

WORK SESSION: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2022, 10:00 A.M.

Location: Commissioner's 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 Burke called the meeting to order.

Moment of Silent Reflection:

Commissioner Burke called for a moment of silent reflection.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag:

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

Roll Call:

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Commissioner Erb.

Others Present:

Helen Schmitt (Public), Jamie Henry (SASMG), AC Stickel (Controller), Jim Pooler (Public Works/Building Maintenance), Lindsay Dempsie and Brandon Meck (Finance), Rebecca Robinson (Purchasing), Jim Hudack, Tracy Fitzpatrick, Cindy James, Ken Dean and Theresa Rudy (Social Services), Paul Shaffer (Public Works), Jim Ott (Sheriff), Eric Kay (Veterans' Affairs), Erin Kay (CONTACT Altoona), Allison Senkevich and Melissa Harpster (Commissioner's Office).

Upcoming Meetings:

Wednesday, September 7, 2022	9:00 a.m.	*Retirement Board Mtg. (Commissioners Mtg. Rm.)
	10:30 a.m.	*Salary Board Mtg. (Commissioners Mtg. Rm.)
Thursday, September 8, 2022	10:00 a.m.	*Commissioners Business Session (Commissioners Mtg. Rm.)
Friday, September 9, 2022		
Monday, September 12, 2022		
Tuesday, September 13, 2022	10:00 a.m.	*Commissioners Work Session (Commissioners Mtg. Rm.)

Public Comment:

Commissioner Burke called for public comment. **There were no comments noted.**

Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Burke called for commissioners comments.

Commissioner Webster stated that she wished to recognize the Social Services Department for their efforts and all that they do every day in bringing awareness on the particular issue of suicide prevention.

Commissioner Webster stated that last Thursday, she was in a meeting with Congressman Dr. Joyce, SBC Communications Systems Commissioner Carr and Community Members for Business on Internet Politics, to hear updates on the progress of broadband.

Commissioner Webster stated that when this board took office, we learned about how the FCC map was not accurate and how important the accuracy of the map is. She stated that the FCC has been working on improving the map by mapping out every single address of the United States to make sure they have everything and everyone.

Commissioner Webster stated it is anticipated that the new map will come out in the next couple of months. She stated that the county will have an opportunity to review the new map to see if all of the areas of our community have been marked appropriately.

Commissioner Webster stated that the FCC plan for our area is to first construct towers within the next 12 to 24 months, thus providing access to everyone, then moving on to fiber at a later time.

Proclamation – Suicide Prevention Day/Month 2022:

Commissioner Burke read the following proclamation and motioned for adoption of the proclamation:

**Suicide Prevention Month 2022
Suicide Prevention Day, September 10, 2022**

WHEREAS, suicide is a leading cause of death in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in the state of Pennsylvania, one person dies by suicide every four hours, making it the second leading cause of death for ages 15-34 and the 4th leading cause of death for ages 35-54.; and

WHEREAS, in Blair County, 30 people died by suicide in 2021; and

WHEREAS, nearly five 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, 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 do hereby proclaim September 2022 as “Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month” and September 10, 2022 as “Suicide Awareness and Prevention Day” in Blair County.

DULY ADOPTED, this 6th day of September 2022.

**Blair County
Board of Commissioners:**

Bruce R. Erb, Chairman

ATTEST:

Laura O. Burke, Vice-Chairman

Amy E. Webster, Secretary

Nicole M. Hemminger, Chief Clerk
September 6, 2022

Cindy James shared a few words and presented the board members with a t-shirt.

Ms. James stated that the Blair County Out of the Darkness Walk will be held on September 10, 2022 at Lakemont Park. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. with the Walk beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Ms. James stated that the Out of the Darkness Walk unites our communities and is a journey of remembrance, hope and support and provides the opportunity to acknowledge the ways in which suicide has affected our lives and the lives of those we love and care for.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt the Proclamation.

