

**SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA
BLAIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2020, 4:00 P.M.
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE**

**BLAIR CARES SMALL BUSINESS, TOURISM, NONPROFITS, AND
GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES APPLICATION APPROVAL AND BROADBAND
DEPLOYMENT GRANT PROGRAM APPROVAL**

To participate please call: 1408-419-1715; Meeting ID number 2468097683#

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **PURPOSE OF TODAY'S SPECIAL MEETING**
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
5. **Overview and discussion regarding**
 - a. **The Blair Cares Small Business, Tourism and Nonprofit Grant**
 - b. **The Governmental Entities Reimbursable Grant**
 - c. **The Broadband Deployment Grant Program**
6. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**
7. **Requesting approval of documents relating to the Blair CARES Small Business, Tourism and Nonprofit Grant**
 - a. **Frequently Asked Questions**
 - b. **Blair CARES Small Business, Tourism and Nonprofit Grant Application**
 - c. **Certification Form**
8. **Requesting approval of documents relating to the Governmental Entities Reimbursable Grant**
 - a. **Frequently Asked Questions**
 - b. **Governmental Recipient Agreement**
9. **Requesting approval of the Broadband Deployment Grant Program**
10. **ADJOURN**

SPECIAL MEETING: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2020, 4:00 P.M.:

Location: Participation by telephone conference only.

Public meetings are being held by conference call while the county is under the Governor's Green Phase of reopening. 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.

Roll Call:

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Solicitor Karn.

Others Present:

Scott Simmons and Melissa Harpster (Commissioners Office), Jennifer Sleppy and Sarah Chuff (Finance), and twenty-seven members of the public.

Public Comment:

Commissioner Erb called for public comment.

There was one-1 written document containing public comment. This written document will become part of the permanent meeting minute record. **There were no other comments noted.**

Overview and discussion regarding:

a. The Blair CARES Small Business, Tourism and Nonprofit Grant

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that the Board of Commissioners have allocated a minimum of \$1,200,000.00 to the Blair CARES Small Business, Tourism, and Nonprofit Support Grant Program. She stated that funding would be available to small businesses, local tourism and nonprofits that have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that the grant eligibility requirements and frequently asked questions would be made available on the county website www.blairco.org. She stated that round one-1 will be competitive funding and that there is no application fee in order to apply.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that beginning Monday, August 31 at 8 a.m. businesses and nonprofits could begin to submit applications electronically to blaircares@blairco.org and that application submissions will be accepted up to 4 pm on Friday, September 11. Applications submitted after this date and time will not be accepted.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that the eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Small businesses and Section 501c (3) or 501c (19) nonprofit entity under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.
- Applicant was and/or is negatively impacted by COVID-19, including loss of revenue and other eligible business interruption losses.
- Applicants must have less than 100 employees to be considered, unless engaged in the tourism industry.
- Applications must be a for-profit business or eligible nonprofit headquartered and operated within Blair County.
- Applicants that received funds from any other source under the CARES Act including but not limited to funds received under the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) or the Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program (EIDL) are eligible to receive funds under this program, however, priority will be given to applicants that did not receive such funds.

b. The Governmental Entities Reimbursable Grant

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that the Board of Commissioners has allocated a minimum of \$800,000.00 for local municipalities with eligible expenses under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act. She stated that funding eligibility requirements and frequently asked questions will be distributed directly to local municipalities and that there is no application fee in order to apply.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that on Monday, August 31 the frequently asked questions and grant certification form would be sent directly to local municipalities. She stated that the county will hold an education session on eligible expenses and funding guidelines at 4 pm on Wednesday, September 2, 2020 via telephone conference and that submission details will be released at that time.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that the deadline for submission of funding requests and supporting documents would be 4 pm on Friday, September 18.

c. The Broadband Deployment Grant Program

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that the Broadband Deployment Grant Program will be an open online application and that the details of the grant program will be sent directly to broadband service providers.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Erb called for commissioner comments.

Commissioner Burke asked Chief Clerk Hemminger for clarification pertaining to the eligibility requirements section regarding the statement that applicants must be a for-profit business or eligible nonprofit headquartered and operated in Blair County.

Chief Clerk Hemminger responded to Commissioner Burke's question stating it was not necessary to be headquartered "AND" operated I Blair County. That the sentence should read "Headquartered or operated in Blair County".

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Erb strongly encouraged all entities to review the grant program eligibility requirements and guidelines and to take advantage of applying for funding.

Chief Clerk Hemminger requested approval of the following documents relating to the Blair CARES Small Business, Tourism and Nonprofit Grant:

- a. Frequently Asked Questions
- b. Blair CARES Small Business, Tourism and Nonprofit Grant Application
- c. Certification Form

Resolution 347-2020: A resolution approving the following documents relating to the Blair CARES Small Business, Tourism and Nonprofit Grant:

- a. Frequently Asked Questions
- b. Blair CARES Small Business, Tourism and Nonprofit Grant Application
- c. Certification Form

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 347-2020.

Chief Clerk requested approval of the following documents relating to the Governmental Entities Reimbursable Grant:

- a. Frequently Asked Questions
- b. Governmental Recipient Agreement

Resolution 348-2020: A resolution approving the following documents relating to the Governmental Entities Reimbursable Grant:

- a. Frequently Asked Questions
- b. Governmental Recipient Agreement

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 348-2020.

Chief Clerk Hemminger requested approval of the Broadband Deployment Grant Program.

Resolution 349-2020: A resolution approving the Broadband Deployment Grant Program.

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 349-2020.

Adjourn:

Meeting Adjourned,

Nicole M. Hemminger, Chief Clerk