

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: TUESDAY, June 11, 2024 1:00 P.M.

Location: Commissioners Meeting Room, Basement.

**Public meetings are being held both in-person and by Zoom. To participate in the meeting, please dial 1-309-205-3325 or 1-646-876-9923, enter meeting number 988 9066 9264, and enter the meeting passcode 423423.*

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.

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Webster, and Chief Clerk Hemminger.

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Commissioner Burke.

OTHERS PRESENT:
President Judge Wade Kagarise, Allison Senkevich and Lori Guyer (Commissioners), Sam Dunkle and Scott Schultz (Court Administration), Becky Robinson (Purchasing), Paul Shaffer (Public Works /Highway), Ken Ressler (Public Works/Facilities), A.C. Stichel (Controller), Sherry Socie (Planning Commission), Glenn Nelson (Fort Roberdeau), Mindy Hostler (CYF), Chris Fredrickson (EMA/911), Ray Benton (Coroner), Manny Nichols (Clear Creek Company), Thomas Gill (Warren A. Gingrich Agency), Kay Stevens (Altoona Mirror), and Nate Taylor (Public Access Channel).

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:
Chief Clerk Hemminger confirmed there were no Executive Sessions since the last Board of Commissioners meeting on June 4, 2024.

APPROVAL OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES – 5/30 & 6/4
Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to accept the minutes as prepared.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Commissioner Kessling called for public comment.

Kay Stevens from the Altoona Mirror expressed her disappointment that the county rejected the request for a Proclamation to recognize the Altoona Mirror's 150th Anniversary.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT:
Commissioner Kessling called for commissioner comment. There were no comments.

Resolution 276-2024:

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

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
06/11/2024	240611WW	956,218.56
06/11/2024	240611CY	386,702.06
06/11/2024	240611SS	55,062.33

b. Ratification of the following eight-8 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
06/07/2024	240610FP	255,148.19
06/06/2024	240606ML	27,620.80
06/06/2024	240606HR	14,310.17
06/03/2024	240603HI	571,145.42
06/03/2024	240603FS	1,290.08
06/01/2024	240601FN	117,016.69
06/05/2024	240605CY	20.00
05/31/2024	240531CY	14.00

c. **2024 Budget Transfer:** To cover the fees from Justifacts, Inc., for May 2024:

From	\$	To
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$1,834,74	01209PO-42000 Prison
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$903.78	44122-42000 911
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$352.06	01151-42000 Sheriff
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$179.47	012011-42000 APO
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$179.47	113201-42000 CYF
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$171.53	01103HW-42000 Highway
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$159.63	01161B1-42000 MDJ Jones
01101GCO-42250 General County Operations	\$60.73	01101-42250 Commissioners

d. **Terminations:** Pozgar, Robin L., FT, Accounts Payable Coordinator, Controller, \$15.15/hr., effective 5/31/2024.

e. **Resignations:** McHugh, Bonita A., FT, Voter Registration Assistant, Elections, \$12.71/hr., effective 06/10/24. Yeager, Luke R., PT, Deputy, Sheriff, \$15.52/hr., effective 06/13/24.

f. **Employments:** Hurd, Kellie C., PT, Tipstaff, Court Administration, \$11.00/hr., effective 06/10/24.

g. **Status Changes:** Gingery, Susan A., FT, Deputy Recorder, Register & Recorder, \$14.84/hr., to FT, Case Manager, Domestic Relations, \$15.52/hr., effective 6/10/24. Jarrett, Troy M., FT, Telecommunicator, Public Safety – 911, \$16.71/hr., to FT, Deputy, Sheriff, \$15.52/hr., effective 6/10/24.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 276-2024.

STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:

Coroner:

Coroner Ray Benton requested approval of the award or rejection of the two-2 bids listed below for the Removal and Transportation of Decedents and Storage of Decedents.

Vendor	Removal and Transport of a decedent located within Blair County to a designated storage facility within Blair County	Action
Forsht Livery Service	\$290.00 per decedent	
Clear Creek Company	\$365.00 per decedent	

Vendor	Removal and Transport of a decedent from the designated storage facility within Blair County to and from The Mount Nitany Medical Center for autopsy services.	Action
Forsht Livery Service	\$350.00 per decedent	
Clear Creek Company	\$240.00 per decedent	

Vendor	Removal and Transport of a decedent from a designated storage facility within Blair County to and from Forensic DX for autopsy services.	Action
Forsht Livery Service	\$350.00 per decedent	
Clear Creek Company	\$240.00 per decedent	

