

**AGENDA
BUSINESS SESSION
BLAIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC MEETING ROOM, BLAIR COUNTY COURTHOUSE
TUESDAY, MAY 29, 2018, 10:00 A.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MAY 22, 2018

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

6. UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Wednesday, May 30, 2018

Thursday, May 31, 2018 6:00 pm Commissioners Outreach Meeting
(Hollidaysburg Public Library)

Friday, June 1, 2018

Monday, June 4, 2018

Tuesday, June 5, 2018 10:00 a.m. Commissioners Work Session
(Commissioners Meeting Room, Basement)

Wednesday, June 6, 2018

Thursday, June 7, 2018 8:30 a.m. Park and Recreation Advisory Board
(Pavilion 2, Valley View Park)
6:30 p.m. Fort Roberdeau Association Meeting
(White Oak Hall, Fort Roberdeau)

Friday, June 8, 2018

Monday, June 11, 2018 6:00 p.m. Blair County Airport Authority
(Blair County Airport)

Tuesday, June 12, 2018 10:00 a.m. Commissioners Business Session
(Commissioners Meeting Room, Basement)

7. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

8. PROCLAMATION

Celebrating the Bicentennial of the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania

9. ANNOUNCEMENT

Blair Senior Services Transportation

10. CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution 197-2018:

a. Payment of two (2) Warrant Lists dated May 25, 2018, in the amounts of \$446,851.66 and \$645,657.70, which includes payment of the following invoices:

- 2017 Project Fund/Bond/Elevator Modernization Project: Payment of invoice #17-175-03 from JPT Architects, in the amount of \$1,502.50.
- 2017 Project Fund/ Bond/Lawyers Lobby Project: Payment of invoice #1 in the amount of \$13,243.50 and invoice #2 in the amount of \$8,010.00 from Bettwy Electric, Inc.; Payment of invoice #4 in the amount of \$28,183.75 from Albert Michaels Conservation, Inc.

b. Payment of a Preliminary Check Writing Report dated May 23, 2018, in the amount of \$47,910.24, which includes payment of the following invoices:

- Five (5) checks made payable to UPMC for the following amounts: \$409.28, \$40,793.75, \$381.23, \$51.99, and \$5,024.75.

c. Ratification of Payroll for the Period Ending May 25, 2018, in the amount of \$736,573.44.

d. **Budget Transfer**: This transfer covers the invoice dated 5/18/18 from McNeese, Wallace, and Nurick LLC for Legal Fees originally budgeted in HR, being transferred to the appropriate department.

<u>From</u>	<u>\$\$</u>	<u>To</u>
01105-44080 Human Resources	\$49.00	01101-44080 – Commissioners
01105-44080 Human Resources	\$49.00	01103HW-44080 – Highway
01105-44080 Human Resources	\$240.50	01112-44080 – Controller

e. **District Attorney's Office**: Requesting approval of one (1) Penn Highlands Community College Student Intern, Zachary Rumberger, for the period of 8/27/18 through 12/7/18. Internship is for credit only and at no cost to the county.

f. **Employment**: Andrew Burlingame, Volunteer, Fort Roberdeau, effective 5/29/18; Gordon Carpenter, Volunteer, Public Defender, effective 5/29/18; Ian Luther, Seasonal, Highway, \$10.00/hr., effective 5/29/18; Marina Bennetti, FT, Administrative Assistant, Public Defender, \$16,598.40/yr., effective 5/29/18; Gail Keller, Temporary, MDJ DeAntonio, \$9.00/hr., effective 5/29/18; David Weber from Deputy, Sheriff, \$13.74/hr. to Corporal, Sheriff, \$14.24/hr., effective

5/21/18; Richard Peo from Corporal, Sheriff, \$15.09/hr. to Sergeant, Sheriff, \$15.59/hr., effective 5/11/18.

- g. **Resignations:** Brett Landry, FT, Correction Officer, Prison, \$19.54/hr., effective 5/21/18; Donald Craig, PT, Deputy, Sheriff, \$11.51/hr., effective 5/25/18.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Adoption of Resolutions:

Resolution 198-2018: A resolution approving a FFY 2017/2018 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant Agreement (HMEP) between the County of Blair and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), who serves as grant administrator on behalf of the United States Department of Transportation, in the amount of \$31,832.00, effective 10/01/17 through 09/30/19, for the transportation of hazardous materials planning and training activities.

