

**COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: TUESDAY MAY 30, 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, Commissioner Burke, and Chief Clerk Nicole Hemminger.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Allison Senkevich and Lori Guyer (Commissioners), A.C. Stichel (Controller), Mindy Hostler (CYF), Crist Fredrickson and Susan Ammerman (EMA/911), Sam Dunkle (Court Administration), Elizabeth Nelson and Trina Illig (Social Services), Paul Shaffer (Public Works/Highways), Sarah Seymour (Elections), Sherry Socie (Planning Commission), Abbie Tate (Prison), Christy Draves and Andrea Cohen (Lakemont Park), Kay Stevens (Altoona Mirror), and Nate Taylor (Public Access Channel).

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Chief Clerk Nicole Hemminger confirmed there was an Executive Session held on Wednesday, May 22nd at 1:00 p.m. with Commissioners Kessling, Commissioner Burke, Commissioner Webster, HR Manager Melena Koezler, State Operations Manager Kim Deibler, and CYF Director Tiffany Treese to discuss a discipline matter involving five-5 individual employees.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES – 5/21**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Commissioner Kessling called for public comments.

There were no comments.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Kessling called for commissioner comments.

Commissioner Webster announced yesterday, Wednesday, May 29 was the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Fort Roberdeau being added to the National Register of Historic Places. She added that a professor from Juniata College claims the reconstructed fort is close to where the actual fort was originally located.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Resolution 253-2024:**

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

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
05/28/2024	240528WW	587,525.42
05/28/2024	240528CY	7,588.52
05/28/2024	240528SS	168,233.97

b. Ratification of the following two-2 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
05/23/2024	240523HR	14,109.12
05/20/2024	240520FS	2,894.60

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

From	\$	To
01103HW-44730 Highway	\$150.00	01107-44730 Assessment

**2024 Budget Transfer:** To cover annual fire extinguisher inspection:

From	\$	To
01103BM-44710 Building Maintenance	\$271.30	08607-44710 Fort Roberdeau

e. **Terminations:** Shuman, Steven M., FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.53/hr., effective 5/9/2024.

f. **Resignations:** Tenley, Molly A., FT, Receptionist/Clerk, Prothonotary, \$11.03/hr., effective 5/2/2024. Rivera, Erica, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$22.66/hr., effective 5/10/24. Henry, Sharon L., FT, Department Clerk, Domestic Relations, \$11.03/hr., effective 5/14/24. Miller, Megan L., FT, Correctional Case Manager, Prison, \$11.58/hr., effective 5/20/24. Calhoun, Wendi J., Per Diem, Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$80.00, effective 5/23/24. McCornahy, Ronald L., Per Diem, Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$80.00, effective 5/23/24. Wagner, Jacob F., PT/Fill-in, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$15.08/hr., effective 5/29/24.

g. **Employments:** Bowmaster, Ashlyn R., Carowick, Robert D., Cuomo, Kathryn M., Ertwine, Harley J., Goebel, Kirsten E., Knab, Adam M., Logan, Blake J., Smith, Amanda R., FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.53/hr., effective 5/28/24. Groce, Kathryn A., Hollen, Renne L., Houck, Vanessa D., Reed, Michael J., Runzo, Nicolette M., 35 hrs., Telecommunicator Trainee, Public Safety-911, \$13.88/hr., effective 5/28/24. White, Zhaad, Temporary Department Assistant, Highway, \$12.50/hr., effective 5/28/24.

h. **Status Change:** Brashear, Kyle J., FT, Payroll Administrator, HR, \$983.50 biweekly/\$25,571.00 annual to 5% (\$49.00 biweekly) out of class wage for admin duties normally undertaken by HR Manager, max 13 pay period or hire of job incumbent, effective 4/29/24. Walters, Brian G., FT, Benefits Specialist, HR, \$1332.10 biweekly/\$34,634.60 annual to 5% (\$66.60 biweekly) out of class wage for admin duties normally undertaken by HR Manager, max 13 pay period or hire of job incumbent, effective 4/29/24. Espenlaub, Eric C., FT/Seasonal,