Vendor	Removal and Transport of a decedent within Blair County at destinations determined by the Coroner.	Action
Forsht Livery Service	No Bid	
Clear Creek Company	\$225.00 per decedent	

Vendor	Removal and Transport of an advanced decomposition decedent within Blair County to a designated storage facility within Blair County.	Action
Forsht Livery Service	\$600.00 per decedent	
Clear Creek Company	\$365.00 per decedent	

Vendor	Daily Storage of a deceased person (per person)	Action
Forsht Livery Service	\$50.00 per decedent	
Clear Creek Company	\$65.00 per decedent	

Vendor	Daily Storage of an advanced decedent person (per person)	Action
Forsht Livery Service	\$60.00 per decedent	
Clear Creek Company	\$70.00 per decedent	

Vendor	Providing Bio Seal Services with Coroner's approval (per person)	Action
Forsht Livery Service	\$400.00	
Clear Creek Company	\$280.00 per decedent	

Coroner Benton stated the bids were advertised twice in the Altoona Mirror, and the two-2 bids submitted in response went to the County Solicitor for review.

Commissioner Webster stated neither of the bids received align with the advertised specifications and questioned if they needed to be re-advertised or if they were able to be awarded as is.

Coroner Benton confirmed that nothing detrimental was missing from the bids and both companies have the necessary equipment to provide the service.

- i. Coroner Benton requested approval and award of the bid for the Removal and Transportation of Decedents.

Coroner Benton added that Clear Creek Company underbid in all categories but one and he recommended that Clear Creek Company be awarded the bid to avoid confusion for the staff in the field.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that the overall bids for both companies were about the same due to Forsht no bidding on the "Removal and Transport of a decedent within Blair County at destinations determined by the Coroner".

Resolution 277-2024: Awarding the bids listed below for the Removal and Transportation of Decedents for the Blair County Coroner to Clear Creek Company.

Vendor	Removal and Transport of a decedent located within Blair County to a designated storage facility within Blair County	Action
Forsht Livery Service	\$290.00 per decedent	Rejected
Clear Creek Company	\$365.00 per decedent	Awarded

Vendor	Removal and Transport of a decedent from the designated storage facility within Blair County to and from The Mount Nitany Medical Center for autopsy services.	Action
Forsht Livery Service	\$350.00 per decedent	Rejected
Clear Creek Company	\$240.00 per decedent	Awarded

Vendor	Removal and Transport of a decedent from a designated storage facility within Blair County to and from Forensic DX for autopsy services.	Action
Forsht Livery Service	\$350.00 per decedent	Rejected
Clear Creek Company	\$240.00 per decedent	Awarded

Vendor	Removal and Transport of a decedent within Blair County at destinations determined by the Coroner.	Action
Forsht Livery Service	No Bid	No Bid
Clear Creek Company	\$225.00 per decedent	Awarded
Vendor	Removal and Transport of an advanced decomposition decedent within Blair County to a designated storage facility within Blair County.	Action
Forsht Livery Service	\$600.00 per decedent	Rejected
Clear Creek Company	\$365.00 per decedent	Awarded

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 277-2024.

- ii. Coroner Ray Benton requested approval and award of the bid for the Storage of Decedents.

Coroner Benton stated that even though Forsht Livery Services underbid in two-2 categories, Clear Creek Company's facility was clean and inviting for families, while Forsht Livery Service's facility was deplorable.

Commission Webster stated that she was happy to see an alternative facility available that is better for families in the circumstances and sometimes the county needs to consider more than just the dollar amount of bids.

Commissioner Kessling stated that the county is seeking a new place of operations that includes storage for the coroner's office and asked if the bid would change if the county obtains its own storage facility.

Coroner Benton confirmed Clear Creek Company would provide service until the time when a county-owned facility is operational and their contract offers the ability to terminate services before the contract expiration.

Resolution 278-2024: Awarding the bids listed below for the Storage of Decedents for the Blair County Coroner to Clear Creek Company.

Vendor	Daily Storage of a deceased person (per person)	Action
Forsht Livery Service	\$50.00 per decedent	Rejected
Clear Creek Company	\$65.00 per decedent	Awarded
Vendor	Daily Storage of an advanced decompensated person (per person)	Action
Forsht Livery Service	\$60.00 per decedent	Rejected
Clear Creek Company	\$70.00 per decedent	Awarded
Vendor	Providing Bio Seal Services with Coroner's approval (per person)	Action
Forsht Livery Service	\$400.00	Rejected
Clear Creek Company	\$280.00 per decedent	Awarded

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 278-2024.

