



BLAIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Thursday, October 23, 2025, 10:00 A.M.
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM, BASEMENT

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**
Commissioner Webster called the meeting to order.
2. **MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER:**
Commissioner Webster called for a moment of silent prayer.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**
Commissioner Webster requested that those participating in the meeting please stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **MEMBERS PRESENT:**
Commissioner Webster, Commissioner Burke and Chief Clerk Alicia Tiracave.
5. **OTHERS PRESENT:**
Jen Cutshall, Lori Guyer (Commissioners), Lindsay Dempsie, Brandon Meck (Finance), Angela Wagner (Controller), Becky Robinson (Purchasing), Trina Illig (Social Services), Sherry Socie (Blair Planning), Glenn Nelson (Fort Roberdeau), Cris Fredrickson (Emergency Management), Lisa Auty (Highway), Rachel Foor-Musselman (Altoona Mirror), Ann Merritts (Holidaysburg Community Watchdog), Nate Taylor (Public Access), Shawna Hoover (Operation Our Town), Aliyah Walk, Hannah Ingram, Maddox Stultz, Emily Gieg, Samantha Garman, Alayna Mitchell, Skylee Bailey, Lexi Eardley, Sage Capone, Kaleen Wolfe (Holidaysburg Students Against Destructive Decisions, SADD).
6. **EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:**
An Executive Session was held on October 21, 2025, at approximately 10:30 a.m. with the Commissioners, Assistant Human Resources Director, Chief Clerk and Assistant Chief Clerk regarding one (1) open position.
7. **APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES – 10/9/2025**
Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and approved to adopt the minutes as prepared.
8. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
None
9. **COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**
Commissioner Webster noted that there is a Fort Roberdeau Veterans Celebration on October 25, 2025 and then asked Glenn Nelson, Director, to speak and provide details on the event.

Glenn Nelson stated that the Veterans' tribute is an annual tradition at Fort Roberdeau, and will be held this year on Saturday, October 25, 2025, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There will be a free lunch provided by Marianna's, as well as a re-enactment group that will demonstrate military drilling, which has not changed much since the Revolutionary War. There will also be a 250th anniversary commemoration of the establishment of the original three branches of our military, Army, Navy and Marines, and will include a "Battle of the Branches" trivia contest. Mr. Nelson encouraged everyone in attendance to attend this year's activities.

10. PROCLAMATION

Commissioner Webster read the following Proclamation:

Red Ribbon Week, October 23-31, 2025

WHEREAS, Alcohol and substance abuse in this Nation have reached epidemic stages; and

WHEREAS, Substance abuse is particularly damaging to one of our most valuable resources, our children, and a contributing factor in the three leading causes of death for teenagers – accidents, suicides, and homicides; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that visible, unified prevention education efforts by community members be launched to eliminate the demand for drugs; and

WHEREAS, The National Red Ribbon Campaign offers citizens the opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to drug-free lifestyles (no use of illegal drugs, no illegal use of legal drugs); and

WHEREAS, The National Red Ribbon Campaign will be celebrated across America during Red Ribbon Week, October 23-31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Business, government, parents, law enforcement, media, medical institutions, religious institutions, schools, senior citizens, service organizations, and youth will demonstrate their commitment to healthy, drug-free lifestyles by wearing and displaying red ribbons during this week-long campaign; and

WHEREAS, the community of Blair County, PA further supports the efforts of the Red Ribbon Campaign;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Commissioners of the County of Blair of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim October 23-31, 2025 as RED RIBBON WEEK, and encourage its citizens to participate in drug prevention education activities, not only during Red Ribbon Week, but all year long, making a visible statement that we are strongly committed to a drug-free Blair County.

Aliyah Walk from HASD SADD spoke about the mission of their SADD chapter, which is to make their school and the community drug-free, positive environments. The chapter organizes and sponsors numerous events throughout the year to show students that they do not need to rely on drugs and alcohol to cope with struggles, but that they also don't need to use them to have fun. Some of the events sponsored include a wellness fair, "coffee with a cop" and Red Ribbon Week. In April 2025 several members went to Harrisburg to attend the Hollidaysburg CPA Youth Summit where they lobbied with State legislators to increase the funding for prevention education. The group hopes to return next spring with more ideas for their peers on how a drug free life can be beneficial. During Red Ribbon Week, the group will be hosting theme days to use as coping mechanisms, making healthy reminders in morning announcements, and distribute candy to students wearing seatbelts when leaving school for the day. Ms. Walk then thanked the Commissioners for allowing them to participate in today's meeting.

