

WORK SESSION: TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 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 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 Solicitor Karn.

Others Present:

Rebecca Robinson (Purchasing), Cris Fredrickson (EMA/911E), Jennifer Knisely, Heather Lindsfold and Jessica Ford Cameron (Blair County Library System), Janet Eldred (Hollidaysburg Library), Ryan Hollingsworth (Activist), Carol D. Dannenberg and Bryan King (Hollidaysburg Community Watchdog Group), Ashley Gay Vocco, Sarah Ross, Troy Schwarze, Sarah Carper, Cheryl Gonsman, Colleen Lingafelt, Becky Claar, Claire Wherthey, and Jeff Lingafelt (Family Services Inc.), AC Stickel (Controller), Glenn Nelson (Fort Roberdeau), Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror), Judy Rosser (Drug & Alcohol), Allison Senkevich and Melissa Harpster (Commissioners Office).

Upcoming Meetings:

Wednesday, April 6, 2022	9:00 a.m.	*Retirement Board (Commissioners Mtg. Room)
	10:30 a.m.	*Salary Board (Commissioners Mtg. Room)
Thursday, April 7, 2022	8:30 a.m.	*Park & Recreation Advisory Bd. (Commissioners Mtg. Room)
	10:00 a.m.	*Commissioners Business Session (Commissioners Mtg. Room)
	11:30 a.m.	Social Services Advisory Board (Blair HealthChoices)
	6:30 p.m.	Fort Roberdeau Association (White Oak Hall at the Fort)
Friday, April 8, 2022		
Monday, April 11, 2022		
Tuesday, April 12, 2022	10:00 a.m.	*Commissioners Work Session (Commissioners Mtg. Room)
	7:00 p.m.	Airport Authority Mtg. (Blair County Airport)

Approval of Meeting Minutes – 03/24/22, 03/29/22 and 03/31/22

Commissioner Erb called for corrections or changes to the meeting minutes of 03/24/22. There were no corrections of changes noted.

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

Commissioner Erb stated the minutes from the meetings of 03/29/22 and 03/31/22 are pending commissioner review. **No action taken.**

Executive Session Announcement:

Chief Clerk Hemminger announced that she, the three-3 Commissioners and HR Director, Katherine Swigart met in Executive Session beginning at 4:45 p.m. on Monday, 04/04/22 to interview for one-1 open position.

Request to Amend the Agenda:

Commissioner Erb requested to amend the agenda to add the National Library Week Proclamation.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to amend the agenda for the addition of the National Library Week Proclamation.

Commissioner Erb called for public comment on the amendment to the agenda. **There were no comments noted.**

Public Comment:

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

Commissioners Comments:

Commissioner Erb called for commissioner comments.

Commissioner Webster – no comments noted.

Commissioner Burke – no comments noted.

Commissioner Erb – no comments noted.

Proclamation – Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month

Commissioner Webster read the following proclamation proclaiming April 2022 as Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month in Blair County:

**Proclamation
County of Blair**

WHEREAS, the month of April 2022 recognized as “Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month”, and the initiative sponsored by Pennsylvania 811, a utility notification information center celebrating its 50th year of continuous service to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania 811 received close to 1,050,000 excavation notifications in 2021, and transmitted approximately 6.7 million notifications to their member facility owners and operators allowing essential utility and construction crews to provide vital underground services and repair of critical infrastructure to communities throughout Pennsylvania, and

WHEREAS, when dialing 811, at least three business days before digging, a homeowner or a contractor is connected to a unique service that notifies the appropriate underground utility operators in the municipality in which the work will be performed, and

WHEREAS, by notifying 811 of their intent to dig, the homeowner or contractor is knowingly helping to protect the underground utilities, themselves, the work crew, and their neighbors from any unsafe digging practices within their community, and

WHEREAS, upon receiving the notification from Pennsylvania 811, the facility owners and operators disperse to the said work site to mark the approximate location of their underground utility lines with flags, paint, or both, to establish an eighteen-inch tolerance zone of the outside wall or edge of their line or facility, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that We, the Blair County Board of Commissioners, in support of the Pennsylvania Underground Utility Line Protection Law, PA Act 287 of 1974, as amended, do hereby proclaim April 2022 as “Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month”, and encourage all Pennsylvanians to visit the Pennsylvania 811 website at www.paonecall.org for information about digging safely.

