

WORK SESSION: TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2023, 10:00 A.M.

Location: Commissioners Meeting Room.

**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 Webster, Assistant County Administrator Senkevich and Solicitor Karn.

Members Absent:

Commissioner Burke and Chief Clerk Hemminger.

Others Present:

Helen Schmitt (Public), Rachel Papuga (Alleghenies Broadband, Inc.) Lindsay Dempsie and Brandon Meck (Finance), Jillian Haggerty (WTAJ-TV 10), Sarah Seymour (Elections), Paul Shaffer (Public Works/Highway), Angela Wagner (Controller's Office), Sherry Socie (Planning Commission), Rebecca Robinson (Purchasing), Rachel Prosser (ABCD Corp.), Jim Pooler (Public Works/Building Maintenance), Brian Walters (HR), Mindy Hostler (CYF), Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror), Nicole Smith (Court Administration) and Melissa Harpster (Commissioners Office).

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Wednesday, July 26, 2023	3:00 p.m.	Blair HealthChoices Board Mtg. (Blair HealthChoices)
Thursday, July 27, 2023	8:30 a.m.	Blair Planning Commission Mtg. (Altoona Water Authority)
	10:00 a.m.	*Commissioners Business Session (Commissioners Meeting Room)
Friday, July 28, 2023		
Monday, July 31, 2023		
Tuesday, August 1, 2023	10:00 a.m.	*Commissioners Work Session (Commissioners Meeting Room)

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES 07/18/23 and 07/20/23:

Commissioner Erb called for corrections or changes to meeting minutes of 07/18/23 and 07/20/23. **There were no corrections or changes noted.**

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Erb called for commissioners comments.

Commissioner Webster stated that Fort Roberdeau's America250 PA grant project proposal to the Infrastructure Improvements and Project Committee (IIPC) was reviewed and Glenn Nelson will testify about the proposal in front of members of the IIPC on Thursday, July 27, 2023 in Harrisburg, PA.

Commissioner Erb had no comments for today.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution 346-2023:

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

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
07/25/2023	230725CY	\$126,088.35
07/25/2023	230725SS	\$ 88,040.51
07/25/2023	230725WW	\$616,060.74

- b. Ratification of the following three-3 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
07/17/2023	230717FS	\$2,553.08
07/18/2023	230718RF	\$ 415.56
07/20/2023	230720HR	\$8,172.24

- c. **2023 Budget Transfer:** Additional by-enrollee cost for the June 8, 2023 session of training through Nygren Training Solutions.

From	\$	To
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$156.27	762012-42070 APO Satellite

- d. **2023 Budget Transfer:** Charges received from McNeese Wallace for June 2023.

From	\$	To
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$ 1,140.00	013201-44080 CYF
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$ 330.00	01103BM-44080 Building Maintenance
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$ 1,560.00	013201-44080 CYF
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$ 1,362.50	01101-44080 Commissioners
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$ 330.00	44122-44080 Public Safety – 911
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$12,382.40	01101-44080 Commissioners
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$ 5,250.00	01101-44080 Commissioners
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$ 4,240.50	013201-44080 CYF

- e. **2023 Budget Transfer:** By-enrollee costs for the second of five management and leadership training sessions through Nygren Training Solutions.

From	\$	To
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.17	762012-42070 APO Satellite
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.17	012012-42070 APO Satellite
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.17	01107-42070 Assessment
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.17	01101-42070 Commissioners
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.17	01101623-42070 Conservation District
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.17	01152-42070 Coroner
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.17	01155-42070 Costs and Fines
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.17	013201-42070 CYF
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.17	34156-42070 Domestic Relations
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.17	011062-42070 Elections
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.17	01113-42070 GIS
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$202.34	01202-42070 Juvenile Probation
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$303.51	01209PO-42070 Prison
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.17	01153-42070 Prothonotary
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.18	011192-42070 Records Management
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.18	01150-42070 Register and Recorder
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.18	01151-42070 Sheriff
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$202.36	75504-42070 Social Services
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.18	01111-42070 Tax Claim
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.18	01109-42070 Treasurer
01105-42070 Human Resources	\$101.18	01603-42070 Veteran Affairs

- f. **Consent Agenda Resolution 336-2023:** Correcting the First National Bank (FNB) Capital Reserve Fund Savings Account to be closed *from Account #2011 to Account #0211*; and requesting to re-purpose the existing FNB General Fund Payroll Account #8299, as the *PCHIP Reserve Account*.