Commissioner Webster thanked the group for coming and invited them to stay for the remainder of the meeting.

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and approved to adopt the Proclamation for Red Ribbon Week.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution 487-2025:

a. Ratification of the following six (6) Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
10/08/2025	250930PC	\$37,633.96
10/09/2025	251009HR	\$4,904.34
10/14/2025	251014SS	\$82,441.27
10/14/2025	251014UT	\$8,388.22
10/17/2025	251017RA	\$187.88
10/21/2025	251021AW	\$41,545.02

b. Ratification of total Payroll for the paycheck dated 10/17/2025 in the total amount of \$967,253.19.

c. 2025 Budget Transfer: To cover the cost of legal services from McNees Wallace:

From	\$	To
01101GCCO-44080 General County Operations	\$13,314.00	113201-44080 CYF

d. 2025 Budget Transfer: To cover the cost of HVAC maintenance:

From	\$	To
01103BM-44710 Building Maintenance	\$1,455.00	44122-44840 911

e. Blair County Airport Authority: Requesting approval of the re-appointments of Gary Orner and Andrew Swope to the Authority. The terms are effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2030.

g. County Road 101: Requesting approval to receive a \$10,000.00 certified check from Texas Eastern Pipeline as collateral for access to a pipeline off County Road 101 (Everett Road).

i. Employments: Singer, Horizan, FT, Telecommunicator, 911 Center, \$19.35/hr., effective 10/14/2025. Craig, Lucy, Taylor, Cydney, Fieni, Gaynn, FT, Telecommunicator Trainee, 911 Center, \$17.55/hr., effective 10/14/2025. Pitt, Robin, FT, Assistant Public Defender, Public Defender, \$1,942.31 bi-weekly, effective 10/14/2025. Przybys, Alayna, FT, Caseworker I, Children, Youth and Families, \$20.60/hr., effective 10/14/2025. Lostalgia, Saleen, FT, Administrative Support, Juvenile Probation, \$14.44/hr., effective 10/20/2025. Wingardner-Dahmen, Hannah, PT, Probation Officer Support, Adult Parole and Probation, \$13.75/hr., effective 10/20/2025.

j. Resignations: Huston, Andrew, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.53/hr., effective 10/6/2025. McIntosh, Michael, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.53/hr., effective 10/14/2025. Wilson, Ashley, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.53/hr., effective 10/15/2025.

Commissioner Webster stated that she is unable to vote for her own appointment to the Agricultural Land Preservation Board as Commissioner Representative. This appointment will be moved to next week's agenda as there was no quorum.

Commissioner Burke noted her abstentions to the payments to Hollidaysburg Borough and to Senior Services and indicated she is a "no" vote for the appointment of Angie Best to the CYF Advisory Board. Because there was not a quorum for these items, they will be moved to next week's agenda.

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and approved to adopt Resolution 487-2025 with the abstentions as noted and placement of those items on next week's agenda.

711 Center:

Jris Fredrickson requested approval of the Advantage Prime Service Agreement renewal between the County of Blair, Department of Emergency Services, and Gen-Mark (Schneider Electric) for the VA Galaxy 5000 Uninterrupted Power Supply System for the period of November 1, 2025 through October 31, 2026, in the amount of \$5,800.00.

Resolution 488-2025: Approving the Advantage Prime Service Agreement renewal between the County of Blair, Department of Emergency Services, and Gen-Mark (Schneider Electric) for the VA Galaxy 5000 Uninterrupted Power Supply System for the period of November 1, 2025 through October 31, 2026, in the amount of \$5,800.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and approved to adopt Resolution 488-2025.

Emergency Management:

Cris Fredrickson requested approval of the submission of the FFY 2023-2025 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant (HMEP), Year 3, Annual Status Report to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), for the period of April 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025.

Ms. Fredrickson noted that this is a closeout confirming projects have been completed.

Resolution 489-2025: Approving the submission of the FFY 2023-2025 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant (HMEP), Year 3, Annual Status Report to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), for the period of April 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025.

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and approved to adopt Resolution 89-2025.

Public Works – Highway:

Lisa Auty requested approval of the Agreement for Purchases Under Bidding Threshold between the County of Blair and PA Municipal Inc. for County Road and Bridge signs set forth in County approved purchase orders.

Resolution 490-2025: Approving the Agreement for Purchases Under Bidding Threshold between the County of Blair and PA Municipal Inc. for County Road and Bridge signs set forth in County approved purchase orders.

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and approved to adopt Resolution 490-2025.

