

BUSINESS SESSION: THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023, 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 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 those in attendance 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:

Allison Senkevich and Melissa Harpster (Commissioners Office), Rebecca Robinson (Purchasing), AC Stickel (Controller) and Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror).

Approval of Meeting Minutes: 05/02/23 and 05/04/23

Commissioner Erb called for corrections or changes to the meeting minutes of 05/02/23 and 05/04/23. **There were no corrections or changes noted.**

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

CCAP Priority Talk: County Mental Health Base Funding Increase.

Commissioner Erb provided the following overview of the CCAP Priority pertaining to the County Mental Health Base Funding Increase:

“Last week, this Board recognized May as Mental Health Awareness Month.

While awareness of the need to prioritize mental health and the ways the County supports community mental health needs is important, we need to move past awareness and stress the need for urgent action to rebuild Pennsylvania’s crumbling mental health system.

Years of underfunding have left the commonwealth’s mental health system in crisis.

Counties are struggling to maintain community-based services such as outpatient treatment for adults and children, crisis intervention, support for individuals leaving state facilities, student assistance programs, and prevention.

Increased support for the community mental health system will improve outcomes for individuals, allow for prevention and treatment where people need it most, help prevent individuals from more significant impacts like going to the hospital emergency department, provide crucial support for children with complex behavioral health needs, and begin to address the growing issue of the county prison serving as a de-facto mental health facility as Commissioner Burke discussed two weeks ago.

The crisis in Blair County will be further exacerbated with the Medicaid eligibility changes due to the ending of the public health crisis.

Blair HealthChoices Executive Director Amy Marten-Shanafelt estimates that 6-7,000 county residents will lose their Medicaid coverage, which will add more burdens and costs to the county’s mental health system.

In 2010, Blair County’s Mental Health Base Funding was around \$4.1 million. This year it is less than \$3.7 million, even as costs have risen significantly.

Thanks to the flexibility of the county mental health base funding and good management by the county’s Mental Health office, our residents continue to receive services.

But, those funds are now stretched to the breaking point.

However, there is some good news in Governor Shapiro’s proposed budget.

The governor proposed a \$20 million increase in county mental health base funding for FY 2023-24, with additional funds in successive years, reaching a \$60 million increase by FY 2027-28.

We appreciate this proposed increase as it addresses a top CCAP priority for 2023 and a long-time goal for increased mental health base funding.

But, this would only serve as a down payment toward a long-term commitment to counties, who need funding to rebuild the crumbling mental health system and shore up the social services safety net.

CCAP is asking the Administration and General Assembly to make a more significant investment in rebuilding Pennsylvania’s mental health system by increasing the county mental health base by \$150 million.

To build the \$20 million increase proposed by Gov. Shapiro to \$50 million,

To redirect the Governor’s proposed \$100 million mental health increase for schools into the county mental health base to improve coordination for better outcomes,

And, to invest the \$100 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act funding allocated for mental health consistent with their Commission’s recommendations.

The commonwealth needs to commit to a long-term plan of further increases over the next five to ten years to pull Pennsylvania’s mental health system from the point of collapse to a system that fully meets the needs of its citizens.”

Public Comment:

Commissioner Erb called for public comment.

Controller AC Stickel presented the Board Members with a copy of the “2023 PSAECO Legislative Priorities” adopted by the Pennsylvania State Association of Elected County Officials (PSAECO). The PSAECO Legislative Priorities includes all CCAP Priorities.

Unfinished Business:

Adoption of Resolutions:

Resolution 226-2023: Approving the submission of a grant application to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), Grant ID #9679507, in the total amount of \$295,964.55, for the Blair Police Traffic Safety Enforcement Program, for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026; and authorizing Nicole M. Hemminger, Chief Clerk to sign the grant application on behalf of the County of Blair.

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 226-2023.

Resolution 227-2023: Approving the submission of the FY 23/24 Intermediate Punishment, Probation with Restrictive Conditions Grant #40661, and the Intermediate Punishment Plan to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), in the total amount of \$315,000.00, for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 227-2023.

