

WORK SESSION: TUESDAY, MAY 3, 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 those participating in the meeting please stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call:

Members Present:

Commissioner Erb, Commissioner Burke, Commissioner Webster, Chief Clerk Hemminger and Assistant Solicitor Muriceak.

Members Absent:

Solicitor Karn.

Others Present:

Jim Hudack, Melissa Gillin, Cindy James and Theresa Rudy (Social Services), Chris Tatar and Yale Leslie (Sheriff's Office), Anita Terchanik (Register/Recorders Office), Carol A. Dannenberg (Hollidaysburg Community Watchdog), James Pooler (Maintenance), Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror), Nicole Smith (Court Administration), AC Stickel (Controller), Lindsay Dempsie (Finance), Melissa Harpster and Allison Senkevich (Commissioners Office), Rebecca Robinson (Purchasing) and Cris Fredrickson and Amy Myers (EMA/911E).

Upcoming Meetings:

Wednesday, May 4, 2022	9:00 a.m.	*Retirement Board (Commissioners Meeting Room)
	10:30 a.m.	*Salary Board (Commissioners Meeting Room)
Thursday, May 5, 2022	8:30 a.m.	*Park and Recreation Advisory Bd. (Commissioners Meeting Room)
	10:00 a.m.	*Commissioners Business Session (Commissioners Meeting Room)
Friday, May 6, 2022		
Monday, May 9, 2022		
Tuesday, May 10, 2022	10:00 a.m.	*Commissioners Work Session (Commissioners Meeting Room)
	7:00 p.m.	Blair County Airport Authority (Airport)

Approval of Meeting Minutes: 04/05/22, 04/07/22, 04/12/22, and 04/21/22

Commissioner Erb called for corrections or changes to the meeting minutes of 04/05/22, 04/07/22, 04/12/22 and 04/21/22. There were no corrections or changes noted.

Commissioner Webster noted her abstention on approval of the meeting minutes of 04/21/22 due to not being present at the meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to accept the minutes as prepared with the abstention as noted.

Public Comment:

Commissioner Erb called for public comment.

Carol A. Dannenberg (Hollidaysburg Resident) shared comments pertaining to Mental Health Month and her personal experience on the loss of her brother to suicide.

Yale Leslie (Sheriff's Deputy) stated the Sheriff's Office lost four-4 deputies within the last two-2 weeks stating his opinion on why the employees left were due to the low wage paid by the county to Sheriff Deputies.

Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Erb called for commissioner comments.

Commissioner Webster shared a few brief comments pertaining to Peace Officers Memorial Day that falls on May 15 each year to pay tribute to the brave local, state and federal peace officers who have died or been disabled in the line of duty.

Proclamation: Light It Up Green (Mental Health Month 2022)

Commissioner Erb read the following proclamation in recognition of Light It Up Green – Mental Health Month 2022 and motioned for adoption of the proclamation:

Mental Health Month 2022
“Light it up Green”

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, all Americans experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives; and

WHEREAS, prevention is an effective way to reduce the burden of mental health conditions; and

WHEREAS, there is a strong body of research that supports specific tools that all Americans can use to better handle challenges, and protect their health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, mental health conditions are real and prevalent in our nation; and

WHEREAS, with early and effective treatment, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, organization and citizen shares the burden of mental health problems and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts.

THEREFORE, the Blair County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim May 2022 as Mental Health Month in Blair County. We call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Blair County to commit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental health conditions.

***1 in 5 U.S. adults experience mental illness
1 in 20 U.S. adults experience serious mental illness
17% of youth, (6-17 years) experience a mental health***

Cindy James stated in observance of Mental Health Awareness Month, Blair County is encouraged to light businesses, homes and churches green during the month of May. She stated on Saturday, May 21, 2022 the Altoona Curve will be hosting the Richmond Flying Squirrels, and as part of Mental Health Awareness Month, the players will be taking the field in green pinstripe jerseys. The jerseys will contain the names of loved ones who died by suicide. The jerseys will be auctioned off via LiveSource. The Blair County Suicide Prevention Task Force, Blair County System of Care, and the American Foundation are sponsoring the event for Suicide Prevention.

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

**Consent Agenda:
Resolution #146-2022:**

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

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
05/03/22	220503WW	\$227,683.20
05/03/22	220503CY	\$2,250.00
05/03/22	220503SS	\$262,373.01

- b. Ratification of the following five-5 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
04/28/22	220428PR	\$375.00
04/28/22	220428HR	\$6,995.87
04/25/22	220425FS	\$3,565.61
04/25/22	220425SRF	\$1,659.71
04/21/22	220421HR	\$18,528.17

- c. **2022 Budget Transfer:** Legal fees received from McNees Wallace for the month of March 2022.

