

WORK SESSION: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2023, 10:00 A.M.

Location: Commissioners Meeting Room, Basement.

**Public meetings are being held both in-person and by Zoom. To participate in the meeting please dial-1-301-715-8592 or-1-646-876-9923, enter meeting number 966 3545 3323, and enter the meeting passcode 423423.*

Call to Order:

Commissioner Burke called the meeting to order.

Moment of Silent Reflection:

Commissioner Burke called for a moment of silent reflection.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag:

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

Roll Call:

Members Present:

Commissioner Burke, Commissioner Webster, Chief Clerk Hemminger and Solicitor Karn.

Members Absent:

Commissioner Erb.

Others Present:

Grant Wills (GIS), AC Stickel and Angela Wagner (Controller’s Office), Jay Whitesel (Prison), Paul Shaffer (Public Works/Highway), Steve McKnight and Matt Fox (ABCD Corp.), Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror), Jillian Haggerty (WTAJ-TV 10), Sue St Martin (Tax Claim), Brandon Meck and Lindsay Dempsie (Finance), Trina Illig (Social Services), Nate Taylor (Public Access Channel), Allison Senkevich and Melissa Harpster (Commissioners Office).

Upcoming Meetings:

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Thursday, September 28, 2023	8:30 a.m.	Blair Planning Commission (Altoona Water Authority)
	10:00 a.m.	*Commissioners Business Session (Commissioners Meeting Room)

Friday, September 29, 2023

Monday, October 2, 2023

Tuesday, October 3, 2023	10:00 a.m.	*Commissioners Work Session (Commissioners Meeting Room)
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APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES 09/12/23 and 09/14/23:

Commissioner Burke called for corrections or changes to the meeting minutes of 09/12/23 and 09/14/23. **There were no corrections or changes noted.**

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to accept the minutes as prepared.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commissioner Burke called for public comment. **There were no comments noted.**

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Burke called for commissioner comments. **There were no comments noted.**

PROCLAMATIONS:

2023 Altoona Kiwanis Club “Citizen of the Year” Award
Barry J. Halbritter and Marlene Halbritter

Commissioner Burke stated that Commissioner Erb would present the Proclamations for the 2023 Altoona Kiwanis Club “Citizen of the Year” Award to Barry J. Halbritter and Marlene Halbritter at the Kiwanis Club Annual Awards Banquet on Wednesday, September 27, 2023. She extended congratulations on behalf of the County of Blair to both award recipients.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt the Proclamations, which read:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Barry J. Halbritter is a native to Blair County and graduated from Hollidaysburg Area High School in 1961. He then received his B.S. Degree in Business and Accounting from Juniata College along with the Rice & Rice Award at graduation in 1965; and

WHEREAS, Barry met Marlene in the Juniata concert band where he attributed their shared love of music to the foundation for their marriage shortly after graduation; and

WHEREAS, Barry soon began employment with Young, Oakes, & Brown as an Accountant. A few years later, he joined Fender Mender Sales in January of 1968, previously a part-time business started by his father; and

WHEREAS, Barry acquired a local business and later incorporated as Midstate Tool & Supply, Inc. in 1977 working alongside his brother Rob continues to be the President of this family-owned business to this day as well as holding this same title with Fender Mender; and

WHEREAS, Barry has been involved in public service and has supported a number of organizations including the Kiwanis Pennsylvania District Foundation, Home Nursing Agency, the Central Pennsylvania Community Foundation and has also served as a member on several boards including the Blair County Arts Foundation Board, the Altoona Symphony Orchestra Board, American Bell Association Board, the Swigart Automobile Museum Board, and the Skills of Central Pennsylvania Board; and

WHEREAS, Barry has been recognized for his dedication to his companies and his community by receiving numerous awards including: “Visionary Award - Allegheny Mountains Convention & Visitors Bureau”, “Coldwell Banker Distinguished Citizen of Blair County”, Blair County “Philanthropy Award”, “Angel of the Arts Award” and “Business Hall of Fame”, “Pennsylvania Business Central - Top 100 People”, Juniata College “Church Service Award” and “Alumni Service Award”, “Distinguished Service Award -- Morrison Cove Home”, and “Marquis Who's Who in Finance and Industry”; and