Consent Agenda:

Resolution #345-2022:

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

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
9/6/2022	220901WW	\$376,116.57
9/6/2022	220906CY	\$215,233.06
9/6/2022	220906CO	\$29,326.31
9/6/2022	220906SS	\$596,888.06

Which include payment of the following invoices:

- UPMC Altoona in the total amount of \$5,050.46

- b. Ratification of the following six-6 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
9/1/2022	220901CY	\$5,765.50
9/1/2022	220901FN	\$117,016.68
9/1/2022	220901HI	\$527,292.34
9/1/2022	220901HR	\$11,712.06
8/29/2022	220829FS	\$3,121.10
8/25/2022	220825HR	\$16,452.47

- c. **2022 Budget Transfer:** County’s share of an administrative fee from the American Arbitration Association.

<u>From</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>To</u>
01101GCO-44080 General County Operation’s	\$150.00	01209PO-44080 Prison

- d. **Employment:** Noah L. Michael, FT, APO, Parole and Probation Officer, \$16.30/hr., effective 9/6/22 and Donna Steitz, FT, Assessment, Assessor I, \$14.08/hr., effective 9/6/22
- e. **Resignations:** Mitchell T. Andre, PT, Prison, Corrections Officer (fill-in), \$15.49/hr., effective 9/1/22; Kaitlyn J. Richards, PT, Court Administration, Tipstaff, \$12.00/hr., effective 9/8/22; Diane L. Strohm, FT, Prothonotary, Receptionist/Clerk, \$12.16/hr., effective 9/8/22; Alexa R. Corman, FT, APO, Parole and Probation Officer, \$16.50/hr., effective 9/9/22; Makayla L. Grum, FT, DRS, Department Clerk I, \$11.03/hr., effective 9/9/22; and Alisa L. Smith, FT, CYF, Clerk Typist II – Fiscal Aide, \$11.02/hr., effective 9/9/22; Dwayne D. Dittsworth, Seasonal/FT Nonunion, Public Works, Head Groundskeeper, \$15.82/hr., effective 9/2/22.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 345-2022.

Staff Reports & Special Business:
Blair County Bridges 8, 21, 28 and 29:

Paul Shaffer requested approval for the preparation and submission of a Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) 2022 Bridge Investment Program (BIP) Grant Application to address the Poor Condition Rating of Blair County Bridge 8, 21, 28 and 29.

Mr. Shaffer stated that the grant application will be in the total amount of \$5,697,000.00 and the grant will cover 90% of projected replacement costs.

Discussion followed.

Blair County Bridge 69/East Freedom Township:

Paul Shaffer requested approval of a Proposal of Service Contract between the County of Blair and Keller Engineers for design, permitting, bidding, construction, and construction services for the replacement of Blair County Bridge 69/East Freedom Township, in the total lump sum, plus estimated cost tasks of \$325,125.00.

Mr. Shaffer stated that the bridge is currently closed. The cost of engineering will be paid through county bridge funds.

Discussion followed.

Blair County Bridge 5/Mill Run Road – Allegheny Township:

Paul Shaffer requested approval of a Proposal of Service Contract between the County of Blair and Keller Engineers for design, permitting, bidding, construction consultation, and construction services for Blair County Bridge 5/Mill Run Road – Allegheny Township, in the total lump sum, plus estimated cost tasks of \$38,320.00.

Mr. Shaffer stated the repair includes bridge railing on one-1 side.

Discussion followed.

Southern Alleghenies Service Management Group (SASMG):

Jamie Henry requested approval of the following two-2 FY 2022/2023 renewal contracts for Intellectual Disability Services between the County of Blair and Family Links Inc., and the Center for Community Resources, for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Mr. Henry stated the renewal contracts are base-funded and there has been no increase of the state-set rates from the prior year.

Discussion followed.

Social Services:

- a. Theresa Rudy requested approval of eight-8 FY 2022/2023 Mental Health (MH) Student Assistance Program (SAP) Letters of Agreement between the County of Blair, Department of Social Services, UPMC Western Behavioral Health of the Alleghenies (WBHA) and the school districts listed below:

Altoona Area School District	Hollidaysburg School District
Bellwood School District	Spring Cove School District
Bishop Guilfoyle High School	Tyrone Area School District
Claysburg School District	Williamsburg School District

Mrs. Rudy stated that the SAP Letters of Agreement describe the UPMC Western Behavioral Health of the Alleghenies (WBHA) provider agency responsibilities, the school districts responsibilities, and the conflict resolution process for the Student Assistance Program (SAP) for the SAP Mental Health Liaison. She stated that the Letters of Agreement are renewed each fiscal/school year.