From	\$	To
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$810.00	81101-44080 Controller
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$2070.00	01101-44080 Commissioners
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$210.00	01101-44080 Commissioners
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$900.00	01105-44080 Human Resources
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$540.00	01103HW-44080 Public Works – Highway
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$363.27	01103HW-44080 Public Works – Highway
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$390.00	01101-44080 Commissioners
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$5700.00	01101-44080 Commissioners
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$540.00	01101-44080 Commissioners

- d. **Employment:** Deanna A. Cowfer, PT, Department Clerk, Assessment, \$11.03/hr., effective 04/25/22; Lynn A. Yeager, Per Diem, Custody Mediation Officer, Custody, \$165.00/per day, effective 04/30/22; Mark D. Hartkorn, FT, Maintenance Technician-Electrician, Building Maintenance, \$16.43/hr., effective 05/02/22; Valerie M. McAlkich, FT, Assessor 1, Assessment, \$14.08/hr., effective 05/02/22; Martin R. Sekerak, Jr., FT, Summer Employee, Public Works-Highway, \$10.00/hr., effective 05/02/22; Ellen M. Snowberger, FT, Social Services Aide 1, CYF, \$10.49/hr., effective 05/02/22; Luke Wirfel, FT, Summer Employee, Public Works-Highway, \$10.00/hr., effective 05/02/22; and Kathleen A. Grove, From, Temporary Department Assistant, Treasurer's Office, \$12.00/hr., To, PT, Treasurer Clerk, Treasurer's Office, \$11.58/hr., effective 05/02/22.
- e. **Resignations:** Robert J. Wagner, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.09/hr., effective 04/25/22; Deanna A. Cowfer, PT, Department Clerk, Assessment, \$11.03/hr., effective 04/26/22; Justin A. Shultz, FT, Deputy, Sheriff's Office, \$15.52/hr., effective 04/28/22; and Theresa A. Rupert, FT, Deputy Register of Wills & Recorder of Deeds, \$11.03/hr., effective 05/06/22.
- f. **End of Assignment:** Debra J. Appleby, PT, Temporary Department Assistant, Tax Claim, \$12.00/hr., effective 04/28/22.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution #146-2022.

**Staff Reports & Special Business
Department of Emergency Services:**

- i. Amy Myers requested approval for the submission of the Federal FY 2023-2025 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant Application (HMEP) to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), who serves as the grant administrator on behalf of the United States Department of Transportation, in the total amount of \$107,529.60 for the period of 10/01/22 through 09/30/25, for hazardous materials training and planning, that encompasses fifteen-15 proposed projects.

Ms. Myers stated that the application requests funds for fifteen (15) hazardous materials emergency preparedness planning and training projects; five (5) projects for each of the three grant years. She stated no

signatures are required at this time as the application is submitted electronically within the ESA/Sharepoint system and must be submitted no later than May 6, 2022.

Discussion followed.

- ii. Ms. Myers requested approval of a Professional Services Agreement by and between the County of Blair on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services and MCM Consulting Group, Inc. (MCM) for a Functional Exercise with a completion date of 12/31/22 through the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant (HMEP), in the total amount of \$12,419.25, with \$9,935.40 to be paid from the HMEP grant funds and \$2,483.85 to be paid from the Local Emergency Planning Committee Funds (LEPC).

Discussion followed.

- i. Amy Myers requested approval to rescind the Professional Services Agreement by and between the County of Blair on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services and MCM Consulting Group, Inc. (MCM) dated 08/12/21, for the countywide Hazardous Materials Transportation Incident EOC Functional Exercise with a completion date of 09/30/21, in the total amount of \$3,327.25, with \$2,661.80 to be paid from the HMEP grant funds and \$665.45 to be paid from the Local Emergency Planning Committee Funds (LEPC).
 - Amy Myers requested approval of a Professional Services Agreement by and between the County of Blair on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services and MCM Consulting Group, Inc. (MCM) for the countywide Hazardous Materials Transportation Incident EOC Functional Exercise with a completion date of 09/30/22, in the total amount of \$3,447.00, with \$2,757.60 to be paid from the HMEP grant funds and \$689.40 to be paid from the Local Emergency Planning Committee Funds (LEPC).

Ms. Myers stated the agreement dated 08/12/21 for the countywide Hazardous Materials Transportation Incident EOC Functional Exercise with a completion date of 09/30/21 needs to be rescinded and a new agreement for the exercise entered into. She stated the new agreement has a completion date of 09/30/22 and the total amount of the exercise did increase slightly from 2021 to 2022.

Discussion followed.