Resolution 228-2023: Approving a renewal contract between the County of Blair, and Karpel Solutions to continue the use of the software program PROSECUTORbyKarpel® hosted through HOSTEDbyKarpel®, in the total amount of \$26,500.00 as outlined below:

Description	Quantity	Price	Total Cost
PROSECUTORbyKarpel license maintenance	20	\$ 450.00	\$ 9,000.00
PBK Annual Hosting	20	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,000.00
Annual eDiscovery service	20	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Hosting Additional Storage estimated	13	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00
Total			\$26,500.00

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 228-2023.

Resolution 229-2023: Approving the FY 22/23 (renewal) Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families and Justiceworks Youthcare, Inc., for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 229-2023.

Resolution 230-2023: Approving the FY 22/23 (renewal) Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families and Alternative Living Solutions for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 230-2023.

Resolution 231-2023: Approving the FY 22/23 (renewal) Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families and Wardell & Associates, Inc., d/b/a Family Intervention Crisis Service, for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 231-2023.

Resolution 232-2023: Approving the FY 22/23 (renewal) Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families and Evolution Counseling Services, LLC for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 232-2023.

Resolution 233-2023: Approving an Agreement for Purchase of Professional Services and Exhibit A (Development Proposal) between the County of Blair and Aaron V. Nygren, d/b/a Nygren Training Solutions for supervisory, management, and leadership training for the period of June 1, 2023 through October 31, 2023, in the not to exceed amount of \$15,000.00.

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 233-2023.

Resolution 234-2023: Approving authorization for the Pennsylvania County Health Insurance Purchasing Cooperative (PCHIPC) to distribute 50% of the \$440,957.00 (\$220,478.50) Claim Fund Surplus for plan year 2022, by refund check into the County’s General Fund.

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 234-2023.

Resolution 235-2023: Approving to rescind Resolution 73-2023, dated February 14, 2023, for approving a quote received from Schultz Company, to replace the roof top unit #2 heat exchanger at the Blair County Prison, in the total amount of \$4,376.00.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 235-2023.

Resolution 236-2023: Approving a quote received from McCarl's Preferred Services (MPS), to replace the roof top unit #2 heat exchanger at the Blair County Prison, in the total amount of \$3,479.00.

Commissioner Burke noted her abstention due to a conflict of interest.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 236-2023 with the abstention as noted.

Resolution 237-2023: Approving a Service Contract between the County of Blair and Craig Fencing, LLC to perform fencing service calls at county properties at the time and material rates for work needing immediate attention for an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 at the hourly rates, material markup, etc., outlined in contract.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 237-2023.

Resolution 238-2023: Approving a Service Contract between the County of Blair and Boyer Refrigeration Heating & Air Conditioning to perform service calls at county properties at the time and material rates for work needing immediate attention for an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 at the hourly rates, material markup, etc., outlined in contract.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 238-2023.

Resolution 239-2023: Approving a Proposal of Service Contract between the County of Blair and Keller Engineers, Inc., for design and construction services for the rehabilitation of County Road 105 (Convention Center Boulevard) through Allegheny Township, in the total lump sum plus estimated of \$299,996.00.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 239-2023.

Resolution 240-2023: Approving a Proposal of Service Contract between the County of Blair and Keller Engineers, Inc., for the completion of stream monitoring services per permit requirements associated with the Blair County Bridge #70 project located in Greenfield Township, in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 240-2023.

Resolution 241-2023: Approving to revise the 2022-2023 Pennsylvania Counties Risk Pool (PCoRP) Loss Prevention Grant Program, Application #2 Submission, previously approved via Resolution 179-2023, removing body armor from said application and adding additional door swipes, for a revised total grant amount of \$13,515.98.

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 241-2023.

Resolution 242-2023: Approving a Proposal received from Auto-Owners Insurance, for builder's risk insurance for the Valley View Park Amphitheater Project, in the total amount of \$1,406.00, for the period of May 1, 2023 through May 1, 2024.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 242-2023.

Resolution 243-2023: Approving an allocation of Park and Recreation Reserve Account Funds, in an amount not to exceed \$4,500.00 to conduct the CBRC summer playground program at Valley View Park June 12, 2023 through July 7, 2023 (with the exception of July 4, 2023) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., maximum of 50 participants with two-2 leaders.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 243-2023.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Adjourn:

Meeting Adjourned,

Nicole M. Hemminger, Chief Clerk