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

Proclamation – Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Commissioner Burke read the following proclamation proclaiming April 2022 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Blair County:

**Proclamation
County of Blair**

WHEREAS, sexual assault is an intolerable violent crime with public health implications for every person in Blair County regardless of the age, gender expression, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion, disability, or socio-economic status of a victim, family member, or significant other of a victim; and

WHEREAS, no one person, organization, agency or community can eliminate sexual assault on their own—we must work together to educate our entire population about what can be done to prevent sexual assault, support victims and their significant others, and increase support for agencies providing services to victims; and

WHEREAS, the Victim Services Program of Family Services Incorporated has led the way in Blair County in addressing sexual assault despite the Covid-19 Pandemic by continuing services unchanged including 24-hour hotline services to victims and their significant others, offering support and comfort to those impacted by sexual assault during criminal proceedings, and empowering those impacted by sexual assault to begin the healing process; and

WHEREAS, ending sexual assault in Blair County must include active public and private efforts, including conversation about what sexual violence is, how to prevent it, how to help survivors connect with crucial counseling and other support services, and how every segment of our society can work together to better address sexual violence; and

WHEREAS, the Victim Services Program has worked to build collaborative relationships between various agencies and organizations to improve the quality of service for those most profoundly and directly impacted by sexual violence, thus setting an important example for how the rest of the community might work together to speak out and find solutions to sexual violence;

WHEREAS, the Victim Services Program requests public support and assistance as it continues its effort to bring real hope for freeing Blair County from the tragedy of sexual violence to create a future where all women, men and children can live free from violence and exploitation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Blair County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2022 as **SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH** and commend this observance to all citizens.

DULY, adopted by the Commissioners of the County of Blair, Pennsylvania this 5th Day of April 2022.

Ms. Vocco announced several events to be held throughout the month of April in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month including a wear teal day, and a Lunch and Learn “Real Talk” to be held on April 29 at the American Legion Hall in Hollidaysburg, PA. Registration for the Lunch and Learn can be made online at familyservicesinc.net. She expressed a thank you to the commissioner’s for adoption of the Proclamation.

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

Proclamation – National Library Week

Commissioner Erb read the following proclamation proclaiming April 3-9 as National Library Week in Blair County:

**National Library Week 2022
Proclamation**

WHEREAS, libraries are more than book repositories, demonstrating the breadth and depth of all they offer to their communities, with opportunities for community engagement, learning and growth while delivering new services which more closely connect to residents and their needs;

WHEREAS, libraries throughout Pennsylvania have consistently served as valued and needed institutions, and library staffs and volunteers strengthen these centers by fueling their efforts to enhance the surrounding community;

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Library Association is the state's oldest and most diverse professional library organization serving libraries, library employees, library trustees, and Friends of the Library groups working to heighten awareness of the various tools and resources, such as STEM programming, workforce development and life planning tips libraries offer;

WHEREAS, collectively we recognize librarians as information professionals who provide expertise, services and guidance for patrons to access credible sources and material, making their own informed decisions about the worlds they navigate;

WHEREAS, librarians level the playing field for anyone who seeks information and access to technologies, particularly as society continues to transition the way in which information is shared and explored in the online world;

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Library Association's PA Forward initiative provides a collective voice for the state's libraries to tell their own stories, building capacity for the work they do with and for patrons through five literacies – Basic, Information, Civic and Social, Health and Financial – underscoring the importance of lifelong learning;

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania libraries support democracy and effect social change through their commitment to providing equitable access to information for all library users regardless of race, ethnicity, creed, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity or socio-economic status;

WHEREAS, April 5 is National Library Workers Day, a day for all library staff, volunteers and supporters to highlight the immeasurable contributions made by libraries; April 6 is National Library Outreach Day, a day recognizing the importance of libraries being available beyond their physical structure; and April 7 is Take Action for Libraries Day, a day which encourages everyone to recognize how libraries enhance communities and quality of life;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that We, the Blair County Board of Commissioners proclaim National Library Week, April 3-9, 2022 in Blair County, Pennsylvania. Residents are encouraged to visit their local libraries this week and beyond, exploring all that libraries have to offer, realizing that literacy is power and that libraries provide the fuel to move Pennsylvania forward.

