

WORK SESSION: TUESDAY, MAY 10, 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 that those participating in the meeting stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call:

Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Paul Shaffer (Public Works - Highway), Rebecca Robinson (Purchasing), Amy Myers (EMA/911E), Rich Huether (Ag Land Preservation), Trish Haight (Frankstown Township Resident), Melissa Gillin (Social Services), Jessica Sorge (Hollidaysburg Ambulance Service), Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror), Sue St. Martin (Tax Claim), Jim Pooler (Public Works - Facilities), AC Stickel (Controller), Carol A Dannenberg and Bryan King (Hollidaysburg Community Watchdog), Lindsay Dempsie (Finance), Jim Crowder (First Energy), Allison Senkevich and Melissa Harpster (Commissioners Office).

Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday, May 10, 2022	7:00 p.m.	Blair County Airport Authority (Blair County Airport)
Wednesday, May 11, 2022		
Thursday, May 12, 2022	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Assessment Appeal Hearings (Conference Room 2B, 2 nd Fl.)
	10:00 a.m.	*Commissioners Business Session (Commissioners Meeting Room)
Friday, May 13, 2022	9:00 a.m.	Public Test of Election Equipment (Elections Office)
Monday, May 16, 2022		
Tuesday, May 17, 2022	10:00 a.m.	Commissioners Work Session (Cancelled)
Wednesday, May 18, 2022	10:00 a.m.	*Board of Assessment Appeals (Conference Room 2B, 2 nd Floor)
	2:30 p.m.	*Salary Board (Commissioners Meeting Room)
Thursday, May 19, 2022	8:30 a.m.	*Prison Board (Commissioners Meeting Room)
	10:00 a.m.	Commissioners Business Session (Cancelled)
	1:00 p.m.	Board of Elections (Provisional) (Elections Office)
	9:00 a.m.	Board of Elections (Canvassing of Returns) (Elections Office)
Monday, May 23, 2022		
Tuesday, May 24, 2022	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Assessment Appeal Hearings (Conference Room 2B, 2 nd Fl.)
	10:00 a.m.	*Commissioners Work Session (Commissioners Meeting Room)

Public Comment:

Commissioner Erb called for public comment.

Jim Crowder of Penelec/First Energy introduced himself to the Board as being the county’s new Penelec/First Energy Representative.

Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Erb called for commissioner comments.

Commissioner Burke extended congratulations to the CBRC Sapphire Team on their undefeated volleyball season.

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.

Consent Agenda:

Resolution 159-2022:

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

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
05/10/22	220510ww	\$105,798.83
05/10/22	220510ss	\$125,584.77
05/10/22	220510cy	\$23,513.85
05/10/22	220510co	\$29,412.40

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

05/02/2022	220502FS	\$3,916.09
05/03/2022	220503RF	\$3,197.68
05/03/2022	220503WC	\$13,207.14
05/02/2022	220502FN	\$117,016.69
05/02/2022	220501HI	\$574,347.22

- c. Ratification of Total Payroll for the Check Dated 05/05/22, in the total amount of \$827,865.79.
d. **2022 Budget Transfer:** Fees from Justifacts for the month of March 2022.

<u>From</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>To</u>
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$210.56	01107-42000 Assessment
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$117.28	01160-42000 Court Administration
01110GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$65.25	01160CO-42000 Custody
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$132.28	013201-42000 CYF
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$65.75	013202-42000 CYF Annex
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$128.50	01158-42000 District Attorney
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$105.28	01103BM-42000 Public Works – Facilities
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$105.28	01103CS-42000 Public Works – Facilities
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$120.28	01103HW-42000 Public Works – Highway
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$231.82	01209PO-42000 Prison
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$105.28	01153-42000 Prothonotary
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$165.23	01109-42000 Treasurer
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$105.28	01164711-42000 Victim Witness
01101GCO-42250 General County Operations	\$23.74	01105-42250 Human Resources

- e. **Use of Courthouse Courtyard:** Requesting approval for use of the Courthouse Courtyard by Ryan Hollingsworth, Altoona, PA resident to conduct a rally entitled, “Educate your Neighbor” on Friday, May 13, 2022 from 12 noon to 2 pm.
f. **Employment:** Robert A. Boston, Temporary Laborer, Public Works-Highway, \$14.42/hr., effective 05/09/22; Michael S. Crawford, FT, Maintenance Technician-Truck Driver, Public Works-Highway, \$16.43/hr., effective 05/09/22; Destiny R. Harr, FT, Caseworker I, CYF, \$31,317.00/yr., effective 05/09/22; Noah Plan, Temporary, Seasonal Tour Guide, Fort Roberdeau, \$10.00/hr., effective 05/09/22 and Daniel A. Mielnik, FT, Auto Mechanic, Public Works-Highway, \$17.20/hr., effective 05/09/22.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 159-2022.

Staff Reports & Special Business:

Farmland Preservation:

Rich Huether requested approval of a proposal of service contract between the County of Blair and Keller Engineers for surveying the Leonard Burket Estate Home Farm easement area, located in Huston Township, Blair County, in the lump sum total of \$4,600.00.

Mr. Huether stated in order to complete an easement purchase through the county/state program, a survey of the proposed easement area is necessary. He stated funds are available for the survey in the Farmland Preservation Reserve Account (039).

Mr. Huether stated the Burket easement would add approximately 126 acres to the county’s easement program.

Discussion followed.