Fort Roberdeau:

Glenn Nelson requested approval of the Quote dated October 2, 2025, from Pannier to design and produce an interpretive panel and exhibit base and frame for the Fort Roberdeau Lead Mine Exhibit in the total amount of \$1,810.00.

Resolution 491-2025: Approving the Quote dated October 2, 2025, from Pannier to design and produce an interpretive panel and exhibit base and frame for the Fort Roberdeau Lead Mine Exhibit in the total amount of \$1,810.00.

Commissioner Burke questioned if this request is being funded by donation.

Glenn Nelson responded in the affirmative.

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and approved to adopt Resolution 491-2025.

Social Services:

- i. Trina Illig requested approval of the Cooperative Agreements between the County of Blair and the five (5) Entitlement Municipalities to submit an application and to administer the FY 2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program on their behalf as follows:

\$110,469.00	Blair County to benefit Hollidaysburg Borough
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\$108,743.00	Blair County to benefit Tyrone Borough
\$119,441.00	Blair County to benefit Antis Township
\$101,271.00	Blair County to benefit Blair Township
\$1429,313.00	Blair County to benefit Frankstown Township

Resolution 492-2025: Approving the Cooperative Agreements between the County of Blair and the five (5) Entitlement Municipalities to submit an application and to administer the FY 2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program on their behalf as follows:

\$110,469.00	Blair County to benefit Hollidaysburg Borough
\$108,743.00	Blair County to benefit Tyrone Borough
\$119,441.00	Blair County to benefit Antis Township
\$101,271.00	Blair County to benefit Blair Township
\$129,313.00	Blair County to benefit Frankstown Township

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 492-2025.

- ii. Trina Illig requested approval of the FY 2025 Fair Housing Resolution.

Resolution 493-2025: Approving the FY 2025 Fair Housing Resolution.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 493-2025.

- iii. Trina Illig requested approval for the submission of the FFY 2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) on behalf of the seventeen (17) Non-Entitlement Communities of the County of Blair in the total amount of \$247,152.00.

Resolution 494-2025: Approving the submission of the FFY 2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) on behalf of the seventeen (17) Non-Entitlement Communities of the County of Blair in the total amount of \$247,152.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 494-2025.

- iv. Trina Illig requested approval for the submission of the “combined” FFY 2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for the County of Blair on behalf of the seventeen (17) Non-Entitlement Communities in the amount of \$247,152.00, and on behalf of the five (5) Entitlement Communities in the amount of \$569,237.00, for a total amount of \$816,389.00.

Resolution 495-2025: Approving the submission of the “combined” FFY 2025 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for the County of Blair on behalf of the seventeen (17) Non-Entitlement Communities in the amount of \$247,152.00, and on behalf of the five (5) Entitlement Communities in the amount of \$569,237.00, for a total amount of \$816,389.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 495-2025.

Commissioners:

- i. Alicia Tiracave requested approval of the 2026 – 2028 Solicitor Fee Proposal from Gabriel Fera.

Commissioner Webster made a motion to approve the 2026 – 2028 Solicitor Fee Proposal from Gabriel Fera.

Commissioner Burke stated she would second the motion for the sake of discussion, but that she would be voting no on this item. She continues to believe that there are better options for this service.

With Commissioner Burke’s comment, Commissioner Webster then withdrew her motion to approve this item and noted it will be moved to next week’s agenda.

- ii. Alicia Tiracave requested approval to submit a Statewide LSA (Local Share Account) Grant Application in the amount of \$952,390.00 to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, and to be awarded by the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA), for mobile radio replacement as part of the Blair County Regional Fire Radio Project.

Commissioner Burke stated that she was agreeable to pursue the Grant but wanted to draw attention to the

fact that LSA funds are very difficult to get, and the ways in which Emergency Services is being funded are not sustainable, especially for equipment needs. Without funding, it has become difficult for EMA to get the radios they need, and unfortunately there isn't something in place to allow them to get what they need.

Commissioner Webster commented that the County is mandated by upper-level Government to provide these items to Emergency Management but does not necessarily receive the funding needed to do so. The County is competing with other counties for these grant funds, so it makes it difficult. She noted that there have been discussions about increasing the cell phone fee and about having the landline fee combined with the cell phone fee to help fund EMA/911 departments within the County. Commissioner Webster ended by stating there are so many demands made of County funds that everything is just not feasible, but they are doing what they can.

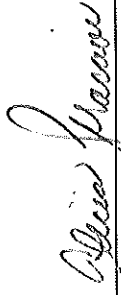
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Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and approved to adopt resolution 496-2025.

OLD BUSINESS:
None

ADJOURN

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



Alicia Tiraçave, Chief Clerk