- g. **Employment:** Lucas S. Clapper, Christopher D. Donofrio, Taylor N. Hench, Isaac X. Little, Eugene R. Markel, Vince M. Sciko, Aiden J. Walker, and Makayla P. Burket, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.05/hr., effective 07/24/23; Johnnie W. Burns, PT Fill-In, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$15.08/hr., effective 07/24/23; Cassandra D. Hamel, FT, Administrative Support, Public Safety-EMA, \$12.16/hr., effective 07/24/23; Madison M. Riley, FT, Clerk Typist I/Receptionist, CYF, \$10.60/hr., effective 07/24/23; Vicente D. Teano, FT, Sheriff's Deputy, Sheriff, \$15.52/hr., effective 07/24/23; and Karen G. Wise, PT, Fiscal Specialist, Social Services, \$15.52/hr., effective 07/24/23.

- h. **Resignations:** Kristy R. Weyant, FT, Administrative Support, MDJ Blattenberger, \$11.58/hr., effective 07/14/23; and Jacquelyn G. Kormanski, FT, Court Reporter, Court Administration, \$18.13/hr., effective 07/28/23.

- i. **Retirements:** Patrick M. Gates, FT, Supervisor, APO, \$50,659.70/yr., effective 07/29/23.

- j. **Employment Status Change:** James A. Eckard, FT, Deputy Warden-Administration, \$58,364.28/yr., plus \$112.24 per pay. Temporary out-of-class pay per policy that will expire lesser of end-of-pay of the Warden's return to work or a maximum of 13 pay periods.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Erb and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 346-2023.

STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:

ABCD Corp:

Rachel Prosser requested approval to execute the Indemnity Agreement between the Altoona Blair County Development Corporation (ABCD Corp.), Railroaders Heritage Corporation (Sub-Grantee), and the County of Blair (County) and the Cooperation Agreement between the Altoona Blair County Development Corporation (ABCD Corp) and the County of Blair (County) to receive funding under the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP), in the amount of \$505,776.00 to complete renovations to the Railroaders Memorial Museum and Horseshoe Curve.

Ms. Prosser provided a brief overview of the projects to be completed with the RACP funding. The projects consist of finishing the Railroaders Memorial Museum's Roundhouse Theater, finishing three stalls in the roundhouse, adding a roof at the Horseshoe Curve Museum and removing overgrown trees.

Discussion followed.

Alleghenies Broadband Inc. (ABI):

- i. Rachel Papuga requested approval of a Project Supplement No. 2023-1 to Grant Cooperation Agreement by and between the County of Blair (County) and Alleghenies Broadband Inc. (ABI) for the Crowsnest Broadband Blair County Wireless Expansion Project, in the project grant amount of \$311,782.00, and administration fee of \$21,824.74, for a project completion date of no later than September 30, 2023.

Ms. Papuga provided a brief overview of the wireless broadband expansion project proposed by ABI under the county's American Rescue Plan Act funding allocation. The project will add equipment to nine-9 cell towers (Rose Hill, Kettle Road, Eldorado, Horseshoe Curve, Loop Mountain, Cove Lane, Williamsburg, Fredericksburg, and Curryville.) She stated that the project has a completion date of September 30, 2023 and will improve or introduce internet access to many unserved/and or underserved areas.

Discussion followed.

- ii. Ms. Papuga requested approval of a Letter of Support for ABI and Crowsnest Broadband to submit a joint application to the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority in response to the Capital Projects Funds (CPF) Opportunity.

Ms. Papuga stated that ABI and Crowsnest Broadband are requesting approval to submit a joint application to the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority for Capital Project Funds to provide fiber optic internet services to approximately 500 homes south of Williamsburg, and into Juniata Township.

Discussion followed.

- iii. Ms. Papuga requested approval of a Letter of Support for Comcast Cable Communications LLC (Comcast) to submit an application to Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority in response to the Capital Projects Funds (CPF) Opportunity.

Ms. Papuga stated that Comcast Cable is requesting approval to submit an application to the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority for Capital Project Funds in order to provide better access to their high-speed internet connections in Tyrone, Williamsburg and northwestern Blair County.

Discussion followed.

Children, Youth and Families:

Mindy Hostler requested approval of a FY 23/24 Agreement for Payment of Legal Services between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families and Mary Ann Probst, Esquire, an employee of Forr, Stokan, Huff Kormanski and Naugle, at \$85.00/per hour, for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Ms. Hostler stated this is a renewal agreement for FY 23/24.

