



BLAIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Thursday, October 2, 2025, 10:00 A.M.
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM, BASEMENT

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Kessling called the meeting to order.

2. MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER:

Commissioner Kessling called for a moment of silent prayer.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commissioner Kessling requested that those participating in the meeting please stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Webster, Commissioner Burke and Assistant Chief Clerk Lori Guyer.

5. OTHERS PRESENT:

Jen Cutshall (Commissioners), Lindsay Dempsey, Brandon Meck (Finance), Angela Wagner (Controller), Becky Robinson (Purchasing), Mindy Hostler (CYF), Melissa Gillin, Marc Seifert (Domestic Relations), Jon Draeger (WTAJ-TV), Ann Merritts, Carol A. Dannenberg (Holidaysburg Community Watchdog), Nate Taylor (Public Access).

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:

None

7. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES – 9/25

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt the minutes as prepared.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

9. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Burke took a few moments to remember former Blair County Commissioner, Ted Beam, who passed away recently. She noted that Mr. Beam had a long history of public service, including time serving on the Altoona City Council, as a teacher for the Altoona Area School District, and as a referee in local sports activities. He was public safety focused in his eight (8) years as a commissioner and worked hard on the 911 Center upgrade and on enhancing court security. He served as the Prison Board Chair and worked with the PA Department of Corrections to make improvements to the prison. He was instrumental in working to upgrade county infrastructure, something upon which the current Board continues to build. Mr. Beam served on both the Airport and Convention Center authorities and worked with stakeholders in the community on those initiatives. Commissioner Burke stated that most of all, Mr. Beam wanted County departments to thrive. He visited them all in person, knew employees by name, and did his best to ensure that staff had the tools necessary to do their jobs. Commissioner Burke expressed her thoughts to his wife, Cathy, and to the rest of his family, and noted that he will be missed in the community.

Commissioner Webster announced that today, October 2, 2025, is National Custodians Day. She noted that we have a good group of custodians in the Courthouse and a good leader in Nick Burket. She asked everyone to please thank them today for all that they do. Commissioner Webster also noted that today is Commissioner Kessling's birthday.

Commissioner Kessling continued the comments about the passing of Ted Beam by stating that Mr. Beam was a good person who liked to keep the peace, and will be missed, not only by those in the Courthouse but also by the community. Commissioner Kessling expressed his thoughts for the family.

Commissioner Kessling then stated that the custodians in the Courthouse are unsung heroes. They work long, hard hours to ensure things are taken care of. He expressed his thanks to Nick Burket and his crew.

Social Services:

Requesting approval of the FY 2025/2026 Renewal Contract between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Department of Social Services, and Family Services, Inc. for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, in the maximum amount of \$120,000.00.

Melissa Gillen noted that these services will be funded by the Human Services Block Grant once the State budget is passed.

Commissioner Webster asked if services would stop due to the budget impasse.

Ms. Gillin responded that it depends on each agency and its individual funding. She noted some will have to stop services while others will continue to provide them as needed.

Resolution 466-2025: Approving the FY 2025/2026 Renewal Contract between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Department of Social Services, and Family Services, Inc. for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, in the maximum amount of \$120,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 466-2025.

Commissioners:

- i. Lori Guyer requested approval of the revised Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Blair and Discover Blair County, an affiliate member organization of the Blair County Alliance for Business and Economic Growth.

Resolution 467-2025: Approving the revised Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Blair and Discover Blair County, an affiliate member organization of the Blair County Alliance for Business and Economic Growth.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 467-2025.

- ii. Lori Guyer requested approval to rescind Resolution 461-2025.

Resolution 468-2025: Approving the rescission of Resolution 461-2025.

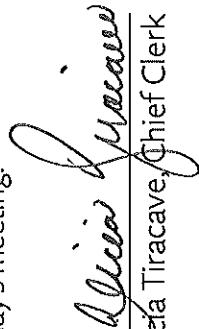
Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 468-2025.

OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURN

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adjourn today's meeting.


Alliea Tiracave, Chief Clerk