WHEREAS, Barry’s love for Juniata College has never dwindled, as he has been a Trustee since 1987. The Halbritters have generously donated their time and their effort to raise money for BELIEVE: The Campaign for Juniata College. With the Campaign’s goal of raising more than \$115 million, Barry and Marlene \$2 million lead gift to support a new music facility for their alma mater which has been used to support faculty, provide access for students to pursue their education and enhance learning spaces on the campus; and

WHEREAS, Barry and Marlene continue to be actively involved in local, national, and international commerce transactions and philanthropic work in the community at Carson Valley Church of the Brethren and travelling the world together; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, WE, the Blair County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the citizens of Blair County, take this opportunity to recognize and thank Barry Halbritter for his service to the citizens of the County of Blair, and congratulate him on receiving the

2023 Altoona Kiwanis Club “Citizen of the Year” Award

DULY ADOPTED, by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Blair, Pennsylvania, this 27th Day of September 2023.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Marlene graduated from Rockwood High School in 1958 and pursued her B.S. Degree in Science & Education at Juniata College in 1962. Shortly thereafter, she taught Math and Physics at Roosevelt Junior High School from 1963 to 1964 and then worked as their School Librarian from 1965 to 1973. During this time, there were two major events that shaped Marlene’s future, the first being her marriage to her sweetheart, Barry, in 1965; and

WHEREAS, Marlene married Barry J. Halbritter in 1965 after the two met in the band at Juniata College. Their passion for music and the performing arts laid a foundation for their marriage and also the performing arts center at Juniata, which is aptly named the “Marlene and Barry Halbritter Center for the Performing Arts”. Both have shared a passion for civic duty and serving the community in Blair County; and

WHEREAS, in 1967, Marlene obtained her master’s degree in Library & Information Science from the University of Pittsburgh. After recognizing her love for finances, Marlene decided to change career paths to become the Purchasing Manager for Midstate Tool & Supply Inc. in 1973, a role she still holds 50 years later; and

WHEREAS, Aside from being a successful business professional, Marlene has also channeled her passion for philanthropic commitment by being actively involved her community. She has supported The Village of Morrison Cove, Detwiler-Halbritter Building in 1996, and the Juniata College dedications in 2006 for the Halbritter Plaza at The Cloister and the Halbritter Center for the Performing Arts. She also continues involvement with the Altoona Symphony Orchestra, Home Nursing Agency, Mishler Theatre, and the Pillars of Baker Mansion; and

WHEREAS, Marlene has also dedicated over 30 years of service to assist with the Hollidaysburg, Eldorado, and Altoona Kiwanis clubs, having been a past President in the Altoona charter and has belonged to the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Bell Association for over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Marlene continues to be actively involved in local, national, and international commerce transactions and philanthropic work in the community at Carson Valley Church of the Brethren and travelling the world; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, WE, the Blair County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the citizens of Blair County, take this opportunity to recognize and thank Marlene Halbritter for her service to the citizens of the County of Blair, and congratulate her on receiving the

2023 Altoona Kiwanis Club “Citizen of the Year” Award

DULY ADOPTED, by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Blair, Pennsylvania, this 27th Day of September 2023.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution 459-2023:

- a. Payment of the following three-3 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
09/26/2023	230926CY	\$ 69,499.71
09/26/2023	230926SS	\$426,830.41
09/26/2023	230926WW	\$287,087.07 \$283,608.07

- Which includes payment of an invoice to McCarl’s Preferred Services, in the total amount of \$3,479.00.

- b. Ratification of the following two-2 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
09/21/2023	230921HR	\$11,438.34
09/18/2023	230918FS	\$ 1,843.45

- c. Ratification of Total Payroll for the Check Dated 09/22/23 in the total amount of \$846,315.77.
- d. **Resignations:** Robert H. Shirk, FT, Telecommunicator Trainee, Public Safety/911, \$13.88/hr., effective 08/10/23; Holly L. Acker, PT, Caseworker II, CYF, \$17.29/hr., effective 09/01/23; Tracy N. Fitzpatrick, FT, Mental Health Program Specialist, Social Services, \$21.33/hr., effective 09/15/23; Emma M. Zaffino, FT, Department Clark I, Domestic Relations, \$11.03/hr., effective 09/20/23; Joshua J. Coudriet, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$22.16/hr., effective 09/23/23; Scott M. Berardinelli, PT, Deputy, Sheriff’s Office, \$15.52/hr., effective 09/25/23; and Jacob A. Stiffler, FT, Custodian, Custodial Services, \$16.22/hr., effective 09/28/23.