37.5 hrs./wk., Groundskeeper, Public Works, \$14.42/hr. to FT/Seasonal, 37.5 hrs./wk., Head Groundskeeper, Public Works, \$15.48/hour/hr., effective 5/18/24. Brant, Richard L., Per Diem, Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$80.00 to PT (1500), Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$16.46/hr., effective 5/25/24. Forsht, William D., Per Diem, Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$80.00 to PT (999), Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$19.54/hour, effective 5/25/24. Whiteford, Marcus L., Per Diem, Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$80.00 to PT (1500), Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$16.46/hour, effective 5/25/24. Holmberg, Lisa M., Per Diem, Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$80.00 to PT (999), Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$15.51/hour, effective 5/25/24. Brown, Danielle A., Per Diem, Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$80.00 to PT (999), Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$15.51/hour, effective 3/30/24. Dellinger, Terry R., Per Diem, Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$80.00 to PT (1500), Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$16.46/hour, effective 3/30/24. Lytle, Katherine V., Per Diem, Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$80.00 to PT (999), Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$15.51/hr., effective 3/30/24.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 253-2024.

**STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:**

**Prison:**

Warden Abbie Tate requested approval of the Management Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Prison, and Air Management, Inc. to provide the equipment service listed in Exhibit A for the period of July 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025, in the total amount of \$3,913.92.

Warden Tate stated Air Management worked on the units in the past, and the Management Agreement is really needed now that all four-4 of the prison's compressors are not working.

Chief Clerk Hemminger noted that the terms of this Management Agreement should probably have been June 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025. As such, she recommended approving pending confirmation of the June 1, 2024, start of the terms.

**Resolution 254-2024:** Approving the Management Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Prison, and Air Management, Inc. to provide equipment service listed in Exhibit A, for the period of June 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025, in the total amount of \$3,913.92.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 254-2024 pending the June 1<sup>st</sup> confirmation.

**Park & Recreation:**

Sherry Socie requested approval to submit an application and a Letter of Commitment for a DCED Greenways, Trails, & Recreation grant for Phase II improvements at Valley View Park in the total amount of \$250,000.00 with a local in-kind match of 15%.

Ms. Socie explained the grant money would be used for repairs and paving of the road and parking lots, ADA-accessible paths, bench areas, and swing, and rain gardens to help contain rain run-off. If awarded, Park & Recreation could apply for a DCNR grant to help pay for the park's Phase III improvements.

Ms. Socie also added that the application would require a \$100.00 submission fee.

**Resolution 255-2024:** Approving the submission of an application, to the DCED Greenways, Trails & Recreation Grant Program for Phase II improvements at Valley View Park, along with a Letter of Commitment by the Blair County Board of Commissioners to provide \$65,000 in matching support, a \$100 submission fee, and the designation of David Kessling, President, and Amy E. Webster, Vice-President, as the officials(s) to execute all documents and agreements between the County of Blair and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Kessling, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 255-2024.

**Public Safety:**

i. Cris Fredrickson requested approval of the Contract Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services E-911, and Blair County Convention Center for the facility rental for the Transcaer Functional Tabletop Exercise on September 24, 2024, in the total amount of \$4,000.00.

Commissioner Kessling asked how many people would attend the event and why they would use the Convention Center.

Ms. Fredrickson replied that approximately 70 people would be attending the event, and the Convention Center was chosen since it is centrally located in Allegheny Township.

**Resolution 256-2024:** Approving the Contract Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services E-911, and the Blair County Convention Center for the facility rental for the Transcaer Functional Tabletop Exercise on September 24, 2024, in the total amount of \$4,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 256-2024.

ii. Chris Fredrickson requested approval of the Contract Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services E-911, and Blair County Convention Center for the facility rental for the

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) SARA Summit on September 26, 2024, in the total amount of \$12,000.00.

Commissioner Kessling asked how many people would be attending and why they would use the Convention Center.