- iii. Coroner Ray Benton requested approval of an Agreement for Purchases Under Bidding Threshold between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Coroner, and Cental Pennsylvania Cremation Society, Inc. for products and/or services provided under Exhibit A, in the total amount of \$500.00.

Coroner Benton stated that the county is responsible for the decedent who died in Blair County, but whose family is no longer responsive to the cremation company where the body is now located.

Coroner Benton added that it is more cost efficient to cremate the body at its current location than to return the body to Blair County for cremation.

Resolution 279-2024: Approving the Agreement for Purchases Under Bidding Threshold between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Coroner, and Central Pennsylvania Cremation Society, Inc. for products and/or services provided under Exhibit A, in the amount of \$500.00.

Motion by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 279-2024.

Children, Youth and Families:

- i. Mindy Hostler requested approval of the FY 23/24 Purchase of Service and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and LifeSpan Family services of PA.

Resolution 280-2024: 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 LifeSpan Family Services of PA.

Motion by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 280-2024.

- ii. Mindy Hostler requested approval of the FY 24/25 Purchase of Service Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Kids First.

Resolution 281-2024: 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 LifeSpan Family Services of PA.

Motion by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 281-2024.

- iii. Mindy Hostler requested approval of the FY 24/25 Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Children's Aid Society of Clearfield County.

Resolution 282-2024: 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 Children's Aid Society of Clearfield County.

Motion by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 282-2024.

- iv. Mindy Hostler requested approval of the FY 24/25 Contract between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Impact Counseling Services, LLC.

Resolution 283-2024: Approving the FY 23/24 Contract between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Impact Counseling Services, LLC.

Motion by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 283-2024.

Court Administration:

President Judge Wade Kagarise requested approval of the quote from Bettyw Systems for upgrades to the sound system in Courtroom #3 in the amount of \$10,175.87, pending solicitor approval.

President Judge Kagarise added that he is requesting payment from ARPA funds.

President Judge Kagarise stated the current system is old and would be more expensive to fix than replace.

President Judge Kagarise reminded commissioners that failure of the sound system would prevent the use of Courtroom #3, which would be detrimental to the court system.

Resolution 284-2024: Approving the Quote from Bettyw Systems for upgrades to the Sound System in Courtroom #3, to be paid out of ARPA funds, in the amount of \$10,175.87.

Motion by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 284-2024, pending solicitor approval.

Public Safety:

- i. Cris Fredrickson requested approval of the Contract Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services, and Frontier Precision for the annual support and maintenance of the Field Seeker Software ULV Adulticiding Office User License and Mobile User License for the Mosquito-borne Disease Control Program, for the period of April 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, in the total amount of \$700.00.

Ms. Fredrickson added that this computer software is for any spray event they do throughout the year. The invoice is reimbursable through the grant that sponsors this program in Blair County.

Resolution 285-2024: Approving the Contract Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services and Frontier Precision for the annual support and maintenance of the Field Seeker Software ULV Adulticiding Office User License and Mobile User License for the Mosquito-borne Disease Control Program, for the period of April 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, in the total amount of \$700.00.

Motion by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 285-2024.

- ii. Cris Fredrickson requested approval of the Service Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services and Penn Turf, Inc. to provide a trailer for tire collection and disposal of the tires collected by municipalities throughout Blair County, during a three-3 month period in 2024, in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Ms. Fredrickson added that collection and disposal of the tires reduces mosquito habitat, which is an eligible expense from the grant that sponsors the program.

Commissioner Webster asked if this was for tires collected from residents within the municipalities.

Ms. Fredrickson responded it was for tires collected from the municipalities, not for tires collected from residents.

Resolution 286-2024: Approving the Service Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services and Penn Turf, Inc. to provide a trailer for tire collection and disposal of the tires collected by municipalities throughout Blair County, during a three-3 month period in 2024, in the total amount of \$2,000.00, and an additional fee of \$200.00 per month to be added if the trailer is needed for longer than three-3 months.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 286-2024.

Blair Planning Commission:

Sherry Socie requested approval of the submission of a Letter of Support for Duncansville Borough's DCNR mini-grant submission through SAPDC for funding to install fencing and construction of a half shell pavilion at their community park.

Ms. Socie stated the mini-grant would be in the amount of \$26,765.00 and there is no financial obligation requested from Blair County.

Commissioner Webster stated it was good to see good things being done for the community.

