#### Special Meeting of the Blair County Board of Commissioners Act 24 of 2020 and the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund Allocation July 29, 2020, 4:00 p.m.

# **Location:** Participation by telephone conference only.

Public meetings are being held by conference call while the county is under the Governor's Green Phase of reopening. 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.

### Roll Call:

Commissioner Erb called for Chief Clerk Hemminger to conduct Roll Call.

#### Members Present:

Commissioner Erb, Commissioner Burke, Commissioner Webster, and Chief Clerk Hemminger.

## Members Absent:

Solicitor Karn and Assistant Solicitor Muriceak.

### **Others Present:**

Jennifer Sleppy (Finance), Corey Troutman (Susquehanna Accounting), and 37 members of the public.

### Purpose of the Special Meeting:

Commissioner Erb stated that the purpose of today's meeting is an initial discussion of the allocation of the County's \$11 million of CARES Act County Relief Funds. He stated that today's meeting will not include any discussion or decisions on fund allocations to any specific organization, group or governmental unit.

### Public Comment:

Katie Greenleaf-Martin and Jennifer Knisley from the Blair County Public Library Systems thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity to participate in today's meeting and for the grant process.

#### **Introduction of the CARES Act**:

Corey Troutman, Susquehanna Accounting Services presented an overview of the CARES Act, eligible expenses and eligible categories that the County may allocate money to.

Mr. Troutman also presented discussion of funding requirements and restrictions for eligible categories. All expenses need to be necessary expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 and incurred on a cash basis, during the period of March 1, 2020 through December 30, 2020.

#### **Recommendations of funding levels:**

Nicole Hemminger recommended that the Board of Commissioners allocate \$5,000,000.00 at this time. Future allocations can occur later once all programs are underway and the County can gauge the needs.

Jennifer Sleppy recommended to the Board of Commissioners the following allocations:

Eligible categories for allocation of the County's \$11,002,238.00 Grant Award

- Administration of the Funds: \$200,000.00
- Offset the cost of the County's COVID-19 direct response, planning, and outreach efforts including the purchase of Personal Protective Equipment: \$1,000,000.00
- Broadband internet deployment, with priority to unserved or underserved areas: \$1,000,000.00
- Grant Programs to support certain small businesses: \$700,000.00
- Grant programs to support certain designated types of entities for costs related to assisting businesses during the COVID-19 disaster emergency: \$300,000.00
- Assistance to municipalities in the County for COVID-19 response and planning efforts, including the purchase of Personal Protective Equipment: \$800,000.00
- Behavioral health and substance abuse disorder treatment services: \$500,000.00
- Nonprofit assistance programs for tax exempt entities covered by Section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986: \$500,000.00

Discussion followed.

**<u>Resolution 318-2020</u>**: A resolution approving the allocation of \$5,000,000.00 to the eight-8 eligible funding areas under the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund Allocation.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, Second by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 318-2020.

# <u>Adjourn:</u>

Meeting Adjourned,

Nicole M. Hemminger, Chief Clerk