Resolution 199-2018: A resolution approving a renewal maintenance contract between the County of Blair, Department of Emergency Services, 911E, and SBM Electronics for support and maintenance of the Audiolog Voice Recorder, in the amount of \$15,339.80 for the period of 05/31/18 through 05/30/19.

Resolution 200-2018: A resolution approving to revise the Blair 911 Steering Committee and to revise the number of members and the number for a quorum.

Resolution 201-2018: A resolution approving a proposal received from Banyan Contracting, Inc., in the amount of \$2,375.00 (50% due to begin and 50% due at completion), to support and stabilize the Pennsylvania Barn Corn Crib. Project will be paid for by the Fort Roberdeau Association.

Resolution 202-2018: A resolution approving the purchase of twelve (12) picnic tables from Yocca Business Systems, in the total amount of \$8,025.90, including freight delivery, for placement on Fort Roberdeau grounds. Purchase will be paid for by the Fort Roberdeau Association from donations received from the local Loyal Order of Moose, Altoona Family Center #74 and Huntingdon Lodge #223.

Resolution 203-2018: A resolution approving to amend the previously approved Sub-Recipient Agreement (Resolution 217-2017) between the County of Blair and the County of Blair Redevelopment and Housing Authority (COBRAH) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program as follows:

- FY 2015 (Contract C000064337 – Increase existing activity for the Housing Rehabilitation: Owner Occupied Residential within the Township of Antis from \$7,000.00 to \$42,007.58.

Resolution 204-2018: A resolution approving to enter into a Sub-Recipient Agreement between the County of Blair and the following:

- The County of Blair Redevelopment and Housing Authorities (COBRAH) under Blair Township's FY 2015 Community Development Block Grant Funds, in the amount of \$70,170.00.
- The County of Blair Redevelopment and Housing Authorities (COBRAH) under Frankstown Township's FY 2015 Community Development Block Grant Funds, in the amount of \$62,235.00.
- The County of Blair Redevelopment and Housing Authorities (COBRAH) under Tyrone Borough's FY 2015 Community Development Block Grant Funds, in the amount of \$66,549.00.

12. OLD BUSINESS

Assessment Office:

Discussion concerning SB 1006. Amending the Consolidated County Assessment Law to further provide for building permits.

13. NEW BUSINESS

Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Corporation (SAP&DC):

Requesting approval of a Letter of Support for the submission of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) annual update to the Economic Development Administration (EDA).

Social Services:

Requesting acceptance of two (2) Grant Awards from the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) for Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement Fund for \$40,000 for the Rental Assistance Program and \$150,000 for the Water and Sewer Program.

Letter of Support:

Ratification of the signing of a Letter of Support to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency for the support of a proposal under Category 3 for the Department of Justice, Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program.

14. ADJOURN

BUSINESS SESSION: TUESDAY, MAY 29, 2018, 10:00 A.M.:

Location: Commissioners Meeting Room, Basement, New Addition.

Members Present: Commissioner Erb, Commissioner Tomassetti, Commissioner Beam, County Administrator Schmitt and Assistant Solicitor Muriceak.

Members Absent: Solicitor Karn.

Others Present: Dennis Wisor (Blair Senior Services), Gary Bechtel, Joe Koehle John Kasun, Nita Sanders, Mike Sanders, Christopher Creek, and Rhonda Holland (Citizens), Rep. John McGinnis (79th District), Jenn Sleppy and Sarah Chuff (Finance), DeAnna Heichel (Assessment), James Ott (Sheriff), Trina Illig (Social Services), Melissa Harpster and Nicole Hemminger (Commissioners Office).

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 all present stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MAY 22, 2018:

Commissioner Erb called for corrections or changes to the meeting minutes of May 22, 2018. **There were no corrections or changes noted.**

Motion by Commissioner Beam, seconded by Commissioner Tomassetti and unanimously approved to accept the minutes as prepared.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commissioner Erb called for public comment.

