

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: TUESDAY, July 9, 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 the Flag.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Webster, Commissioner Burke, and Assistant County Administrator Senkevich.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lori Guyer (Commissioners), Lindsay Dempsie and Brandon Meck (Finance), Angela Wagner (Controller), Becky Robinson (Purchasing), Sam Dunkle (Court Administration), Sue Ammerman (Emergency Services), Melena Koegler and Brian Walters (Human Resources), Jim Carothers (Treasurer), Paul Shaffer (Public Works – Highway), Tiffany Treese (CYF), Tricia Johnson (Social Services), Devin Saylor (Assessment), Carol Hartman (Southern Alleghenies Service Management Group), Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror), and Nate Taylor (Public Access Channel).

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:

Assistant County Administrator Senkevich confirmed there was an Executive Session held on Wednesday, July 3, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. with Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Webster, and Commissioner Burke to interview one candidate for one open position.

APPROVAL OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES – 7/2

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Kessling, and unanimously approved to accept the minutes as prepared.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commissioner Kessling called for public comment.

Kay Stephens asked that plans be addressed to replace former Chief Clerk Hemminger and to abolish the solutions (10-2024, 11-2024, and 12-2024) appointing the Commissioners as Liaisons to specific Department Heads / Elected Officials.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT:

Commissioner Kessling called for commissioner comment.

Commissioner Burke read the following statement:

“Last week we said goodbye to another member of our team. Nicole Hemminger served as assistant county administrator before being promoted by Commissioners Tomasetti, Erb, and Bean to the position of Chief Clerk when Helen Schnitt retired at the end of 2019. As chief clerk, Nicole took her responsibility to protect the County seriously. In addition to serving as chief clerk she represented the county as a member of the board of trustees of the Pennsylvania Counties Risk Pool (our liability insurance provider). Nicole won multiple statewide awards for risk management during her tenure as chief clerk and was instrumental in reducing liability and cost for the taxpayers. I believe her termination is a loss for the county as a whole and I will be voting against it.

Given the publicity that this action has already received, I am compelled to state unequivocally on the record that I am concerned with the direction and attitude of my fellow board members toward our tenured employees and the lack of understanding they demonstrate regarding leadership, management, and governance. Our employees are our largest asset and are essential to keeping us informed on matters of county business. No three individuals alone can run the entire county without help. Our staff can gather information and present it to the board so that we can make educated, well-reasoned decisions. Instead of utilizing staff to their full potential, the other commissioners have decided to cut experienced staff out of all communications and ignore the wealth of experience, historical knowledge, and valuable advice they could supply. I believe that continuing down this path will lead to further instability and decreased efficiency in the provision of services to the public and risk opening the county up to increased liability.”

Commissioner Webster stated that the current Board of Commissioners is on a path to create additionaliciencies and positive goals for the county. The Board is looking to create a new culture for the county and asked for everyone to assist them with this goal.

Commissioner Kessling added that, while the loss of Chief Clerk Hemminger and her knowledge of the county is painful, he is proud to say the current board is more involved in the decision-making process. He reminded everyone that the Board of Commissioners were elected by and serve the people of the county. He expressed the desire of the Board to improve the culture and said the Commissioners are prepared to take steps to make that happen.

Resolution 326-2024:

a. Payment of the following five-5 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
07/10/2024	240710FP	244,697.30
07/09/2024	240709WW	202,512.70
07/09/2024	240709CO	44,434.87
07/09/2024	240709SS	76,832.91
07/09/2024	240709CY	31,209.02

b. Ratification of the following four-4 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
07/01/2024	240701HI	556,868.34
07/01/2024	240701FN	117,026.87
07/05/2024	240705HR	31,492.17
07/01/2024	240701FS	3,205.77

c. **2024 Budget Transfer:** To cover the fees from maintenance on county vehicles:

From	\$	To
01103HW-44730 Highway	\$150.00	01151-44730 Sheriff

- d. **Termination:** Hemminger, Nicole M., FT, Chief Clerk, Commissioners, \$75,534.94/yr., effective 07/02/24.
e. **Resignations:** Brumbaugh, Scott A., FT, Supervisor, Casework, CYF, \$48,605.44/yr., effective 07/01/24.
Reed, Michael J., FT, Telecommunicator Trainee, Public Safety – 911, \$13.88/hr., effective 07/02/24.
f. **Employments:** Chaplin, Kara L., FT, Administrative Support, JPO, \$11.58/hr., effective 07/08/24. Farber, Rachel E., PT, Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$15.51/hr., effective 07/08/24. Gabella, Shawna L., FT, Receptionist/Clerk, Prothonotary, \$11.30/hr., effective 07/08/24.

Commissioner Burke noted her abstention on the payment to Thomas and Chandra Jandora due to a conflict of interest.

Commissioner Burke also voted nay on the termination of Chief Clerk Nicole Hemminger.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessler, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 326-2024 with the abstention and nay vote as noted.

STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:
Children, Youth and Families:

- i. Tiffany Treese requested approval of the FY 24/25 Child Accounting and Profile System Provider Agreement (CAPS) and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Avanco International, Inc., in the amount of \$41,838.32.

Resolution 327-2024: Approving the FY 24/25 Child Accounting and Profile System Provider Agreement (CAPS) and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Avanco International, Inc., in the amount of \$41,838.32.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessler, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 327-2024.

- ii. Tiffany Treese requested approval of the FY 24/25 AFCARS Upgrade and Maintenance to the Child Accounting and Profile System (CAPS) Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Avanco International, Inc., CAPS in the amount of \$4,162.68.

Resolution 328-2024: Approving the FY 24/25 AFCARS Upgrade and Maintenance to the Child Accounting and Profile System (CAPS) Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Avanco International, Inc., CAPS in the amount of \$4,162.68.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessler, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 328-2024.

- iii. Tiffany Treese requested approval of the FY 24/25 Consulting Services Addendum to the Child Accounting and Profile System Application Service Provider Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Avanco International, Inc., for consultant time invoiced at the hourly rates listed below:

Category	Hourly Rate
Research Analyst	\$ 54.50
Junior Programmer	\$ 65.40
Junior Programmer Analyst	\$ 73.00
Programmer Analyst	\$ 76.20
Senior Programmer Analyst	\$ 78.70
Developer	\$ 92.50
Senior Developer	\$111.20
Project Director	\$125.00
Client has assigned a not-to-exceed value of \$20,000.00 for all Consulting Services. This value can be adjusted at any time during the term with written confirmation from the Client. Larger projects, Avanco will prepare a separate bid for the specific project under this Addendum.	

Resolution 329-2024: Approving the FY 24/25 Consulting Services Addendum to the Child Accounting and Profile System Application Service Provider Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Avanco International, Inc., for consultant time invoiced at the hourly rates listed below:

Category	Hourly Rate
Research Analyst	\$ 54.50
Junior Programmer	\$ 65.40
Junior Programmer Analyst	\$ 73.00
Programmer Analyst	\$ 76.20
Senior Programmer Analyst	\$ 78.70
Developer	\$ 92.50
Senior Developer	\$111.20

Project Director	\$125.00
Client has assigned a not-to-exceed value of \$20,000.00 for all Consulting Services. This value can be adjusted at any time during the term with written confirmation from the Client. Larger projects, Avanco will prepare a separate bid for the specific project under this Addendum.	

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 329-2024.

- iv. Tiffany Treese requested approval of the FY 23/24 Renewal Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and City Mission-Living Stones, Inc.

Resolution 330-2024: Approving the FY 23/24 Renewal Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and City Mission-Living Stones, Inc.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 330-2024.

- v. Tiffany Treese requested approval of Amendment #1 to the FY 24/25 Agreement for Payment of Legal Services between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Ashley Passarello, Esquire, Attorney of Grabill Law Offices, PLLC. to amend the language in the “Training Requirements” section – all other terms and conditions of the existing agreement remain the same.

Resolution 331-2024: Approving Amendment #1 to the FY 24/25 Agreement for Payment of Legal Services between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Ashley Passarello, Esquire, Attorney of Grabill Law Offices, PLLC. to amend the language in the “Training Requirements” section – all other terms and conditions of the existing agreement remain the same.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 331-2024.

- vi. Tiffany Treese requested approval of Amendment #1 to the FY 24/25 Agreement for Payment of Legal Services between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Matthew Dombrosky, Esquire, Attorney of Law Offices of Lucas A. Kelleher, LLC. to amend the language in the “Training Requirements” section – all other terms and conditions of the existing agreement remain the same.

Resolution 332-2024: Approving Amendment #1 to the FY 24/25 Agreement for Payment of Legal Services between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Matthew Dombrosky, Esquire, Attorney of Law Offices of Lucas A. Kelleher, LLC. to amend the language in the “Training Requirements” section – all other terms and conditions of the existing agreement remain the same.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 332-2024.

Southern Alleghenies Service Management Group:

Carol Hartman requested approval of the FY 24/25 Purchase of Service Agreements for Intellectual Disabilities between the County of Blair, Maryann Joyce Bistline, and Denise Vanacore, CRNP, for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

Resolution 333-2024: Approving the FY 24/25 Purchase of Service Agreements for Intellectual Disabilities between the County of Blair, Maryann Joyce Bistline, and Denise Vanacore, CRNP, for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 333-2024.

Public Works - Highways:

- i. Paul Shaffer requested approval to accept the bids received for County Road 105 and 105A Rehabilitation Project for review and award or rejection according to County Code thereafter.

Mr. Shaffer announced that there were four-4 bids received. HRI, Inc. is the lowest bidder at \$2,304,000.00.

