



BLAIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Thursday, September 25, 2025, 10:00 A.M.
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM, BASEMENT

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Kessling called the meeting to order.

2. MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER:

Commissioner Kessling called for a moment of silent prayer.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commissioner Kessling requested that those participating in the meeting please stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Webster and Chief Clerk Alicia Tiracave.

5. OTHERS PRESENT:

Jen Cutshall, Lori Guyer (Commissioners), Lindsay Dempsie, Brandon Meck (Finance), A.C. Stickel, Angela Wagner (Controller), Paul Shaffer (Public Works Highway), Becky Robinson (Purchasing), Mindy Hostler (CYF), Glenn Nelson (Fort Roberdeau), Melissa Gillin, Heather Perry (Social Services), Dennis Wisor (Blair Senior Services), Anita Terchanik (Register/Recorder), Rachel Foor (Altoona Mirror), Nate Taylor (Public Access).

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:

There was an Executive Session held on September 15, 2025 at approximately 10:00 a.m. with the Commissioners Kessling, Webster and Burke, Chief Clerk, Assistant Chief Clerk, and Finance Director regarding four (4) parcels.

7. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES – 9/11

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt the minutes as prepared.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Anita Terchanik, Register and Recorder of Deeds, announced her retirement effective December 31, 2025. She expressed her sincere gratitude to the Commissioners for the trust given to her and noted it was an honor and privilege to serve these past 6 years. She did her job with integrity and transparency, and is proud of the work that was accomplished during her tenure, most of all, her work helping families settle estates and working to preserve County history. She thanked her staff for their dedication and professionalism, noting that they are the backbone of the office and will no doubt continue to uphold the standards of the office in her absence. Her plans are to travel and spend time with her family, especially her grandson. Finally, she noted this is not a goodbye, but rather a so long for now. She thanked everyone for their trust, support and friendship, and stated it was an honor of a lifetime.

9. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Webster thanked Ms. Terchanik for her service. She then commented on how she has been disturbed by the recent assassination of Charlie Kirk, but mostly by the increased amount of vitriol and hate being expressed toward public officials over the past few years. She noted that these types of actions are hard to believe in America, where we are free to express speech and opinion as a result of our God-given freedoms. She encouraged everyone to be brave in expressing their opinions, and not to back down from what you believe. She wished everyone a good day and asked everyone to think about good things.

Commissioner Kessling thanked Anita Terchanik for being so welcoming during his time at the Courthouse. He stated, “The people of the County voted for you, and the people will miss you.” He commented that her leadership will be missed, as she consistently stuck up for her people, and those are the traits of a leader. He hopes the person that fills her shoes can live up to the job that she has done over these past years. He expressed his appreciation for everything she has done and her service to the community.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution 451– 2025:

a. Ratification of the following fourteen (14) Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
9/09/2025	250909TC	\$225,426.47

9/08/2025	250908FS		\$2,208.03
9/08/2025	250908RF		\$3,216.39
9/08/2025	250831PC		\$38,641.25
9/11/2025	250911HR		\$21,388.93
9/11/2025	250911RF		\$239.78
9/16/2025	250916CY		\$42,253.13
9/16/2025	250916SS		\$29,057.00
9/16/2025	250916WW		\$120,054.33
9/15/2025	250915FS		\$2,103.07
9/18/2025	250918HR		\$10,815.37
9/23/2025	250923SS		\$51,987.00
9/23/2025	250923CY		\$400.00
9/23/2025	250923WW		\$353,368.81

Which includes payment of the following invoices:

- Holidaysburg Borough in the total check amount of \$4,506.01.
- Holidaysburg Borough in the total check amount of \$22,855.03.

b. Ratification of total Payroll for the paycheck dated 9/19/2025 in the total amount of \$994,249.01.

c. **2025 Budget Transfer:** To cover the cost of maintenance on county vehicles:

From	\$	To
01103HW-44730 Highway	\$800.00	01151-44730 Sheriff
01103HW-44730 Highway	\$200.00	01202-44730 Juvenile Probation

d. **2025 Budget Transfer:** To cover the cost of legal services from McNeas Wallace:

From	\$	To
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$8,342.00	113201-44080 CYF

e. **2025 Budget Transfer:** To cover the cost of legal services:

From	\$	To
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$1,000.00	01101-44080 Commissioners
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$108.13	011062-44080 Elections

f. **2025 Budget Transfer:** To cover the cost of vehicle repairs:

From	\$	To
01103HW-44730 Highway	\$178.98	01202-44830 Juvenile Probation

g. **2025 Budget Transfer:** To cover the cost of vehicle maintenance:

From	\$	To
01103HW-44730 Highway	\$400.00	01209PO-44730 Prison

h. **County Road 101 Road Closure Request:** Requesting approval to conduct the Claysburg Kimmel Homecoming Parade on Friday, September 26, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Parade will begin at the Claysburg Community Park on Community Park Road and will end at Claysburg Junior/Senior High School on Athletic Rd.

i. **Bridge #73/T-349 Bridge Removal Project:** Requesting approval of ECMS submission Invoice #1, Part 1, PE Phase, in the total amount of \$1,947.09, received from Keller Engineers. Expenses are 95% reimbursable and will be paid from the Marcellus Shale Legacy Fund.

j. **County Bridge #69/ Sgt 1st Class Thomas V. Dodson Memorial Bridge:**

Requesting approval of the application for payment #5 (final) to Merlo Inc. for Bridge #69 construction in the amount of \$304,897.31.

k. **Notice of Retirement:** The Blair County Board of Commissioners accepts the resignation and retirement of Anita L. Terchanik, Register of Wills and Recorder of Deeds for the County of Blair, effective December 31, 2025.

l. **Employments:** Brubaker, Krystal, Ceret, Andrew, Noah, Grace, Handley, Tre, Murphy, David, Wilson Ashley, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.53/hr, effective 9/22/2025. Smay, Carrie, Williams, Melissa, FT, Caseworker I, Children, Youth and Families, \$20.60/hr, effective 9/22/2025. Whitsel, Scott, FT, Custodian, Public Works, \$17.39/hr, effective 9/22/2025. Trumbour, David, FT, Administrative Support, District Attorney, \$14.44/hr, effective 9/22/2025.

m. **Status Changes:** Dick, Brianna, FT, Department Support - Court, Court Administration, \$13.09/hr, to PT, Department Support - Custody, Court Administration, \$13.09/hr, effective 9/13/2025. Ritchey, Deborah, PT, Tipstaff - Court, Court Administration, \$13.75/hr, to FT, Tipstaff - Bernard, Court Administration, \$13.75/hr, effective 9/13/2025. Imler, Tammy, FT, Department Support, Prothonotary, \$13.10/hr, to FT, Juvenile Clerk of Courts, Prothonotary, \$14.44/hr, effective 9/2/2025.

Deputy, Sheriff, \$19.35/hr, effective 9/16/2025. Reed, Kelsey, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.53/hr, effective 9/16/2025.

o. **Retirements:** Fluke, Tracy, FT, Custodian, Public Works, \$19.00/hr, effective 9/12/2025.

p. **Terminations:** West, James, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.53/hr, effective 9/17/2025.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 451-2025.

Children, Youth and Families:

Mindy Hostler requested approval of the FY 2025/2026 Renewal Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and the Bair Foundation.

Resolution 452-2025: Approving the FY 2025-2026 Renewal Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and the Bair Foundation.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 452-2025.

Fort Roberdeau:

Glenn Nelson requested approval of the Quote received from Ken Wertz Hauling & Septic Service Inc. for septic system pumping at the Fort Roberdeau Farm House and White Oak Hall in the total amount of \$775.00.

Resolution 453-2025: Approving the Quote received from Ken Wertz Hauling & Septic Service Inc. for septic system pumping at the Fort Roberdeau Farm House and White Oak Hall in the total amount of \$775.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 453-2025.

Highway:

aul Shaffer requested approval of Contract Change Order #1 (Resolution #340-2024) between the County of Blair and Charles J. Merlo, Inc. to decrease the total cost by \$26,578.31. The revised total cost is \$1,235,428.19.