Mr. Joe Koehle, an Altoona resident, stated his concerns regarding the proposed Senate Bill 1006. He stated that he thought building permits were to make certain that repairs and improvements completed to a property were completed according to required codes however, he feels they are being used as an enforcement measure for the county. Mr. Koehle feels that basic maintenance and repairs to maintain the existing property value should not be considered a taxable item. However, for a project such as building a garage or other structure he has no problem paying taxes.

Mr. John Kasun, an Allegheny Township resident, stated that he and other concerned citizens understand that Senate Bill 1006 is not the issue and understand that the unclear, existing law only came to light because the proposed Senate Bill 1006 was introduced keeping intact the unclear language. He stated that he would like to see the unclear sections of the law repealed or addressed to be clearer.

Rep. John McGinnis, 79th District, stated that he is trying to enact an amendment to clean up the language in the existing law and asked for the commissioner's help to get the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) to support the proposed amendment. He stated that there is a possibility that the \$2,500.00, increase in value figure will be raised to \$4,000.00. He is proposing an escalation clause be added as well.

Rep. McGinnis stated that proposed Senate Bill 1006 is about uniformity and fairness. The bill will help to address situations where municipalities aren't submitting building permits to the Assessment Offices in a timely manner.

Ms. Rhonda Holland, a Tyrone Borough resident, and President of the Blair County Tea Party, stated that the Tea Party just held a meeting on proposed Senate Bill 1006. One of the questions she has been asked since the meeting is if something is considered an improvement and is taxable are property owner's going to get depreciation on that improvement?

Mr. Christopher Creek, Antis Township resident, stated his primary concern is on who interprets and decides what is considered a substantial improvement? He stated that the term substantial improvement is not defined. Who determines what constitutes an increase in value of more than \$2,500.00? Who makes the determination of what steps are necessary to follow if no building permit is required?

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COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Erb called for commissioners comments.

Commissioner Beam stated that this past Friday, Commissioner Erb, County Administrator Schmitt and he had the opportunity to visit Fort Roberdeau and observe a school field trip to the Fort. Commissioner Beam commended Mr. Nelson and the Fort staff members on running an outstanding program for school students.

Commissioner Tomassetti requested that following the proclamation, announcement and consent agenda that Old Business be presented prior to Unfinished Business.

PROCLAMATION

Celebrating the Bicentennial of the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Commissioner Tomassetti read the following Proclamation:

**PROCLAMATION
CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL
OF
THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF
PENNSYLVANIA**

WHEREAS, the Judiciary Act of 1789, adopted on September 24, 1789 in the first session of the First United States Congress, established the federal judiciary of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Western District of Pennsylvania was established by the Act of April 20, 1818, which divided the commonwealth of Pennsylvania into two judicial districts, with the Western District consisting of the counties of Fayette, Greene, Washington, Allegheny, Westmoreland, Somerset, Bedford, Huntingdon, Centre, Mifflin, Clearfield, McKean, Potter, Jefferson, Cambria, Indiana, Armstrong, Butler, Beaver, Mercer, Crawford, Venango, Erie and Warren; and

WHEREAS, the United States District court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, in 1866, after having previously held sessions only in Pittsburgh, began holding sessions in Erie, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, IN 1978, Congress approved the creation of the United States Bankruptcy Court, as a unit of the District Court, including the establishment of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, and

WHEREAS, the Court, in 1989 and acting upon a longstanding Congressional authorization, announced that it would hold sessions in Johnstown, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, fifty-seven men and women have served the Court as a United States District Judge, fourteen have served as a United States Magistrate Judge and twelve have served as a United States Bankruptcy Judge; and

WHEREAS, the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania currently exercises jurisdiction over 25 counties with three divisional offices in Erie, Johnstown and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, has ten authorized District Judgeships and is served by four District Judges, five Senior District Judges, six Magistrate Judges and four Bankruptcy Judges; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania is to preserve and enhance the rule of law while providing an impartial and accessible forum for the just, timely and economical resolution of legal proceedings within the Court's jurisdiction, so as to protect individual rights and liberties, promote public trust and confidence in the judicial system, and to maintain judicial independence; and

WHEREAS, the judges of the District Court are called on to hear and decide cases covering a wide range of issues. Such disputes include cases involving the civil and criminal laws of the United States, cases that deal with the constitutionality of those laws, civil rights cases, cases that involve disputes which occur on our waterways, and cases that involve disputes between parties who reside in different states; and

WHEREAS, the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania is recognized throughout the nation for its standards of excellence, fairness, and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, We, the Blair County Board of Commissioners, join in celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, and offer our sincere gratitude to those thousands who have served, and who currently serve, as public servants, striving to uphold the Constitution, balancing the scales of justice for all.

BLAIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

Bruce R. Erb, Chairman

Terry Tomassetti, Vice-Chairman

Ted Beam, Jr., Secretary

ATTEST:

Helen P. Schmitt, County Administrator

Motion by Commissioner Tomassetti, seconded by Commissioner Beam and unanimously approved to adopt the Proclamation.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Blair Senior Services Transportation.

Dennis Wisor announced that beginning on Monday, June 4, 2018, Blair Senior Services will make automated calls to remind individuals of their scheduled trip, the time of pick up and their destination. If the individual's plans have changed, they will have the option to cancel. He stated that on the actual day of the trip, the individual will receive another reminder call that the van is just 15 minutes from arrival.

Discussion followed.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution 197-2018:

- a. Payment of two (2) Warrant Lists dated May 25, 2018, in the amounts of \$446,851.66 and \$645,657.70, which includes payment of the following invoices:
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- e. **District Attorney's Office:** Requesting approval of one (1) Penn Highlands Community College Student Intern, Zachary Rumberger, for the period of 8/27/18 through 12/7/18. Internship is for credit only and at no cost to the county.
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- g. **Resignations:** Brett Landry, FT, Correction Officer, Prison, \$19.54/hr., effective 5/21/18; Donald Craig, PT, Deputy, Sheriff, \$11.51/hr., effective 5/25/18.

Commissioner Erb noted his abstention on the payment of letter (b), the payment of five (5) checks made payable to UPMC in the following amounts: \$409.28, \$40,793.75, \$381.23, \$51.99, and \$5,024.75.

Motion by Commissioner Beam, seconded by Commissioner Tomassetti and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 197-2018.

OLD BUSINESS:

Assessment Office:

Commissioner Tomassetti presented discussion concerning SB 1006. Amending the Consolidated County Assessment Law to further provide for building permits.

Commissioner Tomassetti introduced DeAnna Heichel Blair County's Chief Assessor. Commissioner Tomassetti asked Ms. Heichel numerous questions pertaining to Senate Bill 1006.

Ms. Heichel stated that proposed Senate Bill 1006 would aid the county in obtaining building permits from the municipalities within the county in a timely fashion. The building permit is the primary way the assessment office finds out about property improvements that could substantiate a new assessment of the property. She stated that improvements such as new cabinets, carpeting, roof repair or replacement probably wouldn't generate an increase in the property's assessed value.

Ms. Heichel stated that it is not fair to the citizens of the county when improvements to a property are not reported and the value of their property remains the same, but the same improvements to a separate property are reported and the assessed value goes up.

Discussion followed.

Commissioner Tomassetti encouraged Commissioner Erb and Commissioner Beam to support the proposed Senate Bill 1006 while enforcing the need for changes to the existing law's language.

Both Commissioner Erb and Beam stated that they would not support the proposed bill until the current vagueness and lack of definitions to the current law are addressed by lawmakers.

Discussion followed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Adoption of Resolutions:

Resolution 198-2018: A resolution approving a FFY 2017/2018 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant Agreement (HMEP) between the County of Blair and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), who serves as grant administrator on behalf of the United States Department of Transportation, in the amount of \$31,832.00, effective 10/01/17 through 09/30/19, for the transportation of hazardous materials planning and training activities.

Motion by Commissioner Tomassetti, seconded by Commissioner Beam and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 198-2018.

Resolution 199-2018: A resolution approving a renewal maintenance contract between the County of Blair, Department of Emergency Services, 911E, and SBM Electronics for support and maintenance of the Audiolog Voice Recorder, in the amount of \$15,339.80 for the period of 05/31/18 through 05/30/19.