- e. **Employee Status Changes:** Sarah Donovan, From FT, Clerk Typist II/Court Aide, CYF, \$11.13/hr., To, FT, Temporary Department Assistant, CYF, \$11.13/hr., effective 08/14/23; Madison M. Riley, From, FT, Clerk Typist I/Receptionist, CYF, \$10.60/hr., To, Temporary, FT, Department Assistant, CYF, \$10.60/hr., effective 07/24/23; Justin A. Detwiler, From, FT, Fiscal Assistant, CYF, \$11.68/hr., To, FT, Temporary Department Assistant, CYF, \$11.68/hr., effective 08/21/23; Sharon A. Ingram, From, PT, Clerk Typist I/Filing, CYF, \$10.60/hr., To, PT, Temporary Department Assistant, CYF, \$10.60/hr., effective 09/05/23; Diane G. Kilmer, FT, Clerk Typist I/Filing, CYF, \$10.60/hr., To, FT, Temporary Department Assistant, CYF, \$10.60/hr., effective 09/05/23;; Nicholas O. Soto, From, PT, Caseworker II, CYF, \$17.29/hr., To FT, Supervisor/Casework, CYF, \$45,455.02/yr., effective 09/11/23; Zana J. Dively, From PT, 19.0 hrs. Per week, Tipstaff, Court Administration, \$16.03/hr., To, PT, 9.0 hrs. Per week, Tipstaff, Court Administration \$16.03/hr., effective 09/23/23; Lou L. Kensinger, From, PT, 19.0 hrs. Per week, Tipstaff, Court Administration \$11.98/hr., To, PT, 9.0 hrs. Per week, Tipstaff, Court Administration, \$11.98/hr., effective 09/23/23; Karen Swab, From, PT, 19.0 hrs. Per week, Tipstaff, Judge Milliron, \$11.98/hr., To, PT, 9.0 hrs. Per week, Tipstaff, Judge Milliron, \$11.98/hr., effective 09/23/23; and Kyler L. Lardieri, From, FT, Deputy, Sheriff's Office, \$15.52/hr., To, PT, Deputy, Sheriff's Office, \$15.52/hr., effective 09/26/23.
- f. **Retirements:** Deborah L. Korte, FT, Administrative Support, Costs & Fines, \$12.71/hr., effective 09/29/23; and Joseph J. Salomie III., FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$22.88/hr., effective 09/23/23.
- g. **Correction to Date of Separation:** Jessica M. Rodriguez, FT, Supervisor/Casework, CYF, \$50,738.22/yr., correction to date of separation from 09/22/23 to 10/06/23.

Chief Clerk Hemminger announced a change to letter (a) in the Consent Agenda. She stated that the payment of an invoice to McCarl's Preferred Services needed to be removed from the agenda, and the amount of the invoice \$3,479.00 needed to be subtracted from the total amount of Warrant Number 230926WW, dated 09/26/23, reducing the amount of the warrant from \$287,087.07 to \$283,608.07.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 459-2023 with the correction as noted.

STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS

ABCD Corp:

Bon Secours Parcels:

- i. A resolution amending Resolution 250-2013 extending the term of exemptions, deductions, abatements and credits for real property, earned income tax, net profits mercantile, and business privilege taxes within a specific geographic area in the County of Blair designated as a Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone ("KOEZ") or Keystone Opportunity Improvement Zone ("KOIZ") in order to foster economic opportunities, stimulate industrial, commercial, and residential improvements and prevent physical and infrastructure deterioration within areas of County of Blair, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, upon certain terms and conditions.

Claar Parcel:

- ii. A resolution amending Resolution 247-2013 extending the term of exemptions, deductions, abatements and credits for real property, earned income tax, net profits mercantile, and business privilege taxes within a specific geographic area in the County of Blair designated as a Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone ("KOEZ") or Keystone Opportunity Improvement Zone ("KOIZ") in order to foster economic opportunities, stimulate industrial, commercial, and residential improvements and prevent physical and infrastructure deterioration within areas of County of Blair, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, upon certain terms and conditions.

