

**WORK SESSION: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 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 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, Chief Clerk Hemminger and Solicitor Karn.

**Others Present:**

Helen Schmitt (Public), Allison Senkevich and Melissa Harpster (Commissioners Office), Jay Whitesel (Prison), Sarah Seymour (Elections), Jim Pooler (Public Works/Building Maintenance), AC Stickel (Controller), Paul Shaffer (Public Works), Jeff Hackenberg (Penn State Extension), Rebecca Robinson (Purchasing), Lindsay Dempsie and Brandon Meck (Finance), Mindy Hostler and Claudia Conrad (CYF), Joe Keller (Keller Engineers), Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror), Scott Schultz (Court Administration), Trina Illig (Social Services) and Amanda Moore (APO).

**Upcoming Meetings:**

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

Thursday, February 23, 2023	8:30 a.m.	Blair County Planning Commission (Altoona Water Authority)
	10:00 a.m.	*Commissioners Business Session (Commissioners Meeting Room)

Friday, February 24, 2023

Monday, February 27, 2023	1:30 p.m.	Conservation District Board Meeting (1407 Blair St., Hollidaysburg, PA)
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Tuesday, February 28, 2023	10:00 a.m.	*Commissioners Work Session (Commissioners Meeting Room)
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**Executive Session Announcement:**

Chief Clerk Hemminger announced that the three-3 Commissioners, HR Director Katherine Swigart, Labor Council John Baker and herself would meet in Executive Session beginning at 10 a.m., Wednesday, February 22, 2023 to discuss one-1 bargaining agreement.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes – 02/07/23 and 02/09/23:**

Commissioner Erb called for corrections or changes to the meeting minutes of 02/07/23 and 02/09/23. 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 Erb called for public comment. **There were no comments noted.**

**Commissioner Comments:**

Commissioner Erb called for commissioner comments.

Commissioner Webster stated she had no comments.

Commissioner Burke stated she had no comments.

Commissioner Erb announced that the Altoona Housing Authority would begin accepting applications for the Section 8 wait list. Applications will be accepted from 03/01/23 through 03/20/23.

**Proclamation – 2023 Citizen of the Year Randy Feathers:**

Commissioner Erb read and requested adoption of the following proclamation:

**PROCLAMATION  
2023 RESPECTED CITIZEN  
RANDY FEATHERS**

**WHEREAS**, Randy Feathers earned an Associates' Degree in Letters, Arts and Sciences from Penn State University in 1979, and a Bachelors' Degree in Criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1981; and

**WHEREAS**, Randy Feathers has over 39 years of progressive law enforcement experience beginning as a police officer in Washington, DC in 1981; and

**WHEREAS**, Randy Feathers' career has focused on drug investigations and enforcement with the Altoona Police Department from 1982 through 1988; and

**WHEREAS**, Randy Feathers in 1988 began as the Director for the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General Bureau of Narcotics and Drug Control overseeing investigations in 15 Pennsylvania counties, and as the Supervising Agent with the Office of Attorney General in the successful prosecution of Jerry Sandusky on child sexual assault charges; and

**WHEREAS**, Randy Feathers was nominated by Governor Tom Corbett to serve on the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, and began his term as Board Member on October 3, 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, Randy Feathers retired in 2021 as a Chief Detective with the Blair County District Attorney’s Office, and serves presently as the Vice-President of the Noonan Investigative Group conducting risk/safety assessments for schools, hospitals, and businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, Randy Feathers was a founding member of the Booker T. Washington Revitalization Corporation serving as its first President; and under his guidance the corporation revitalized Booker T. Washington and Prospect Parks; and

**WHEREAS**, Randy Feathers has received numerous accommodations and awards for his services in the community including the NAACP Service Award, the Charlie Ditcher Community Service Award and the Operation Our Town Service Award; and

**WHEREAS**, Randy Feathers served on the panel to develop and implement the creation of the Drug Court Program, Advisory Board Member of the Blair County Children, Youth and Families Advisory Board, Chairman of the Blair County Needs Assessment Partnership Crime Group, Advisory Board Member of the Blair County Drug and Alcohol Partnership, Volunteer at Altoona Boxing Club, and Board Member of Operation our Town; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, we, the Blair County Board of Commissioners on behalf of the citizens of Blair County, Pennsylvania would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank Randy Feathers for his service to the citizens of the County of Blair, Pennsylvania and congratulate him on receiving the **2023 Respected Citizen Award**.

**DULY ADOPTED**, by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Blair, Pennsylvania, this 21<sup>st</sup> Day of February 2023.

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt the Proclamation.