Commissioner Webster commented that the lower cost is great news and that the contractor did a wonderful job with very quick turnaround.

Resolution 454-2025: Approving Contract Change Order #1 (Resolution 340-2024) between the County of Blair and Charles J. Merlo, Inc. to decrease the total cost by \$26,578.31. The revised total cost is \$1,235,428.19.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 454-2025.

Blair Senior Services:

i. Dennis Wisor requested approval for the submission of the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) FY 2024/2025 Fourth Quarter Report for the period of April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025.

Resolution 455-2025: Approving the submission of the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) FY 2024/2025 Fourth Quarter Report for the period of April 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 455-2025.

ii. Dennis Wisor requested approval for the acceptance of the FY 2025/2026 Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) initial allocation received from the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, in the amount of \$2,199,966.00.

Resolution 456-2025: Approving the acceptance of the FY 2025/2026 Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) initial allocation received from the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, in the amount of \$2,199,966.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 456-2025.

iii. Dennis Wisor requested approval of a Contract for the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) between the County of Blair and Blair Senior Services for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

Resolution 457-2025: Approving a Contract for the Medical Assistance Transportation Program (MATP) between the County of Blair and Blair Senior Services for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 457-2025.

Social Services:

i. Melissa Gillin requested approval of the FY 2025/2026 Renewal Contract between the County of Blair and Cen Clear Child Services for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, in a maximum amount of \$40,000.00.

Ms. Gillin stated that this is being funded by the Human Services Block Grant.

Commissioner Webster questioned what happens in the event the budget allocation is not the same.

Ms. Gillin indicated that a contract modification would then be done.

Commissioner Kessling asked how things are being impacted with no state budget passed at this time.

Ms. Gillin responded that letters have been issued notifying providers that payments are on hold until a budget is passed.

Resolution 458-2025: Approving the FY 2025/2026 Renewal Contract between the County of Blair and Cen Clear Child Services for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, in a maximum amount of \$40,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 458-2025.

ii. Melissa Gillin requested approval of an Amendment to the Social Services Advisory Board By-laws with the changes as noted.

Ms. Gillin explained that the By-laws were established before the leadership coalition was established, and that these are being made as a result.

Resolution 459-2025: Approving the Amendment to the Social Services Advisory Board By-laws with the changes as noted.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 458-2025.

iii. Melissa Gillin requested approval to allocate Affordable Housing Trust Funds to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Code Compliance Repair Assistance Program in the amount of \$50,000.00.

Ms. Gillin stated that the Code Compliance Repair program is funded by the fees collected through the recording of deeds. When the fund runs out of money, they request more be allocated.

Resolution 460-2025: Approving the allocation of Affordable Housing Trust Funds to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Code Compliance Repair Assistance Program in the amount of \$50,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 460-2025.

Commissioners:

i. Alicia Tiracave requested approval for the County of Blair to authorize Marc J. Bern & Partner to vote to accept the Purdue Pharma L.P. bankruptcy plan under CL1751096 on behalf of the County of Blair.

Ms. Tiracave noted that this vote allows the County to participate in the agreement, and if granted, the County will be in line to receive funding from the settlement.

Resolution 461-2025: Authorizing Marc J. Bern & Partner to vote to accept the Purdue Pharma L.P. bankruptcy plan under CL 1751096 on behalf of the County of Blair.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 461-2025.

ii. Requesting approval for Commissioner David Kessling to execute all Exhibit K's for each settlement party and any other documents required to carry out the terms of the County's decision to participate in the proposed new National Opioid Settlements, and in his absence, Vice Chairperson Amy E. Webster to execute any and all documents requiring a physical signature.

Resolution 462-2025: Authorizing Commissioner Kessling to execute all Exhibit K's for each settlement party and any other documents required to carry out the terms of the County's decision to participate in the proposed new National Opioid Settlements, and in his absence, Vice Chairperson Amy E. Webster to execute any and all documents requiring a physical signature.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 462-2025.

OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURN

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adjourn today's meeting.


Alicia Tiracave, Chief Clerk