GCO-44030 General County Operations	\$19,216.86	013201-44030 CYF

- c. **2022 Budget Transfer:** Per-Department costs for the first Nygren Training Solutions Class February 24.

From	\$	To
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$125.40	01107-42070 Assessment
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$125.40	01160CO-42070 Custody
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$1630.24	013201-42070 CYF
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$125.40	011062-42070 Elections
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$125.40	01209PO-42070 Prison
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$125.40	01157-42070 Public Defender
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$501.60	44122-42070 Public Safety – 911
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$125.40	01103BM-42070 Public Works – Facilities
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$125.40	01103HW-42070 Public Works – Highway
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$125.40	75504-42070 Social Services

- d. **2022 Budget Transfer:** Per-Department costs for the second Nygren Training Solutions Class March 24.

From	\$	To
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$115.80	01107-42070 Assessment
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$115.80	01160CO-42070 Custody
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$1505.44	013201-42070 CYF
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$115.80	011062-42070 Elections
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$115.80	01209PO-42070 Prison
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$115.80	01157-42070 Public Defender
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$463.20	44122-42070 Public Safety – 911
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$115.80	01103BM-42070 Public Works – Facilities
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$115.80	01103HW-42070 Public Works – Highway
01101GCO-42070 General County Operations	\$115.80	75504-42070 Social Services

- e. **Employment:** Julia B. Wilt, From, FT, Law Clerk, Judge Milliron/Pool, \$41,609.62/yr., To, FT, Assistant District Attorney, District Attorney’s Office, \$45,000.02/yr., effective 04/18/22; Ronda S. Brady, FT, Administrative Support, District Attorney’s Office, \$11.58/hr., effective 04/18/22; Sheryl A. Durbin, FT, Temporary Department Assistant, Elections/Voter Registration, \$10.00/hr., effective 04/18/22; Joseph F. Hibernik, FT, Second Deputy, Treasurer’s Office, \$12.77/hr., effective 04/18/22; Renee L. Mahalko, PT, Courtroom Clerk, Prothonotary, \$12.16/hr., effective 04/18/22; Trisha M. Miller, FT, Case Manager-Family Engagement, Victim Witness, \$16.30/hr., effective 04/18/22; Jeffrey A. Seilhamer, FT, Custodian, Public Works, \$14.42/hr., effective 04/18/22; and Jessica L. Sponsler, FT, Administrative Support, District Attorney’s Office, \$11.58/hr., effective 04/18/22.

- f. **Resignations:** Andrew J. Holencik, PT, Deputy, Sheriff's Office, \$15.52/hr., effective 04/11/22; Kathy M. Bleicher, FT, Criminal Processor, Court Administration, \$11.58/hr., effective 04/22/22; Dwayne R. Cox, FT, Seasonal, Groundskeeper, Public Works, \$14.43/hr., effective 04/22/22; and Sharee D. Karlinsey, FT, Deputy, Sheriff's Office, \$15.52/hr., effective 04/22/22.

The total amount of Warrant Number 220421SS, (\$507,033.36) dated 04/21/22, that includes the payment of invoices to UPMC Altoona, Blair Senior Services and United is being amended to hold said invoices for payment approval until the meeting of 04/26/22. The remaining invoices covered under Warrant Number 220421SS, dated 04/21/22, in the total amount of \$186,339.02 shall be approved for payment via Consent Agenda Resolution #134-2022.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Erb and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution #134-2022 as amended.

**Staff Reports & Special Business:**

**Pennsylvania Outdoor Veterans:**

Chief Clerk Hemminger presented discussion concerning the request of a Letter of Support for the submission of an application to Senator Robert Casey's Office for appropriations funding by the Pennsylvania Outdoor Veterans non-profit organization.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated the county received an email request from the Pennsylvania Outdoor Veterans, a 501(c)3 organization based out of Lehigh, PA (Carbon County). She stated that the request is for a Letter of Support for the organization's submission of an application to Senator Robert Casey's Office for funding of a 22,000 square foot veterans retreat center to be located somewhere within Central PA.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated the cost of the center along with the purchase of property is estimated at approximately \$15 million dollars and would be paid with a combination of grant foundation awards, federal grants and private donations.

Discussion followed.

There was no motion to bring the request to a vote. No further action was taken.

**Information Technology:**

Don Weakland requested approval of eight-8 contracts received from Link Computer Corporation (a CoStars vendor) for support, professional, and upgrade services for the County of Blair's 5 Year Cisco Unified Communications Project as outlined below. Expenses for the upgrade will be paid from the county's American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds.

Contract 1 – Gateway Router Upgrade	Total Cost	\$42,511.00
Contract 2 – Core Switch & ATA Upgrade	Total Cost	\$76,886.97
Contract 3 – Collaboration Support	Total Cost	\$120,247.50
Contract 4 – SMARTnet Support	Total Cost	\$12,353.18
Contract 5 – Edge Switching & Phone Replacement	Total Cost	\$152,424.74
Contract 6 – Professional Services – Jabber deployment	Total Cost	\$9,850.00
Contract 7 – Professional Services – Software Upgrade	Total Cost	\$10,950.00
Contract 8 – Professional Services – Circuit Refresh	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>\$9,900.00</u>
		\$435,123.39

Don Weakland stated that the county has been paying approximately \$35,000.00 annually for the past eleven-11 years for phone support. He stated the eight-8 contracts received from Link Computer Corporation, in the total amount of \$435,123.39, cover support, professional and upgrade services for a 5-Year Cisco Unified Communications Project for software and hardware upgrades to the county's telephone system.

Mr. Weakland stated that the software and hardware upgrades would include the MDJ Offices would allow for four-digit extension dialing and would provide new communication options for employees who would need to work remotely. He stated the project cost would be paid using American Rescue Funds (ARP).

Commissioner Erb stated that the county borrowed funds to purchase the currently telephone system. He stated by using ARP funds the county could avoid needing to borrow funds again.

Discussion followed.

**Resolution #135-2022:** A resolution approving eight-8 contracts received from Link Computer Corporation (a CoStars vendor) for support, professional, and upgrade services for the County of Blair's 5 Year Cisco Unified Communications Project as outlined below. Expenses for the upgrade will be paid from the county's American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds.

Contract 1 – Gateway Router Upgrade	Total Cost	\$42,511.00
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Contract 8 – Professional Services – Circuit Refresh	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>\$9,900.00</u>
		435,123.39

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution #135-2022.

**Bridge #69/Everett Road:**

Chief Clerk Hemminger requested approval of a Resolution declaring a state of emergency with respect to Blair County Bridge #69/Everett Road, located in Freedom Township.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that the county was notified on Monday, April 18 that Bridge #69/Everett Road located in Freedom Township was damaged while construction of a sewer line for the township was being performed in the immediate area. She stated that the barrier and wing wall of the bridge collapsed into the waterway.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that an inspection of the bridge was performed and once the county's bridge inspector submits a final inspection report a more specific Resolution declaring a state of emergency with respect to the bridge will be requested.

The bridge remains closed to vehicular traffic while the sewer project continues in the immediate area.

Discussion followed.

**Adjourn:**

Meeting Adjourned,

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Nicole M. Hemminger, Chief Clerk