**Consent Agenda:**

**Resolution 88-2023:**

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

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
02/21/2023	230221WW	\$593,048.29
02/21/2023	230221SS	\$ 9,472.49
02/21/2023	230221CY	\$409,058.90

- b. Ratification of the following five-5 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
02/17/2023	230217RF	\$ 1,050.09
02/16/2023	230216ML	\$31,496.74
02/16/2023	230216HR	\$20,651.20
02/13/2023	230213FS	\$ 3,362.51
02/09/2023	230209HR	\$ 5,075.40

- c. **2023 Budget Transfer:** Legal fees received from Campbell Durrant for the month of January 2023.

From	\$	To
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$2,457.20	01209PO-44080 Prison

- d. **2023 Budget Transfer:** Legal fees received from McNeese Wallace for the month of January 2023.

From	\$	To
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$600.00	01105-44080 Human Resources
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$1350.00	01103HW-44080 Public Works – Highway
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$810.00	75504-44080 Social Services
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$300.00	44122-44080 Public Safety – 911
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$750.00	01202-44080 Juvenile Probation
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$5190.00	01101-44080 Commissioners
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$9360.00	01101-44080 Commissioners
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$3750.00	01151-44080 Sheriff
01101GCO-42040 General County Operations	\$168.99	01151-42040 Sheriff (travel related to legal fees)

- e. **2022 Budget Transfer:** Comm Truck Camera replacements.

From	\$	To
01101GCO-41999 General County Operations	\$17,500.00	36101-46060 Capital Reserve

- f. **2023 Budget Transfer:** Comm Truck Camera replacements.

From	\$	To
36101-46060 Capital Reserve	\$17,500.00	44122-46060 911

- g. **2022 Budget Transfer:** For equipment not received in 2022.

From	\$	To
01101GCO-41999 General County Operations	\$8,954.84	36101-46060 Capital Reserve

- h. **2023 Budget Transfer:** For equipment not received in 2022.

From	\$	To
36101-46060 Capital Reserve	\$8,954.84	01164711-46060 Victim Witness

- i. **Blair County Planning Commission:** Requesting approval of the resignation of Randal Isenberg (City) from the Commission effective February 9, 2023. Unexpired term through December 31, 2026.

- j. **Resignations:** Tonya D. Holder, FT, Case Manager Enforcement Specialist, Domestic Relations, \$15.75/hr., effective 02/15/23; Jeannette C. Mock, FT, Receptionist, Court Administration, \$10.66/hr., effective 02/23/23; Ashley P. Campbell, FT, Administrative Support, Assessment, \$11.75/hr., effective 02/24/23; and Denise L. Wyant, From, PT, Tipstaff, Court Administration, \$12.40/hr., To, PT, Administrative Support, Public Defender’s Office, \$12.16/hr., effective 02/20/23.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 88-2023.

**Staff Reports & Special Business:**

**Valley View Park:**

Joe Keller requested approval for the award or rejection of bids received for the Valley View Park Amphitheater general construction and electrical construction projects.

Mr. Keller stated that an invitation for bids for the general construction and electrical construction of the Valley View Park Amphitheater Project were received and opened on 02/03/23.

Mr. Keller stated that the following three-3 bids were received for general construction; John Claar Excavating, Inc., in the total base bid amount of \$184,780.00; BCS Construction, Inc., in the total base bid amount of \$245,950.00; and Leonard S. Fiore, in the total base bid amount of \$248,000.00.

Mr. Keller stated that John Claar Excavating, Inc. was the apparent low bidder for the general construction contract; however, they forgot to submit the Public Works Verification Form. After Solicitor and Board review, this omission was deemed a curable omission that could be corrected and was corrected.

Mr. Keller requested that the board consider awarding the contract for general construction to John Claar Excavating, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications in the total base bid amount of \$184,780.00.

Mr. Keller stated that the following two-2 bids were received for the electrical construction; Stelco, Inc., in the total base bid amount of \$61,700.00; and Westmoreland Electric Services LLC, in the total base bid amount of \$77,500.00. He stated that Stelco, Inc. is the apparent low bidder meeting specifications and requested that the board consider awarding the electrical contract to Stelco, Inc.

Discussion followed.

**Resolution 89-2023:** Approving the award of bid for general construction of the Valley View Amphitheater Project to John Claar Excavating, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications in the total base bid amount of \$184,780.00; and award of bid for electrical construction of the Valley View Amphitheater Project to Stelco, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications in the total base bid amount of \$61,700.00.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 89-2023.

**Social Services:**

Trina Illig requested approval for the submission of a FY 21 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Contract #C000080690, Budget Revision #1, to the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development as follows:

**Family Services:**

1. Reduce the total amount of the Sub-Recipient Agreement from Fifty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$57,000) to Forty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$42,000) reducing the agreement by \$15,000.00.
2. Reduce existing Rapid Rehousing Financial activity from \$13,750.00 to \$6,750.00 and reduce Assistance and Rental Assistance from \$39,750.00 to \$31,750.00 for a total decrease of \$15,000.00.

