

WORK SESSION: TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 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 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, Chief Clerk Hemminger and Assistant Solicitor Muriceak.

Members Absent:

Solicitor Karn.

Others Present:

Cris Fredrickson (EMA/911E), Melissa Harpster and Allison Senkevich (Commissioner’s Office), AC Stickel (Controller), Brian Walters and Melena Koegler (HR), Glenn Nelson (Fort Roberdeau), Rebecca Robinson (Purchasing), Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror), Sherry Socie (Planning Commission), Brandon Meck and Lindsay Dempsie (Finance), Paul Shaffer (Public Works/Highway), and Kerrie Baughman (CYF).

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Thursday, June 15, 2023

8:30 a.m.

Prison Board

(At the Prison)

9:30 a.m.

*Records Improvement Committee

(Commissioners Meeting Room)

10:00 a.m.

*Commissioners Business Session

(Commissioners Meeting Room)

Friday, June 16, 2023

Monday, June 19, 2023

Juneteenth

Courthouse Closed

Tuesday, June 20, 2023

10:00 a.m.

*Commissioners Work Session

(Commissioners Meeting Room)

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:

Chief Clerk Hemminger announced that immediately following today’s Work Session Meeting the three-3 Commissioners, Finance Director, Labor Council as well as herself will meet in Executive Session to discuss one-1 collective bargaining unit.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution 280-2023:

- a. Payment of the following four-4 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
06/13/2023	230613WW	\$773,586.49
06/13/2023	230613CY	\$630,438.04
06/13/2023	230613SS	\$413,325.54
06/13/2023	230613TC	\$237,464.57

Which includes payment of the following invoices:

- Thomas and Chandra Jandora, in the total amount of \$1,550.00.
- UPMC Altoona, in the total amount of \$770.98.

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

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
06/09/2023	230610FP	\$255,070.75
06/08/2023	230608HR	\$ 31,135.97
06/05/2023	230605RF	\$ 587.35
06/05/2023	230605ML	\$ 30,469.97
06/05/2023	230605FS	\$ 2,152.08

- c. **2023 Budget Transfer:** Legal fees received from Saxton & Stump LLC.

From	\$	To
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$5,374.16	01158-44080 District Attorney

- d. **2023 Budget Transfer:** Legal fees received from McNees Wallace April 2023.

From	\$	To
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$180.00	01105-44080 Human Resources
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$1000.00	01202-44080 JPO

- e. **Human Resources:** Requesting approval of a Transitional Work Experience - Worksite Agreement between the County of Blair and Goodwill of the Southern Alleghenies, Inc. for the Adult, Transition to Work Experience (TWE) and Youth, Paid Work Experience (PWE) Programs, for the period of June 6, 2023 through June 06, 2024. Tax Claim will be the host department should Goodwill of the Southern Alleghenies, Inc., receive federal and state funding for the program and is able to provide the county with program-eligible participants.

- f. **Human Resources:** Requesting approval of one-1 TWE/PWE trainee, Margareta Cook, within the Tax Claim Office for the period of June 20, 2023 through September 4, 2023, at no cost to the county.

- g. **Terminations:** Brittany T. Hudson, PT, Temporary, Department Assistant, MDJ Blattenberger, \$11.98/hr., effective 04/07/2023.
- h. **Resignations:** Brent S. Houpp, FT, Caseworker I, CYF, \$17.29/hr., effective 05/31/2023; Caleb J. McGeary, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.05/hr., effective 06/07/2023; Dorothy A. Compton, FT, Sentencing Guidelines Coordinator, \$13.54/hr., effective 06/09/2023; and Noah L. Michael, FT, Parole and Probation Officer, APO, \$16.54/hr., effective 06/09/2023.
- i. **Employment:** Kellie C. Hurd, PT, Tipstaff, Judge Kagarise, \$11.58/hr., effective 06/12/2023; and Isaac H. Swanson, FT, Caseworker I, CYF, \$17.29/hr., effective 06/12/23.
- j. **Employment Status Change:** Tracey A. Rocus, From, FT, Unit Supervisor, Domestic Relations, \$32,614.40/yr., To, FT, Deputy Director, Domestic Relations, \$48,605.44/yr., effective 06/05/2023; Karen M. Bonanno, From, FT, Casework Manager, CYF, \$50,624.60/yr., To, FT, Casework Supervisor, CYF, \$48,677.46/yr., effective 06/10/23; Sue Ann Feather, From, PT, Treasurer Clerk, Treasurer's Office, (19 hours per week), \$11.75/hr., To, FT, Administrative Support, Tax Claim, \$12.16/hr., effective 06/12/2023; and Celesta R. Smith, From, FT, Receptionist Clerk, Prothonotary, \$11.83/hr., To, FT, Sentencing Guidelines Coordinator, District Attorney's Office, \$12.16/hr., effective 06/14/2023.

Commissioner Burke noted her abstention on the payment of an invoice to Thomas and Chandra Jandora due to a conflict of interest.

Commissioner Erb noted his abstention on the payment of invoices to UPMC Altoona due to a conflict of interest.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 280-2023.

STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:

Valley View Park:

Joe Keller requested approval of a Change Order received from Stelco Inc. for the additional electrical work being completed on the Valley View Park Amphitheater project as part of the DCNR grant award in the total amount of \$694.48.