Motion by Commissioner Beam, seconded by Commissioner Tomassetti and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 199-2018.

Resolution 200-2018: A resolution approving to revise the Blair 911 Steering Committee and to revise the number of members and the number for a quorum.

Motion by Commissioner Beam, seconded by Commissioner Tomassetti and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 200-2018.

Resolution 201-2018: A resolution approving a proposal received from Banyan Contracting, Inc., in the amount of \$2,375.00 (50% due to begin and 50% due at completion), to support and stabilize the Pennsylvania Barn Corn Crib. Project will be paid for by the Fort Roberdeau Association.

Motion by Commissioner Beam, seconded by Commissioner Tomassetti and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 201-2018.

Resolution 202-2018: A resolution approving the purchase of twelve (12) picnic tables from Yocca Business Systems, in the total amount of \$8,025.90, including freight delivery, for placement on Fort Roberdeau grounds. Purchase will be paid for by the Fort Roberdeau Association from donations received from the local Loyal Order of Moose, Altoona Family Center #74 and Huntingdon Lodge #223.

Motion by Commissioner Tomassetti, seconded by Commissioner Beam and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 202-2018.

Resolution 203-2018: A resolution approving to amend the previously approved Sub-Recipient Agreement (Resolution 217-2017) between the County of Blair and the County of Blair Redevelopment and Housing Authority (COBRAH) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program as follows:

- FY 2015 (Contract C000064337 – Increase existing activity for the Housing Rehabilitation: Owner Occupied Residential within the Township of Antis from \$7,000.00 to \$42,007.58.

Motion by Commissioner Beam, seconded by Commissioner Tomassetti and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 203-2018.

Resolution 204-2018: A resolution approving to enter into a Sub-Recipient Agreement between the County of Blair and the following:

- The County of Blair Redevelopment and Housing Authorities (COBRAH) under Blair Township's FY 2015 Community Development Block Grant Funds, in the amount of \$70,170.00.
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- The County of Blair Redevelopment and Housing Authorities (COBRAH) under Tyrone Borough's FY 2015 Community Development Block Grant Funds, in the amount of \$66,549.00.

Motion by Commissioner Tomassetti, seconded by Commissioner Beam and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 204-2018.

NEW BUSINESS:

Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Corporation (SAP&DC):

County Administrator Schmitt requested approval of a Letter of Support for the submission of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) annual update to the Economic Development Administration (EDA).

Mrs. Schmitt stated that this is an annual submission request.

Discussion followed.

Resolution 205-2018: A resolution approving a Letter of Support for the submission of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) annual update to the Economic Development Administration (EDA).

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Beam and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 205-2018.

Social Services:

Trina Illig requested acceptance of two (2) Grant Awards from the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) for Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement Fund for \$40,000 for the Rental Assistance Program and \$150,000 for the Water and Sewer Program.

Discussion followed.

Resolution 206-2018: A resolution approving the acceptance of two (2) Grant Awards from the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) for Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement Fund for \$40,000 for the Rental Assistance Program and \$150,000 for the Water and Sewer Program.

Motion by Commissioner Beam, seconded by Commissioner Tomassetti and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 206-2018.

Letter of Support:

Commissioner Erb requested ratification of the signing of a Letter of Support for the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency grant application, for funding under Category 3 for the Department of Justice, Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program.

Commissioner Erb stated he was notified at a recent County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) meeting that the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) is submitting a proposal for funding under Category 3 for the Department of Justice, Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program. At that time, he was asked if the county would consider submitting a Letter of Support the PCCD application. Commissioner Erb stated that the county would be interested in being considered for these program funds, should PCCD be successful in their grant application. Commissioner Erb stated that the funds would assist with increasing public safety and reducing recidivism among individuals with mental health and substance abuse.

County Administrator Schmitt stated that the approval is for a Letter of Support for the grant application being submitted by PCCD, and if awarded, additional discussions and recommendations for the use of the funds could be discussed at that time.

Discussion followed.

Resolution 207-2018: A resolution approving the ratification of the signing of a Letter of Support of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency's application for funding under Category 3 for the Department of Justice, Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program.

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Beam and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 207-2018.

ADJOURN:

Meeting Adjourned,

Helen P. Schmitt, County Administrator