Social Services:

Melissa Gillin requested approval of an Affordable Housing Trust Fund Program Disbursement, in the total amount of \$3,000.00, for the purchase of property at 2813 Oak Avenue, Altoona, PA by Tolulope Oluwade.

Ms. Gillin stated that Ms. Oluwade has met all of the requirements of the First Time Home Buyer’s Program and the disbursement falls within the guidelines of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, First Time Home Buyer’s Program.

Discussion followed.

Department of Emergency Services:

Amy Myers requested approval of a Training Membership Program Contract between the County of Blair, Emergency Management Agency and Bucks County Community College, Department of Public Safety Training and Certification, in an amount not to exceed \$1,200.00, for 200 teaching hours of required training to EMA, 911 and county employees, as well as local emergency coordinators, police, fire, EMS and volunteers for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. The Hazardous Materials Response Fund Grant (HMRF) will pay said contract.

Ms. Myers stated the membership would provide 200 teaching hours of required training for EMA, 911 and county employees, local emergency coordinators, police, fire, EMS and other stakeholders who require emergency preparedness and hazardous materials training.

Ms. Myers stated the contract amount is the same as prior years and is fully reimbursable through the HMRF grant.

Discussion followed.

Tax Claim:

Sue St. Martin requested approval of two-2 Facility Event Agreements between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Tax Claim Bureau and the Blair County Convention Center for 1) the use of Ballroom 3, to conduct the Judicial Tax Sale on June 15, 2022, at the rate of \$500.00; and 2) the use of Exhibit Hall F-H, to conduct the 2022 Upset Sale on September 21, 2022, at the rate of \$500.00.

Ms. St. Martin stated three-3 quotes were received with the Blair County Convention Center providing the lowest rate. She stated the center is free of obstructions and is large enough to accommodate the anticipated number of attendees.

Discussion followed.

Parking Garage:

Nicole Hemminger requested approval for the acceptance of bids received for the Blair County Parking Garage Stair Tower Project for review, award or rejection according to County Code thereafter.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that eight-8 contractors were plan holders for the Blair County Parking Garage Stair Tower Project. She stated the following two-2 bids were received and opened on Friday, May 6, 2022 at 1 pm:

Ralph J. Albarano & Sons
873 Old Route 22 Duncansville PA 16635
814-695-9883
Bid Bond Received
Base Bid Amount \$600,000.00 (Apparent Low Bid)

BCS Construction
1818 Union Ave
Altoona PA 16601
814-942-8443
Bid Bond Received
Base Bid Amount \$641,175.00

Chief Clerk Hemminger requested that the board consider accepting the bids received for review, award or rejection according to County Code thereafter.

Discussion followed.

Resolution 160-2022: A resolution approving the acceptance of the following two-2 bids received for the Blair County Parking Garage Stair Tower Project for review, award or rejection according to County Code thereafter:

Ralph J. Albarano & Sons
873 Old Route 22 Duncansville PA 16635
814-695-9883
Bid Bond Received
Base Bid Amount \$600,000.00 (Apparent Low Bid)

BCS Construction
1818 Union Ave
Altoona PA 16601
814-942-8443
Bid Bond Received
Base Bid Amount \$641,175.00

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 160-2022.

Prison Facility Security Upgrade Project:

Chief Clerk Hemminger and Solicitor Karn presented discussion concerning the award or rejection of bids received for the Prison Facility Security Upgrade Project in accordance with the County Code.

One-1 bidder asked if they could substitute software component, which architect Kimball allowed. Second-2 bidder was not allowed substitution. Second bidder is challenging due to being treated differently.

Solicitor Karn recommends rejecting the bids in accordance with the County Code due to this architecture error in acceptance of substitutions.

Discussion followed.

Resolution 161-2022: A resolution approving the rejection of bids received (see attached) for the Prison Facility Security Upgrade Project in accordance with the county code.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 161-2022.

Park and Recreation Advisory Board:

- a. Paul Shaffer requested approval for Keller Engineers and the Blair County Conservation District to prepare a General Permit for the replacement of a small pedestrian bridge at Valley View Park.

Mr. Shaffer stated that the small pedestrian bridge just north of the amphitheater is in bad structural shape and needs to be replaced. He stated the desire of the Advisory Board is to construct a new bridge approximately 15 feet beyond the current bridge location. The new bridge will also allow the park groundskeeper's lawn mower access to the other side of the stream to mow.

Discussion followed.

- b. Paul Shaffer requested approval to solicit quotes for the removal of trees and their stumps identified as hazardous at Valley View Park.

Mr. Shaffer stated that the Advisory Board recently obtained authorization from the Park and Recreation Board to solicit quotes for the removal of three-3 trees identified as hazardous by Tom Ford. He stated in addition to the three-3 trees previously identified by Mr. Ford, there are at least 10 to 12 additional trees near the amphitheater that also need to be removed.

Mr. Shaffer requested authorization to solicit quotes for the removal of the additional trees and their stumps.

Mr. Shaffer stated that he, Joe Keller (Keller Engineers), and Donna Fisher (Conservation District) are to meet with Mandy Burgoon, the Blair County DCNR Forester representative on Monday, 05/16/22 at 9 am at Valley View Park to discuss a tree management plan for removal of dead trees within the park.

Discussion followed.

Old Business:

None

Adjourn:

Meeting Adjourned,

Nicole M. Hemminger, Chief Clerk