Mr. Keller stated that Stelco discovered once on site that the existing electrical feed to the Amphitheater does not have conduit and is buried. He stated there are cost savings to add 1 ½" conduit while a ditch is open.

Mr. Keller recommended that the Board consider accepting the Change Order received from Stelco for the additional electrical work in the total increased amount of \$694.48.

Discussion followed.

Blair County Planning Commission:

Sherry Socie requested approval of a Letter of Support for the Blair County Planning Commission's application to seek funding for Phase I of a countywide ACT 167 Stormwater Management Plan.

Mrs. Socie stated that the Planning Commission just became aware that the county might be eligible for up to \$40,000.00 in grant funding. The grant requires a 10% match of funds to be paid with Blair Planning funds. If funding were awarded, funds would be used to establish a Phase I Plan to develop impactful, regional actions as well as a timeframe for preventative, mitigation and proactive efforts across the county in Stormwater Management. By having a Plan, municipalities would be able to prepare and enact ordinances and regulations of development within their municipality that is consistent within their watershed.

Grants are scheduled to be awarded by the end of September 2023.

Discussion followed.

Department of Emergency Services/911E:

Cris Fredrickson requested approval of a no-cost period of performance extension for the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) Hazardous Material Response Fund (HMRP) Grant Agreement (C950003785) extending the term to January 31, 2024 and the period of performance to December 31, 2023.

Mrs. Fredrickson stated that PEMA made available a no-cost period of performance extension to the 2022-2023 HMRP Grant Agreement (C950003785). The period of performance is extended to December 31, 2023 and the grant term to January 31, 2024. She stated that the extension in no way varies or supersedes the terms and conditions of the 2022-2023 grant agreement.

Mrs. Fredrickson stated that the performance period was originally set to end on June 30, 2023; however, the extension will allow the SARA Summit to be held in September 2023.

Discussion followed.

Fort Roberdeau:

Glenn Nelson requested approval of an agreement between the County of Blair on behalf of Fort Roberdeau and Schlesinger Communications for a radio advertisement campaign promoting Fort Roberdeau's Star Spangled Event, in the total amount of \$525.00, to be paid by the Fort Roberdeau Association.

Discussion followed.

Commissioners:

Nicole Hemminger requested approval of an Engagement Letter from McNeese Wallace to provide legal services in the lawsuit filed by Matthew Krause, Rebecca Krause, and Isaac Krause at the hourly rates agreed upon in said letter.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated this claim falls within a coverage gap of prior carrier and current carrier and will be the responsibility of the county to defend.

Children, Youth and Families:

- i. Kerrie Baughman requested approval of a FY 22/23 Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Children, Youth and Families (CYF) and The Bair Foundation for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Discussion followed.

- ii. Kerrie Baughman requested approval of a FY 23/24 Agreement for Payment of Legal Services between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Children, Youth and Families (CYF) and Rea, Rea & Lashinsky for guardian ad litem of a child or court appointed additional counsel services of a child by Order of the Court, for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Discussion followed.

Human Resources:

- i. Brian Walters requested approval of updates to the Adoption Agreement between the County of Blair and Nationwide Retirement Solutions for 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan for Public Employees, including:

- Addition of language to comply with the Secure Act and other law changes and certificate of adoption resolution;
- Addition of language to comply with the CARES Act and certificate of adopting resolution;
- Addition of a provision for 457 Roth deferrals and conversions. This amendment reflects Code Section 402A as amended by the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010. Adoption of the Roth Amendment effective June 1, 2023, would give county employees an additional option for retirement planning, at no cost to the county.

Mr. Walters stated that the adoption of the Roth Amendment provides county employees the option to enroll in a 457 Roth. He stated that the effective date of the Roth Amendment would be effective retroactive to June 1, 2023.

Other additions are simply language to comply with the Secure Act and the CARES Act.

Discussion followed.

- ii. Brian Walters requested approval for payment of the Patient-Centered Outcome Research Institute (PCORI) fee established by Health Care Reform to support clinical effectiveness research for plan year ending March 31, 2022 in the total amount of \$1,872.98.

Mr. Walters stated that the PCORI fee is a requirement under Health Care Reform to help finance the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), a private, nonprofit corporation that funds research of the clinical effectiveness of medical treatments, procedures, drugs and other strategies that treat, manage, diagnose or prevent illness or injury. Plan sponsors of certain self-insured health plans must annually report and pay a PCORI fee to the IRS by the end of the second quarter of the calendar year for the most recently ended plan year.

Discussion followed.

County Road 101 (Everett Road-Greenfield Township):

Paul Shaffer requested approval of an Application for a Highway Occupancy Permit submitted by Texas Eastern Transmission LP, for a pipeline replacement project along the East Side of County Road 101/Everett Road and along the West Side of Dunning's Highway/220 SR3013.

Mr. Shaffer stated that an Application for a Highway Occupancy Permit was received from Texas Eastern Transmission LP for the pipeline replacement project along the East Side of County Road 101/Everett Road/Greenfield Township and along the West Side of Dunning's Highway/220 SR 3013.

Mr. Shaffer stated that requested revisions to the application and supporting documents submitted with the application were been made by Texas Eastern Transmission; however, the county is still waiting receipt of their bond documents.

Discussion followed.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURN:

Meeting Adjourned,