Discussion followed.

Court Administration:

- i. Nicole Smith requested approval of a Proposal received from Empire to install a new camera system for live surveillance of Courtroom 4, in the total amount of \$5,575.00, to be fully reimbursed by an Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) Security Grant.

Discussion followed.

- ii. Nicole Smith requested approval for the acceptance of the reimbursement of funds through the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), in the amount of \$13,093.46, for the Magisterial District Judges' Polycom Security Project, in the total amount of \$13,829.46, approved via Resolution 331-2023.

Ms. Smith stated that the AOPC has approved the county's request for funds reimbursement, in the amount of \$13,093.46, for the Magisterial District Judges' Polycom Security Project. She requested that the board consider accepting the funds reimbursement.

Discussion followed.

Elections/Voter Registration:

Sarah Seymour requested approval for the submission of the Election Integrity Grant Program Post-Election Report for the 2023 Municipal Primary for the County of Blair, to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), Governor's Center for Local Governmental Services, in the total expended amount of \$231,958.34.

Commissioner Erb asked Ms. Seymour if this submission would exhaust the grant funds. Ms. Seymour stated yes, it would exhaust the funds.

Discussion followed.

Human Resources:

Brian Walters requested approval of a signature acknowledging the receipt and acceptance of a Memorandum from Trustmark dated July 13, 2023 regarding the expiration of Medical Plan provisions in force during the period of a National Emergency due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Mr. Walters stated because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, changes to the county's medical plan were implemented in March of 2020 mandating coverage for COVID-19 testing/evaluation without imposing any cost, deductibles, copays or coinsurance and mandated reimbursement at a negotiated rate.

Mr. Walters stated that the mandates expired on May 11, 2023 when the government announced the end of the COVID-19 Pandemic's emergency declaration. He stated that the expiration date was extended under group health benefit plans; however, the deadline extension under ERISA ended July 10, 2023.

Discussion followed.

County Road 101 Everett Road/East Freedom Township:

Paul Shaffer requested approval for the submission of a Chapter 105 Water Obstructions and Encroachment General Permit Registration Application (General Permit 11) to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Bureau of Waterways Engineering and Wetlands to place riprap protection and minor approach roadway on County Road 101, Everett Road, located in Freedom Township, Blair County.

Mr. Shaffer stated that riprap protection would be placed at Bridge 69 as well as minor approach roadway on County Road 101, Everett Road, located in Freedom Township, Blair County.

Discussion followed.

Commissioners Office:

- i. Allison Senkevich requested approval for the acceptance of the following bids received for review, award or rejection according to county code thereafter for the 2023 Sale of County-Owned Assets:

Name	Vehicle #	Lot #	Item Description/Year/Make/Model	Bid Amount
Barbara Minielli		1	(11) 4-drawer filing cabinets and (1) 2-drawer filing cabinet	\$ 25.00
Bill Henshey		25	(2) paint trailers	\$ 50.00
Jamie Himes		16	(1) 24" backhoe bucket	\$ 20.00
Chris Bopp	20		2005 Dodge Caravan	\$945.00
Chris Bopp	102		2011 Ford Taurus	\$528.00
Karl Kinkopf	6		2005 Ford E350	\$ 25.00
Karl Kinkopf	80		2007 Ford Crown Victoria	\$835.50
Karl Kinkopf	107		2008 Ford E350	\$ 25.00
Adam Clancy		25	(2) paint trailers	\$ 25.00
Adam Clancy	20		2005 Dodge Caravan	\$696.00
Marcus Mason	20		2005 Dodge Caravan	\$600.00
Brooke McCready	20		2005 Dodge Caravan	\$500.00
Karl Kinkopf	102		2011 Ford Taurus	\$ 50.00
Bill Henshey	79		2007 Ford Crown Victoria	\$200.00
Jamie Himes	80		2007 Ford Crown Victoria	\$375.00
Jamie Himes	102		2011 Ford Taurus	\$375.00

Discussion followed.

- ii. Allison Senkevich requested approval of a Letter of Support for the submission of an application to the PennDOT Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program by Rails-to-Trails of Central PA, Inc., for the Lower Trail Improvement Project.

Discussion followed.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

ADJOURN:

Meeting Adjourned,

Allison G. Senkevich, Assistant County Administrator