Ms. Fredrickson replied that approximately 220-250 people would be attending the event, and the Convention Center was chosen as the venue due to the space it provides along with easy access to the hotel for attendees that travel in the night before.

**Resolution 257-2024:** Approving the Contract Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services E-911, and the Blair County Convention Center for the facility rental for the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) SARA Summit on September 26, 2024, in the total amount of \$12,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 257-2024.

- iii. Susan Ammerman requested approval of the amendment of the current Preventative Maintenance Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services E-911, and Tyler Technologies for an interface to connect Tyler CAD with Dataworks Plus software for a one-time fee of \$2,480.00.

Ms. Ammerman added that Dataworks Plus would reimburse the fee.

**Resolution 258-2024:** Approving the amendment of the current Preventative Maintenance Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services E-911, and Tyler Technologies for an interface to connect Tyler CAD with Dataworks Plus Software for a one-time fee in the total amount of \$2,480.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 258-2024.

- iv. Susan Ammerman requested approval of a Preventative Maintenance Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services E-911, and PALCO Power Systems for the maintenance of one-1 Blair County 911 commercial vehicle for the period of April 1, 2024, through March 21, 2025, in the amount of \$874.96.

**Resolution 259-2024:** Approving the Preventative Maintenance Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services E-911, and PALCO Power Systems for the maintenance of one-1 Blair County 911 Commercial vehicle for the period of April 1, 2024, through March 21, 2025, in the total amount of \$874.96.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 259-2024.

**Children, Youth and Families:**

Mindy Hostler requested approval of the FY 24/25 Renewal Purchase of Service Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and George Junior Republic in Pennsylvania.

Ms. Hostler added that George Junior Republic does many residential services for Blair County Children, Youth and Families, including drug and alcohol programs and special needs services.

**Resolution 260-2024:** Approving the FY 24/25 Renewal Purchase of Service Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and George Junior Republic in Pennsylvania.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Kessling, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 260-2024.

**Public Works – Highway:**

- i. Paul Shaffer requested approval of the submission of a Letter of Support for the Borough of Hollidaysburg's 902 DEP Recycling grant application to the Department of Environmental Resources for a debris collection vehicle.

Mr. Shaffer stated that if the Borough of Hollidaysburg was awarded the bid, the Blair County Public Works department could also have use of the vehicle with a fee schedule.

**Resolution 261-2024:** Approving the submission of a Letter of Support for the Borough of Hollidaysburg's 902 DEP Recycling grant application to the Department of Environmental Resources for a debris collection vehicle.

Commissioner Burke noted her abstention from the submission of a Letter of Support for the Borough of Hollidaysburg.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Kessling, and approved to adopt Resolution 261-2024 with the abstention of Commissioner Burke as noted.

ii. Paul Shaffer requested approval of the Contract Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Highway Department, and Hoover's Spraying LLC for treatment with herbicide for the vegetation along County owned Bridges and on the right-of-way of the County Roads in the total amount of \$4,233.86.

Mr. Shaffer added that this would be the second year that the county used this service; it worked well and saved labor costs.

**Resolution 262-2024:** Approving the Contract Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Highway Department, and Hoover's Spraying LLC for treatment with herbicide for the vegetation along County owned Bridges and on the right-of-way of County Roads in the amount of \$4,233.86.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Kessling, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 262-2024.

iii. Paul Shaffer requested approval of the Contract Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Highway Department, and Hoover's Spraying LLC for treatment with herbicide for the vegetation surrounding the retention pond and Hi-wall on Convention Center Road in the total amount of \$2,150.00.

**Resolution 263-2024:** Approving the Contract Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Highway Department, and Hoover's Spraying LLC for treatment with herbicide for the vegetation surrounding the retention pond and Hi-wall on Convention Center Road in the total amount of \$2,150.00.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Kessling, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 263-2024.

**Elections:**

Sarah Seymour requested approval of the submission of a Notice of Intent to Accept 2024 Election Security Grant Funds pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriates Act of 2024 in the amount of \$3,955.45.