- ii. Amy Myers requested approval to rescind the Professional Services Agreement by and between the County of Blair on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services and MCM Consulting Group, Inc. (MCM) dated 08/12/21, for the countywide Hazardous Materials Transportation Incident Tabletop Exercise and Training Session with a completion date of 09/30/21, in the total amount of \$10,174.60, with \$8,139.68 to be paid from the HMEP grant funds and \$2,034.92 to be paid from the Local Emergency Planning Committee Funds (LEPC).
 - Amy Myers requested approval of a Professional Services Agreement by and between the County of Blair on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services and MCM Consulting Group, Inc. (MCM) for the countywide Hazardous Materials Transportation Incident Tabletop Exercise and Training Session with a completion date of 09/30/22, in the total amount of \$11,474.20, with \$9,179.36 to be paid from the HMEP grant funds and \$2,294.84 to be paid from the Local Emergency Planning Committee Funds (LEPC).

Ms. Myers stated the agreement dated 08/12/21 for the countywide Hazardous Materials Transportation Incident Tabletop Exercise and Training Session with a completion date of 09/30/21 needs to be rescinded and a new agreement for the exercise entered into. She stated the new agreement has a completion date of 09/30/22 and the total amount of the exercise did increase slightly from 2021 to 2022.

Discussion followed.

Register of Wills & Recorder of Deeds:

Anita Terchanik requested approval of a Software Support Maintenance Renewal Agreement between the County of Blair and Optical Storage Solutions, Inc., for twenty-one (21) full Landex Licenses for the Register of Wills/Recorder of Deeds Office, two (2) licenses for the Assessment Office; and one (1) Hot Site Hosting and Record Alert System, in the total amount of \$25,865.00, for the period of 05/01/22 through 04/30/23.

Mrs. Terchanik stated the total amount due of \$25,865.00 remained the same as last year. She stated the amount due is offset by the remote online access fee which generated a total of \$43,388.30 for the Register of Wills & Recorder of Deeds Office for 2021.

Discussion followed.

Elections/Voter Registration:

Sarah Seymour requested approval of an Agreement between the County of Blair on behalf of the Board of Elections and Election Systems & Software, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, for coding the 2022 Primary and General Election Ballot and twelve-12 days of onsite support, in the total amount of \$31,490.00.

Ms. Seymour stated Solicitor Karn reviewed the agreement.

Discussion followed.

Department of Social Services:

- i. Melissa Gillin requested approval of an allocation of Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP-2) High-Needs funds from the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHA), in the amount of \$329,965.72, for rental and utility assistance, and for the Center for Community Action to serve as the designated agency for processing the ERAP-2 applications through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's online COMPASS system and issuing payments.

Ms. Gillin stated the county received an allocation from DHS for the ERAP-2 High Needs Program for \$329,965.72. She stated funds are allocated for rental and utility assistance.

Ms. Gillin stated the Center for Community Action would be the agency designated to process the ERAP-2 applications through the commonwealth's online COMPASS system and for issuing payments.

Discussion followed.

- ii. Jim Hudack requested approval of an Affordable Housing Trust Fund Program Disbursement in the amount of \$3,000.00, for the purchase of property located at 423 Crawford Avenue, Altoona, PA by Geoffrey Sipe.

Mr. Hudack stated Mr. Sipe met all of the requirements of the First Time Home Buyer's Program. He requested a disbursement of \$3,000.00 for the purchase of property located at 423 Crawford Avenue, Altoona, PA.

Discussion followed.

- iii. Trina Illig requested approval for the submission of a request to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) to extend the FY 2016 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Contract #C000066602 from 10/17/22 to 04/30/23 to provide additional time to complete existing projects underway.

Mrs. Illig stated the program was impacted by labor shortages and material delays that affected the county's ability to complete activities within the contract timeframe of 10/18/17 through 10/17/22; therefore, a six-6 month extension is requested to complete the project underway.

Discussion followed.

- iv. Trina Illig requested approval of a quote received from Auto-Owners Insurance (Warren A. Gingrich Agency Inc.) for Builders' Risk Coverages, in the total annual amount of \$252.00, for the period of 05/01/22 through 05/01/23, for construction rehabilitation of the existing pavilion at Fort Roberdeau. Works includes ADA parking, pouring a cement floor and shingles, fascia repair and replacements.

Discussion followed.

Logan Township:

Nicole Hemminger requested approval of a Letter of Support for the submission of a Greenways, Trails and Recreation Grant Application to the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) by Logan Township, in the amount of \$250,000.00 for the construction of Phase 1 of an Outdoor Soccer Complex on the township owned Strawberry Hills property located in the Juniata section of the township.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated there is no financial obligation to the county associated with the grant request.

Discussion followed.

Old Business:

Adoption of Resolutions:

Resolution 145-2022: A Resolution Declaring A State Of Emergency With Respect To Blair County Bridge #69/Everett Road, Located In Freedom Township.

No action taken at this time.

Adjourn:

Meeting Adjourned,

Nicole M. Hemminger, Chief Clerk