Discussion followed.

- b. Trina Illig requested approval for the submission of a FY 2018 Budget Revision to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) (Contract #C000071558) as outlined below:

Non-Entitlements:

1. Reduce existing activity for Housing Rehabilitation (non-entitlements) from \$104,519.85 to \$103,488.97 (including delivery costs) for a total decrease of \$1,030.88.
2. Increase existing activity for Demolition/Clearance (non-entitlements) from \$20,000.00 to \$21,030.88 (including delivery costs) for a total increase of \$1,030.88.

Discussion followed.

Children, Youth and Families:

Nicole Hemminger requested approval of Exhibit E, to the Information Technology Support Services Agreement, between the County of Blair, Blair County Commissioner's and RBA Professional Data Systems, Inc., for the addition of support and special consulting services as requested by Blair County Children, Youth and Families, consistent with the HIPAA Business Associates Agreement attached as Exhibit D to the aforementioned Agreement, in the amount of \$107.00 per hour, effective September 1, 2022.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that RBA will provide special consulting services to CYF, at the hourly rate of \$107.00, to assist in transferring data we input into QuickBooks over to the MUNIS system. She stated that the county currently has Crystal Software that will help in transferring the data from one system to the other.

Discussion followed.

Finance:

Lindsay Dempsie requested approval to advertise for bids for cleaning services for various county office buildings.

Ms. Dempsie stated the current contract for cleaning services for various County of Blair Office Buildings, Magisterial District Judge Offices, 911E Center, Adult Parole Satellite Office, Fort Roberdeau, and the Coroner's Office is due to expire the end of September 2022. She requested authorization to advertise for bids for cleaning services for the various buildings and locations.

Discussion followed.

Resolution 346-2022: Approving authorization to advertise for cleaning services for various County of Blair Office Buildings, Magisterial District Judge Offices, 911E Center, Adult Parole Satellite Office, Fort Roberdeau and the Coroner's Office.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 346-2022.

Commissioner's Office:

Nicole Hemminger approval of the 2022-2023 Volunteer AD&D Program renewal application with CCAP for the period of October 1, 2022 through October 1, 2023, as outlined below:

Medical Maximum	\$100,000	
Accidental Death Maximum	\$25,000	
Accidental Dismemberment Maximum	\$25,000	
Deductible Amount	\$0	
Number of Community Volunteers		149 x \$3.45 = \$514.05
Number of Court Referred Alternative Sentencing Volunteers		0 x \$4.60 = \$0
Number of Work Release Volunteers		10 x \$4.60 = \$46.00
Number of Juvenile Tobacco Volunteers		0 x \$2.90 = \$0
<hr/>		
Total Premium Due		\$560.05

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated the rates quoted this year are slightly higher than last year (.45 to .60 cents per rate) but still reasonable overall.

Discussion followed.

Park and Recreation Advisory Board:

Melissa Harpster requested approval to obtain quotes for outhouse pumping at Valley View Park; and requesting approval for an allocation of Park and Recreation Reserve Account Funds 035, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00 for outhouse pumping.

Discussion followed.

Old Business:

Adoption of Resolutions:

Resolution 326-2022: Approving the FY 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 renewal Purchase of Service Agreements between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families and Professional Family Care Services, Inc.

No action taken.

Resolution 327-2022: Approving the eleven-11 FY 2022/2023 renewal contracts between the County of Blair and the agencies listed below:

AGENCY	FUNDING SOURCES	CONTRACT AMOUNT
Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Blair County	Human Services Development Fund (HSDF)	Maximum Contract Amount \$ 30,000
Blair Family Solutions	Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$ 50,000
CenClear Child Services	Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$ 35,000
Child Advocates	HSDF	Maximum Contract Amount \$ 5,000
CONTACT Altoona	HSDF & Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$ 115,000
Family Services, Inc.	HSDF & HAP	Maximum Contract Amount \$ 170,000
H.O.P.E. Drop In	Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$ 50,000
NAMI of Blair County	Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$ 50,000
Peerstar	Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$ 10,500
Skills of Central PA	Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$ 350,000
UPMC Western Behavioral Health of the Alleghenies	Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$2,170,000

No action taken.

Adjourn:

Meeting Adjourned,

Nicole M. Hemminger, Chief Clerk