**Center for Community Action:**

1. Increase the total amount of the Sub-Recipient Agreement from Thirty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$37,000) to Fifty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$52,000) increasing the agreement by \$15,000.00.
2. Increase existing Financial Assistance activity from \$800.00 to \$2,000.00 and existing Homeless Prevention Rental Assistance activity from \$6,200.00 to \$20,000.00 for a total increase of \$15,000.00.
3. Reduce existing Rapid Rehousing Rental Assistance activity from \$19,000.00 to \$13,000.00 and increase existing Rapid Rehousing Financial Assistance activity from \$2,000.00 to \$8,000.00 for a total reduction and increase of \$6,000.00.

Discussion followed.

**Elections/Voter Registration:**

Sarah Seymour requested approval of an Addendum to Agreement dated June 25, 2019 between the County of Blair and Election Systems and Software LLC. The terms of the Addendum to Agreement shall supplement the terms of the agreement and capitalized terms not otherwise defined shall have the same meanings ascribed to them in the agreement; and requesting approval of a quote received from Election Systems and Software LLC for the purchase of Model DS450 High-Throughput Scanner and Tabulator, five-5 year Hardware Warranty and one-1 year Software License, Maintenance and Support, in the total amount of \$57,805.00.

Ms. Seymour stated that the quoted costs for the scanner, tabulator, hardware warranty and software license, maintenance and support would be paid with Election Integrity Grant Funds.

Discussion followed.

**Adult Parole and Probation:**

Amanda Moore requested approval for the submission of a Grant-In-Aid Application (sub-grant 2022-GA-ST-40308) to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), in the total amount of \$70,288.00, for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Ms. Moore stated that this is an annual request to PCCD. Funds will be used to assist in covering salaries in adult parole and probation that are not covered by the general fund.

Discussion followed.

**Court Administration:**

Scott Schultz requested approval for the submission of a FY 2022/2023 Discretionary Grant Application to the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), in the total amount of \$3,744.00 for the Blair County DUI Court, and \$4,894.00 for the Blair County Drug Court. Grant funds will be used to help pay for yearly training for staff, incentives, transportation and grocery assistance for participants.

Mr. Schultz stated that this is an annual request to AOPC. Funds will be used to help pay for yearly training for staff, as well as incentives, transportation and grocery assistance for court participants.

Discussion followed.

**Children, Youth and Families:**

1. Mindy Hostler requested approval of a FY 2020/2021 renewal Purchase of Service Agreement and a HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families (CYF) and Bethany Christian Services of Central PA.

Ms. Hostler stated that Solicitor Karn reviewed the agreements and insurance documents.

Discussion followed.

2. Laura Burke requested approval of a Letter of Support of a Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) grant submission by Evolution Expressions for the implementation of Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT) in Blair County to better serve our at-risk and co-occurring population of families and youth in need.

Commissioner Burke stated that the letter of support is for submission of a grant application to PCCD with the support of Blair Drug and Alcohol Partnership (BDAP) for funding to start up the Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT) program in Blair and Huntingdon Counties. Families served will be clients of CYF and JPO. The program is an evidence-based approach to treating families with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. This was previously considered for inclusion in the Needs Based Budget, but was not pursued due to the high start-up costs. The grant will fund start-up and fifteen (15) months of services. The county could then include funding to continue the service in the FY 24/25 Needs Based Budget.

Discussion followed.

**Public Works/Highway:**

Paul Shaffer requested approval of a quote received from Allegheny Truck Inc., for Passenger/Light Truck Tire Services Pricing, Commercial Truck and Backhoe Tire Services Pricing, at the varied rates outlined in said quote for 2023.

Discussion followed.

**Prison:**

Jay Whitesel requested approval for the award, rejection or rebidding of the bids received for food and non-food items for the Blair County Prison.

Mr. Whitesel stated that after thorough review of the bids received for food and non-food products for the prison, he is recommending that the board consider awarding the bid received from Ritchey's Dairy for various dairy products; rejecting the bid received from U.S. Foods due to non-compliant bid documents; and rejecting the bid received from Lodging Kit Company because the prices quoted were above the anticipated threshold and higher than the cost of the products the county is currently purchasing.

Discussion followed.

**Resolution 90-2023:** Approving the award of bid received from Ritchey's Dairy, the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications for various dairy products; rejecting the bid received from U.S. Foods for various food and non-food products, due to non-compliant bid documents; and rejecting the bid received from Lodging Kit Company for various non-food products because product prices quoted were above the anticipated threshold and higher than the cost of products currently purchased.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 90-2023.

**Old Business:**

**Commissioners:**

Requesting approval of a Letter of Commitment from the County of Blair to UPMC Altoona Foundation for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, in the total amount of \$200,000.00, to support a new Emergency Psychiatric Assessment Treatment and Health (EMPATH) Unit.

No action taken.

**Adjourn:**

Meeting Adjourned,

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Nicole M. Hemminger, Chief Clerk