Matt Fox stated that the KOEZ extension requests for the Bon Secours parcels are for undeveloped land within the City of Altoona, and the Claar Parcel is for undeveloped land in the Marasco Business Center. The parcels will go back on the tax rolls as of January 1, 2024. He stated that should the parcels be developed and occupied, whatever time is remaining on the KOEZ extension would be the period the parcels will not be subject to taxes through December 31, 2030.

Discussion followed.

Resolution 460-2023: A resolution amending Resolution 247-2013 extending the term of exemptions, deductions, abatements and credits for real property, earned income tax, net profits mercantile, and business privilege taxes within a specific geographic area in the County of Blair designated as a Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone ("KOEZ") or Keystone Opportunity Improvement Zone ("KOIZ") in order to foster economic opportunities, stimulate industrial, commercial, and residential improvements and prevent physical and infrastructure deterioration within areas of County of Blair, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, upon certain terms and conditions.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 460-2023.

Resolution 461-2023: A resolution amending Resolution 247-2013 extending the term of exemptions, deductions, abatements and credits for real property, earned income tax, net profits mercantile, and business privilege taxes within a specific geographic area in the County of Blair designated as a Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone ("KOEZ") or Keystone Opportunity Improvement Zone ("KOIZ") in order to foster economic opportunities, stimulate industrial, commercial, and residential improvements and prevent physical and infrastructure deterioration within areas of County of Blair, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, upon certain terms and conditions.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 461-2023.

Social Services:

Trina Illig requested approval for the submission of a FY 2020 Revision to Project Scope, Contract C000077647, to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for existing activity on behalf of Antis Township. Antis Township will utilize allocated FY 2020 CDBG funds to purchase materials and equipment for no-touch restroom equipment for six-6 existing restrooms located within the Bellwood-Antis Recreation Park facilities instead of a new pre-fabricated touchless restroom.

Mrs. Illig stated that the request is to revise the existing scope of work activity under the County's FY 2020 CDBG Contract on behalf of Antis Township with no monetary/financial changes. She stated Antis Township would purchase no-touch restroom equipment for the six-6 existing restrooms located at the Bellwood-Antis Recreation Park, instead of constructing a new pre-fabricated touchless restroom.

Discussion followed.

Resolution 462-2023: A resolution approving the submission of a FY 2020 Revision to Project Scope, Contract C000077647, to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for existing activity on behalf of Antis Township. Antis Township will utilize allocated FY 2020 CDBG funds to purchase materials and equipment for no-touch restroom equipment for six-6 existing restrooms located within the Bellwood-Antis Recreation Park facilities instead of a new pre-fabricated touchless restroom.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 462-2023.

GIS:

Grant Wills requested approval of a quote received from Document Solutions Inc., for the purchase of an HP Designjet XL 3600 Multifunction printer, in the total amount of \$10,310.47, to replace the broken plotter and consolidate plotter used between the Assessment and GIS Departments. Said printer will be paid from the county's Records Improvement Fund.

Mr. Wills stated that three-3 vendors were asked for quotes for the purchase of a multifunction printer, however only two-2 quotes were received. He stated the purchase of a new printer would reduce yearly operating costs related to plotter consumables such as ink, paper and print-heads.

Discussion followed.

Resolution 463-2023: Approving a quote received from Document Solutions Inc., for the purchase of an HP Designjet XL 3600 Multifunction printer, in the total amount of \$10,310.47, to replace the broken plotter and consolidate plotter used between the Assessment and GIS Departments. Said printer will be paid from the county's Records Improvement Fund.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 463-2023.

Prison:

- i. Jay Whitesel requested approval of a quote received from Norix Group, Inc., for the purchase of items listed below, to facilitate Medication Assisted Treatment for Blair County Prison Inmates who are undergoing treatment of an Opioid Use Disorder prior to incarceration and during incarceration. Said purchase shall be paid from Opioid Settlement Funds:

(5) Steel Intelestation – Open Wm with SST Seat-Base Unit	\$14,464.35
Shipping	\$ 416.64
Total	\$14,880.99

Discussion followed.

Resolution 464-2023: Approving a quote received from Norix Group, Inc., for the purchase of items to facilitate Medication Assisted Treatment for Blair County Prison Inmates who are undergoing treatment of an Opioid Use Disorder prior to incarceration and during incarceration. Said purchase shall be paid from Opioid Settlement Funds.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 464-2023.