Contractor	Address	City	ST	Zip	Phone Number	Bid (‘ or ‘N)	Bid Bond (‘ or ‘N)	Bid Amount
Green O. Esposito Inc	1992 Waddle Road, Suite 205	State College	PA	16805	\$14-237-1444	Y	Y	\$2,453,432.00
HRI Inc.	1130 W. College Avenue	State College	PA	16801	\$14-278-6955	Y	Y	\$2,304,000.00
Grammas Bros	PO Box 438	Hoffdayshong	PA	16648	\$14-693-5021	Y	Y	\$2,340,739.89
New Enterprise Stone & Limc Inc	3912 Burnhamough Road	New Enterprise	PA	16664	\$14-766-2211	Y	Y	\$2,320,184.71

Resolution 334-2024: Approving to accept the bids received for County Road 105 and 105A Rehabilitation Project for review and award or rejection according to County Code thereafter.

Contractor	Address	City	ST	Zip	Phone Number	Bid (Y or N)	Bid Bond (Y or N)	Bid Amount
Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.	1932 Waddle Road, Suite 203	State College	PA	16803	814-237-1444	Y	Y	\$2,463,452.00
HRI, Inc.	1730 W. College Avenue	State College	PA	16801	814-278-6955	Y	Y	\$2,304,000.00
Grannas Bros.	PO Box 488	Hollydayburg	PA	16648	814-693-5021	Y	Y	\$2,540,379.89
New Enterprise Stone & Lime, Inc.	3912 Brumbaugh Road	New Enterprise	PA	16664	814-766-2211	Y	Y	\$2,820,184.71

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 334-2024.

- ii. Paul Shaffer requested approval to accept the bids received for the County Bridge #69 replacement project for review and award or rejection according to County Code thereafter.

Mr. Shaffer announced that there were six-6 bids received. Charles J. Merlo, Inc. is the lowest bidder at \$1,262,000.00.

Contractor	Address	City	ST	Zip	Phone Number	Bid (Y or N)	Bid Bond (Y or N)	Bid Amount
Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.	1932 Waddle Road, Suite 203	State College	PA	16803	814-237-1444	Y	Y	\$1,497,369.00
Charles J. Merlo, Inc.	234 Merlo Road	Mineral Point	PA	15942	814-322-1545	Y	Y	\$1,262,000.00
CED Enterprises, Inc.	100 Brady Place	New Stanton	PA	15672	724-925-9832	Y	Y	\$1,278,366.08
Palo, Inc.	309 S. 4th Avenue	Clinton	PA	16214	814-226-9361	Y	Y	\$1,426,026.00
Kukarin Contracting Inc.	1169 Route 286	Export	PA	15632	724-325-2136	Y	Y	\$1,377,700.00
HRI, Inc.	1730 W. College Avenue	State College	PA	16801	814-278-6955	Y	Y	\$1,542,695.00

Commissioner Kessling stated that it was nice to see a lot of interest in the projects and thanked Keller Engineers for their work.

Commissioner Webster stated that she was happy to see these projects move forward.

Resolution 335-2024: Approving to accept the bids received for the County Bridge #69 replacement project for review and award or rejection according to County Code thereafter.

Contractor	Address	City	ST	Zip	Phone Number	Bid (Y or N)	Bid Bond (Y or N)	Bid Amount
Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.	1932 Waddle Road, Suite 203	State College	PA	16803	814-237-1444	Y	Y	\$1,497,369.00
Charles J. Merlo, Inc.	234 Merlo Road	Mineral Point	PA	15942	814-322-1545	Y	Y	\$1,262,000.00
CED Enterprises, Inc.	100 Brady Place	New Stanton	PA	15672	724-925-9832	Y	Y	\$1,278,366.08
Palo, Inc.	309 S. 4th Avenue	Clinton	PA	16214	814-226-9361	Y	Y	\$1,426,026.00
Kukarin Contracting Inc.	1169 Route 286	Export	PA	15632	724-325-2136	Y	Y	\$1,377,700.00
HRI, Inc.	1730 W. College Avenue	State College	PA	16801	814-278-6955	Y	Y	\$1,542,695.00

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 335-2024.

Emergency Services:

Sue Ammerman requested approval of Exhibit A as an addendum to the existing multi-county agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services-911, and RBA Professional Data Services for Regional Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) Support, for the period August 31, 2024 through August 30, 2025, in the total fixed fee amount of \$38,903.21.

Resolution 336-2024: Approving Exhibit A as an addendum to the existing multi-county agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services-911, and RBA Professional Data Services for Regional Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) Support, for the period August 31, 2024 through August 30, 2025, in the total fixed fee amount of \$38,903.21.

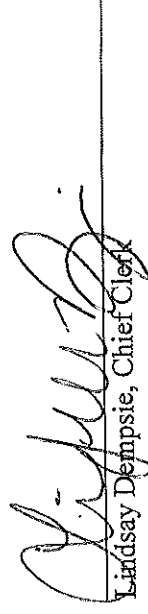
Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 336-2024.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

Adjourn:

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


Lindsay Dempsey, Chief Clerk