**Resolution 264-2024:** Approving the Submission of a Notice of Intent to Accept 2024 Election Security Grant Funds pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024 in the amount of \$3,955.45.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 264-2024.

**Social Services:**

Trina Illig requested approval to authorize Commissioner David Kessling, as the Chief Elected Official, to sign the three-Site Specific Checklist Tier 2 Environmental Review Records for the Blair County Housing Rehabilitation Existing Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Ms. Illig stated there were multiple federal statutory requirements Social Services must complete before spending the funds. The Tier 2 Environmental Review Records must be signed before bidding.

**Resolution 265-2024:** Authorizing the signature by the Chief Elected Official, Commissioner President David Kessling, for the completion of the Tier 2 Site Specific Environmental Review Record (ERR) for the Blair County Existing Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program.

<u>Program Type</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Unit Location</u>
CDBG Entitlement Blair Township	#22-2839	647 Harvest Lane, Duncansville
CDBG Non-Entitlement	#18-2646	1137 Maple Hollow Rd, Duncansville
CDBG Non-Entitlement	#16-2554	1156 Quarry Rd, Tyrone

Motion by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 265-2024.

**Court Administration:**

Sam Dunkle requested approval to submit a Senior Judge Reimbursable Costs Grant Application to the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) for the use of the Senior Judges Chambers during the calendar year 2023, in the amount of \$9,210.00.

Mr. Dunkle added that for 2024, he would be able to submit for the Senior Judges Chambers, Secretarial, and Lay Clerks.

**Resolution 266-2024:** Approving the submission of a Senior Judge Reimbursable Costs Grant Application to the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) for the use of the Senior Judges Chambers during the calendar year 2023, in the amount of \$9,210.00.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Kessling, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 266-2024.

**Commissioners:**

Chief Clerk Hemminger requested approval of the First Amendment to the No Cost Grant Agreement (No. C000083394-01) between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), and the Blair County Commissioners to extend the term of the agreement from June 30, 2024, to December 31, 2024.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated this grant is for the Prison Feasibility Study.

**Resolution 267:** Approving the First Amendment to the No Cost Grant Agreement (No. C000083394-01) between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), and the Blair County Commissioners to extend the term of the agreement from June 30, 2024, to December 31, 2024.

Motion by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 267-2024.

**Special Presentation – Lakemont Park:**

Christy Draves gave a presentation on the 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lakemont Park and what the park has to offer for the 2024 summer season. The park is transitioning its features to provide new forms of outdoor family-friendly features and civities. Currently, there are four full sized basketball courts, two sand volleyball courts, two 18-hole mini golf courses, our batting cages, eleven pavilions, two large stages, several spacious green spaces, and more than ten yard games. All if this is open to the public and reservations are being accepted.

he park is also a local event and gathering venue, as it collaborates with local organizations to host and develop special events and fundraisers in the community. Lakemont Park is preparing to host the Central Blair Recreation Commission Summer League, support several local groups, and highlight the possibilities within the grounds. Currently, there are seventeen events planned, ranging from movie nights, community yard sales, a car show, a 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, and the 28<sup>th</sup> year of "Lights on the Lake."

Currently, feasibility plans are underway for adding pickleball courts, gaga ball courts, a 6-8 basket disc golf course, fenced-in off-leash dog space, and radio control track racing.

The park is open June 1<sup>st</sup> through August 21<sup>st</sup>, Wednesday to Friday from 1:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; and Saturday and Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Walkers are welcome during park hours. Rates for pavilion rentals, private event rentals, batting cages, and mini-golf apply.

Commissioner Burke added that Lakemont Park is such a nice place for families and has activities for a range of ages.

Commissioner Kessling welcomed Christy Draves to her new position as general manager at Lakemont Park. He acknowledged that the park faces challenges, but it is a wonderful park. Commissioner Kessling also thanked Andrea Cohen for everything she does at Lakemont Park.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**Adjourn:**

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



Nicole Hemminger, Chief Clerk