Jennifer Knisley and Heather Lindskold of the Blair County Library System extended thanks and appreciation to the Board of Commissioners for their ongoing support of the Library System and for issuing the proclamation.

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

Consent Agenda:
Resolution #122-2022:

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

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
04/05/22	220405WW	\$124,660.78
04/05/22	220405CO	\$36,262.16
04/05/22	220405SS	\$360,809.81

- b. Ratification of the following eight-8 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
04/01/2022	220401RF	\$135.02
04/01/2022	220401HI	\$535,810.24
04/01/2022	220401WT	\$154,400.00
04/01/2022	220401FN	\$117,016.69
04/01/2022	220401WC	\$6,250.00
03/29/2022	220329MW	\$1,056.67
03/28/2022	220328FS	\$2,799.25
03/31/2022	220331HR	\$5,563.11

- c. **2022 Budget Transfer:** For replacement of two basement doors at the 911 Center.

From	\$	To
01101GCO-41999 Contingency	\$20,000.00	44122-44840 911/EMA Building Maintenance

- d. **2022 Budget Transfer:** County's half of arbitration costs for a labor matter.

From	\$	To
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$3,387.00	01103HW-44080 Highway

- e. **Employment:** Michelle McGowan, PT, Department Clerk I, Assessment, \$11.03/hr., withdrew acceptance of employment, effective 03/14/22; Sarah T. Chuff, PT, Temporary Department Assistant, Finance, \$27.59/hr., effective 04/01/22; Hunter M. Evans, Per Diem, Fill-In, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$15.08/hr., effective 04/04/22 and Connie A. Hartman, PT, Tipstaff, Court Administration, \$11.58/hr., effective 04/04/22.

- f. **Resignations:** David G. Carey, FT, Caseworker I, CYF, \$32,560.06/yr., effective 04/08/22.

- g. **Retirements:** Karen S. Snyder, FT, District Court Administrative Support, MDJ Blattenberger, \$21,840.00/yr., effective 04/08/22.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution #122-2022.

Staff Reports & Special Business:

Department of Emergency Services:

Cris Fredrickson requested approval of a quote received from Frontier Precision for the FieldSeeker Windows ULV Adulticiding Office User and Mobile Device User Annual Support and Maintenance Agreement, in the total amount of \$526.63, for the period of 04/01/22 through 12/31/22. Total amount is reimbursable through the Mosquito-borne Disease Control (MBDC) Grant Program.

Mrs. Fredrickson stated that the device tracks mapping for mosquito spray events. The expense is reimbursable through the Mosquito-borne Disease Control Grant Program.

Discussion followed.

Fort Roberdeau:

Glenn Nelson requested approval of two ¼ page four-color advertisements in the summer and fall 2022 issues of the Where & When Pennsylvania Travel Guide, for the amount of \$628.00 per ad, with the total cost of \$1,256.00 paid from the Fort Roberdeau general fund marketing budget.

Mr. Nelson stated that the travel guide encompasses the Lancaster, PA area. He stated that Solicitor Karn has reviewed the agreements.

Discussion followed.

Prison:

Nicole Hemminger requested approval of a proposal received from McCarl's Preferred Services (MPS) for the installation of a flo-control valve and gasket to the boiler to repair the hot water flow to the washers in the prison's laundry, in the total amount of \$1,202.00.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that due to the ever-rising cost of material this quote is only good for seven-7 days. She asked that the board consider accepting the proposal today due to the nature of the repair and the timing associated with the proposal.

Discussion followed.

Resolution #123-2022: A resolution approving a proposal received from McCarl's Preferred Services (MPS) for the installation of a flo-control valve and gasket to the boiler to repair the hot water flow to the washers in the prison's laundry, in the total amount of \$1,202.00.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution #123-2022.

Old Business:

None

Adjourn:

Meeting Adjourned,

Nicole M. Hemminger, Chief Clerk