- ii. Jay Whitesel requested approval of a quote received from Park Security Cameras, for the purchase of items listed below, to facilitate Medication Assisted Treatment for Blair County Prison Inmates who are undergoing treatment of an Opioid Use Disorder prior to incarceration and during incarceration. Said purchase shall be paid from Opioid Settlement Funds:

Luma Surveillance 310 Series 8 Channel NVR 1	\$1,175.62
(5) Luma Surveillance 420 Series 4MP Dome IP Cameras	\$2,635.60
Technician Labor	\$ 900.00
Total	\$4,711.22

Discussion followed.

Resolution 465-2023: Approving a quote received from Park Security Cameras, for the purchase of items to facilitate Medication Assisted Treatment for Blair County Prison Inmates who are undergoing treatment of an Opioid Use Disorder prior to incarceration and during incarceration. Said purchase shall be paid from Opioid Settlement Funds.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 465-2023.

- iii. Jay Whitesel requested approval of a quote received from Lowes, for the purchase of items listed below, to facilitate Medication Assisted Treatment for Blair County Prison Inmates who are undergoing treatment of an Opioid Use Disorder prior to incarceration and during incarceration. Said purchase shall be paid from Opioid Settlement Funds:

Southwire 1000-ft Gray Data Cable	\$119.00
IDEAL 25-pack Cat5 Modular Plug	\$ 13.89
(4) SmartStraps Gold D-ring	\$ 39.92
Total	\$172.81

Discussion followed.

Resolution 466-2023: Approving a quote received from Lowes, for the purchase of items to facilitate Medication Assisted Treatment for Blair County Prison Inmates who are undergoing treatment of an Opioid Use Disorder prior to incarceration and during incarceration. Said purchase shall be paid from Opioid Settlement Funds.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 466-2023.

Tax Claim Bureau:

Sue St Martin requested approval of four-4 Judicial Sale Title Search/Bring-down Services Agreements between the County of Blair and the law firms/and realty services to conduct Title Searches on Judicial Sale Properties and Bring-down Searches on Upset Sale Properties needed for completion by December 31, 2023, in the amounts as advertised in Resolution 213-2023.

- Rea, Rea & Lashinsky
- Mears & Adams
- Sullivan Law Office LLC
- Evey Black Attorneys LLC

Ms. St Martin stated that there are 82 unsold properties and 13 overbids. She stated that Attorney Fanelli reviewed the agreements.

Discussion followed.

Resolution 467-2023: Approving four-4 Judicial Sale Title Search/Bring-down Services Agreements between the County of Blair and the law firms/and realty services to conduct Title Searches on Judicial Sale Properties and Bring-down Searches on Upset Sale Properties needed for completion by December 31, 2023, in the amounts as advertised in Resolution 213-2023.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 467-2023.

Public Works/Highway:

Paul Shaffer requested approval for the submission of a Zoning/Building Code Review Application to Hollidaysburg Borough for the construction of a Salt Storage Building at the Blair County Highway Yard; and submission of an Application for Erosion and Sedimentation Control to the Blair County Conservation District for said Salt Storage Building construction.

Discussion followed.

Resolution 468-2023: Approving submission of a Zoning/Building Code Review Application to Hollidaysburg Borough for the construction of a Salt Storage Building at the Blair County Highway Yard; and submission of an Application for Erosion and Sedimentation Control to the Blair County Conservation District for said Salt Storage Building construction.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 468-2023.

Commissioners:

Allison Senkevich requested approval of an Amendment to Project Supplement No. 2023-1 to the Grant Cooperation Agreement by and between the County of Blair and Alleghenies Broadband, Inc., (ABI) for the Crowsnet Broadband Blair County Wireless Expansion Project, extending the original required completion date from September 30, 2023 to January 30, 2024 for the project as set forth within Section 4 of said Supplement.

Mrs. Senkevich stated that the project is being paid through an allocation from the county's American Rescue Plan Fund.

Discussion followed.

Resolution 469-2023: A resolution approving an Amendment to Project Supplement No. 2023-1 to the Grant Cooperation Agreement by and between the County of Blair and Alleghenies Broadband, Inc., (ABI) for the Crowsnet Broadband Blair County Wireless Expansion Project, extending the original required completion date from September 30, 2023 to January 30, 2024 for the project as set forth within Section 4 of said Supplement.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 469-2023.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURN:

Meeting Adjourned,