Resolution 287-2024: Approving the submission of a Letter of Support for Duncansville Borough's DCNR mini-grant submission through SAPDC for funding to install fencing and construction of a half shell pavilion at their community park.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 287-2024.

Social Services:

- i. Trina Illig requested approval for Blair County Social Services, on behalf of the Township of Antis, to submit a Budget Revision to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community & Economic Development under the County of Blair's FFY2020 DCBG Program.

Resolution 288-2024: Approving the submission of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Budget Revision to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development as outline below:

FFY2020 C000077647:

1. Reduce existing activity for Street Improvements N 4th and Blair Streets from \$68,031 to \$67,767.79 (including delivery costs) for a total decrease of \$263.21.
2. Reduce existing activity for COVID-19 No Touch Restroom Improvements from \$29,145 to \$10,646.81 (including delivery costs) for a total decrease of \$18,498.19.
3. Increase Housing Rehabilitation in Antis Township from \$0 to \$18,761.40 (including delivery costs) for a total increase of \$18,761.40.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 288-2024.

- ii. Trina Illig requested approval of the submission of a 3-year Project Activity Completion Extension to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community & Economic Development, to extend the completion date from May 25, 2024 to April 1, 2025 for FFY2020 DCBG Contract #C000077647.

Ms. Illig stated this provides Blair County Social Services an additional 60 days to close out the projects.

Resolution 289-2024: Approving the submission of a 3-year Project Activity Completion Extension to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community & Economic Development, to extend the completion date from May 25, 2024 to April 1, 2025 for FFY2020 CDBG Contract #C000077647.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 289-2024.

Fort Roberdeau:

- i. Glenn Nelson requested approval of a Service Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of Fort Roberdeau, and Seven Mountains Media, LLC for a summer event radio and online marketing campaign for the period of July 1, 2024 through August 31, 2024, in the total amount of \$1,200.00 (\$600.00/month).

Resolution 290-2024: Approving the Service Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of Fort Roberdeau and Seven Mountains Media, LLC for a summer event radio and online marketing campaign for the period of July 1, 2024 through August 31, 2024, in the total amount of \$1,200.00 (\$600.00/month).

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Kessling, and approved to adopt Resolution 290-2024, pending solicitor review.

- ii. Glenn Nelson requested approval of a Service Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of Fort Roberdeau, and Schlesinger Communications, Inc. for a radio advertisement campaign for the period of June 27, 2024 through July 3, 2024, in the total amount of \$525.00.

Resolution 291-2024: Approving the Service Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of Fort Roberdeau and Schlesinger Communications, Inc. for a radio advertisement campaign for the period of June 27, 2024, through July 3, 2024, in the total amount of \$525.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Kessling, and approved to adopt Resolution 291-2024.

Public Works – Facilities:

Ken Ressler requested approval of a Contract Agreement between the County of Blair and Fiore True Value Hardware for a lift rental for a period of two-2 days, in the amount of \$506.00 (\$253.00/day).

Mr. Ressler stated the lift is needed in order to complete repair work in the parking garage.

Resolution 292-2024: Approving a Contract Agreement between the County of Blair and Fiore True Value Hardware for a lift rental for a period of two-2 days, in the total amount of \$506.00 (\$253.00/day).

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 292-2024.

Commissioners:

Thomas Gill requested approval of the 24/25 PCoRP Commercial Insurance Renewal Proposal for the policy period of June 1, 2024, through June 1, 2025 in the total premium amount of \$520,576.00, with the 40%-30%-30% payment schedule as outlined below:

- June 1, 2024 40% \$208,230.00
- September 1, 2024 30% \$156,173.00
- December 1, 2024 30% \$156,173.00

Mr. Gill stated the 2024 premium rate is 14% higher than the 2023 rate.

Mr. Gill stated that while the insurance rates increased, our claims are down 40% since 2022.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that the coverage amounts need to be where we want our deductibles and premiums to be.

Commissioner Webster stated since our claims are down 40%, she would rather go with the higher deductible in Option #2, which would change the county's rate to \$512,542.00.

Resolution 293-2024: Approving the 24/25 PCoRP Commercial Insurance Renewal Quotation Option #2 for the policy period of June 1, 2024, through June 1, 2025 in the total premium amount of \$512,542.00 with the 40%-30%-30% payment schedule as outlined below:

- June 1, 2024 40% \$205,016.80
- September 1, 2024 30% \$153,762.60
- December 1, 2024 30% \$153,762.60

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 293-2024.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

Adjourn:

Commissioner Kessling asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adjourn today's meeting.

Nicole Hemminger, Chief Clerk