

**BUSINESS SESSION: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 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 and Chief Clerk Hemminger.

**Members Absent:**

Solicitor Karn and Assistant Solicitor Muriceak.

**Others Present:**

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

**Public Comment:**

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

**Unfinished Business:**

**Adoption of Resolutions:**

**Resolution 91-2023:** Approving 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.

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 91-2023.

**Resolution 92-2023:** Approving 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.

Motion by Commissioner Erb, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 92-2023.

**Resolution 93-2023:** Approving 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.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 93-2023.

**Resolution 94-2023:** Approving 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.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 94-2023.

**Resolution 95-2023:** Approving 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.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 95-2023.

**Resolution 96-2023:** Approving 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.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 96-2023.

**Resolution 97-2023:** Approving 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.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 97-2023.

**Old Business:**

**Commissioners:**

Nicole Hemminger requested 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.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that the original proposed Resolution for a Letter of Commitment from the County of Blair to UPMC Altoona Foundation for ARPA funds, in the total amount of \$200,000.00 to support a new EMPATH Unit, has been revised.

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that the Resolution for 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 has been revised and will now be contingent upon UPMC's receipt of the following funding all for the purpose of constructing an EMPATH Unit at UPMC Altoona Hospital:

- \$773,015.00 (over a two-2 year period) from Pennsylvania Department of Drug & Alcohol Programs for a substance abuse disorder and crisis stabilization service grant funding; and
- \$250,000.00 from the US Department of Health Resources and Services Administration; and
- \$100,000.00 from the City of Altoona; and
- Authorization for the County Administrator/Chief Clerk to work with ARPA Consultants on a grant agreement between UPMC Altoona Foundation and the County of Blair to be in compliance with ARPA funding; such agreement to be approved by the Blair County Board of Commissioners at a later meeting upon confirmation of the availability of all funding sources and that the EMPATH project is ready to proceed.

Commissioner Erb expressed his support of this project and its benefits to the mental health crisis in the community.

Commissioner Webster stated her support of this project as it helps to divert those individuals experiencing a mental health crisis from potentially being arrested and put into the jail system. Instead, this program would provide those individuals with the support and aid they need on a proactive basis rather than reactive in times of crisis.

Commissioner Burke expressed her concern about the amount of money being allocated to this project by Blair County compared to the amount being allocated by UPMC. She also discussed the possible limitations the EMPATH center can provide in terms of care due to the staff shortage and people thinking it will "cure" the mental health crisis in our county.

Discussion followed.

**Resolution 98-2023:** Approving to allocate to UPMC Altoona Foundation \$200,000.00 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds contingent upon UPMC's receipt of \$773,015.00 (over a two-2 year period) from Pennsylvania Department of Drug & Alcohol Programs for a substance abuse disorder and crisis stabilization service grant funding; \$250,000.00 from the US Department of Health Resources and Services Administration; and an allocation of \$100,000.00 from the City of Altoona, all for the purpose of constructing an Emergency Psychiatric Assessment Treatment and Healing (EMPATH) unit at UPMC Altoona Hospital; and authorizing the County Administrator/Chief Clerk to work with ARPA Consultants on a grant agreement between UPMC Altoona Foundation and the County of Blair to be in compliance with ARPA funding, such agreement to be approved by the Blair County Board of Commissioners at a later meeting upon confirmation of the availability of all funding sources and that the EMPATH project is ready to proceed.

Commissioner Erb noted his abstention on voting for the adoption of Resolution 98-2023 due to a conflict of interest.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 98-2023 with the abstention as noted.

**New Business:**

**Consent Agenda Resolution 88-2023:**

Nicole Hemminger requested approval to amend Consent Agenda Resolution 88-2023, dated 02/21/23 as follows:

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

<u>From</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>To</u>
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	\$3918.99	01151-44080 Sheriff

Chief Clerk Hemminger stated that all of the transfers remain the same as presented on the Consent Agenda Resolution 88-2023, dated 02/21/23 with the exception of the transfer involving the Sheriff. The amount transferred from 01101GCO-44080 General County Operations to 01151-44080 Sheriff has been adjusted to \$3,918.99.

**Resolution 99-2023:** Approving to amend Consent Agenda Resolution 88-2023, dated 02/21/23 as follows:

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

<u>From</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>To</u>
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	\$3918.99	01151-44080 Sheriff

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 99-2023.

**Adjourn:**

Meeting Adjourned,

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Nicole M. Hemminger, Chief Clerk