

BUSINESS SESSION: THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2021, 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 via conference call, 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, and Chief Clerk Hemminger.

Members Absent:

Solicitor Karn and Assistant Solicitor Muriceak.

Others Present:

Melissa Harpster (Commissioners Office), Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror), AC Stickel (Controller) Polly Cardone and Shelley Berry (Tax Claim) and Rebecca Robinson (Purchasing).

Public Comments:

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

Unfinished Business:

Adoption of Resolutions:

Resolution 206-2021: A resolution approving the exoneration of real estate taxes on the following properties:

Entity/address	Tax	Fees	Total
AASD: 1224 6 TH Ave. (2019)	\$ 397.41	\$ 49.00	\$ 446.41
Newry: (2019)	\$ 4.32	\$ 92.50	\$ 96.82
Newry: (2019)	\$ 5.48	\$ 92.50	\$ 97.98
Newry: (2019)	\$ 6.01	\$ 92.50	\$ 98.51
Newry: (2019)	\$ 9.41	\$ 92.50	\$ 101.91
Altoona: 1110 7 th Ave (2019)	\$ 839.04	\$127.50	\$ 966.54
Altoona: 714 12 th St. (2019)	\$ 125.68	\$199.50	\$ 325.18
Total	\$1,387.35	\$746.00	\$2,153.35

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that she had additional information to provide to the Board pertaining to the requested exoneration of real estate taxes on the properties listed in the above chart.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that to date all of the properties have been exempt. She stated that all of the properties with the exception of one (1110 7th Avenue) were in the possession of the municipality in 2019. That one property owner is asking for taxes that are not actually theirs to be exonerated. Those taxes are back taxes owed by the prior owner of the property.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that the Commissioners are able to exonerate all or a portion of the tax and waive for forgive all or a portion of the fees.

Discussion followed.

Resolution 207-2021: A resolution approving a Proposal of Service Contract between the County of Blair and Keller Engineers for the preparation of a Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant Application for design and construction of paving, drainage, curbs, and sidewalks on a section of County Road 101 located in Greenfield Township, in the lump sum total and expenses of \$1,730.00.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 207-2021.

Resolution 208-2021: A resolution approving the proposal received from KTA-Tator Inc. for NACE Coating Inspection Services in the Quality Assurance Role for Bridge #73/Mountain Road, Blair County, PA, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 208-2021.

Resolution 209-2021: A resolution approving the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Program Disbursement for an allocation amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 for Owner Occupied Rehabilitation through the County of Blair, with a cap of up to \$10,000.00 per unit, administered through the Community Development Programs administered within the Blair County Department of Social Services.

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 209-2021.

Resolution 210-2021: A resolution approving to modify the disbursement of Affordable Housing Trust Funds for the Weatherization/Housing Rehabilitation Program increasing the cap amount from \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00.

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 210-2021.

Resolution 211-2021: A resolution approving the renewal of twelve-12 FY 2021/2022 contracts between the County of Blair and the agencies listed below:

AGENCY	FUNDING SOURCES	CONTRACT AMOUNT
Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Blair County	Human Services	Maximum Contract Amount \$24,000
	Development Fund (HSDF)	
Blair HealthChoices	Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$70,000
		Maximum Contract Amount \$40,000
Blair Senior Services	HSDF & Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$25,000
CenClear Child Services	Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$5,000
Child Advocates	HSDF	Maximum Contract Amount \$115,000
CONTACT Altoona	HSDF & Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$130,000
Family Services, Inc.	HSDF & HAP	Maximum Contract Amount \$50,000
H.O.P.E. Drop In	Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$45,000
NAMI of Blair County	Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$10,500
Peerstar	Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$7,000
Primary Health Network	Mental Health	Maximum Contract Amount \$400,000
Skills of Central PA	Mental Health	

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 211-2021.

Resolution 212-2021: A resolution approving five-5 FY 2021/2022 Mental Health (MH) Student Assistance Program (SAP) Letters of Agreement between the County of Blair, Department of Social Services, UPMC Western Behavioral Health of the Alleghenies (BHA) and the school districts listed below for the period of 07/01/21 through 06/30/22:

- Claysburg/Kimmel School District
- Hollidaysburg Area School District
- Tyrone Area School District
- Bishop Guilfoyle School District
- Spring Cove School District

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 212-2021.

Resolution 213-2021: A resolution approving authorization of the signing of the FY 2020 contract for the Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG), in the amount of \$905,960.00 through the e-Contracting Signature System; and authorization designating Jim Hudack, Executive Director, Department of Social Services, as Signing Authority to sign FY 2020 CDBG Invoice Forms.

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 213-2021.

Resolution 214-2021: A resolution approving the acceptance of a PCoRP 2020/2021 Loss Prevention Grant Award, in the total amount of \$20,000.00.

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 214-2021.

Resolution 215-2021: A resolution approving a proposal received from Johnson Controls, in the total amount of \$20,945.00, for the purchase of parts and labor to upgrade the existing Simplex Fire Alarm Panel. \$20,000.00 of the total cost will be paid with awarded PCoRP 2020/2021 Loss Prevention Grant Funds, and the remaining \$945.00 will be paid from the Facility Maintenance Budget.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 215-2021.

Resolution 216-2021: A resolution approving a 2021 Event Contract between Lakemont Park and The County of Blair for rental of the Stage on June 13, 2021 for the performance of Grit and Grace. The cost of \$200.00 to rent the facility was covered by a donation and paid directly to Lakemont Park.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 216-2021.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Prothonotary:

Chief Clerk Hemminger requested approval of an Engagement Agreement between the County of Blair and McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC for providing legal services to the County of Blair and Robin Patton, in her official capacity as Blair County Prothonotary, in defense of the Class Action Litigation, *Chester Upland SC, et al. vs. Rossi, et al Docket No. 133 MD 2021*. Fees associated with said Engagement Agreement will be based upon the following hourly rates set for each person providing services:

- Lead defense counsel \$430.00/per hour
- Labor and Employment Attorney \$325.00/per hour
- Other Associates providing services \$235.00/per hour and \$300.00/per hour

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that PCoRP has informed the county that this type of litigation is not covered by the county's insurance. She stated that the fees for legal services would be paid from the county's general fund budget, and the costs shared by many counties represented by McNees Wallace and Nurick.

Discussion followed.

Resolution 217-2021: A resolution approving an Engagement Agreement between the County of Blair and McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC for providing legal services to the County of Blair and Robin Patton, in her official capacity as Blair County Prothonotary, in defense of the Class Action Litigation, *Chester Upland SC, et al. vs. Rossi, et al Docket No. 133 MD 2021*. Fees associated with said Engagement Agreement will be based upon the following hourly rates set for each person providing services:

- Lead defense counsel \$430.00/per hour
- Labor and Employment Attorney \$325.00/per hour
- Other Associates providing services \$235.00/per hour and \$300.00/per hour

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 217-2021.

Adjourn:

Meeting Adjourned,

Nicole M. Hemminger, Chief Clerk

