

**WORK SESSION: TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2024, 1:00 P.M.**

Location: Commissioners Meeting Room, Basement.

*\*Public meetings are being held both in-person and by Zoom. To participate in the meeting please dial-1-309-205-3325 or-1-646-876-9923. enter meeting number 988 9066 9264, and enter the meeting passcode 423423.*

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Commissioner Kessling called the meeting to order.

**MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION:**

Commissioner Kessling called for a moment of silent reflection.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:**

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

**ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Burke, Commissioner Webster, Chief Clerk Hemminger and Solicitor Nathan Karn.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror), Carol Danenberg (Hollidaysburg Watch Dog), Brandon Meck and Lindsay Dempsie (Finance), Rebecca Robinson (Purchasing), A.C. Stickel IV (Controller), Scott Schultz (Court Administration), Glenn Nelson (Fort Roberdeau), Abbie Tate (Prison), Trina Illig and Tricia Johnson (Social Services), Sue Ammerman (EMA/911), Nate Taylor (Public Access Channel), Helen Schmitt and Melissa Harpster (Public).

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Chief Clerk Nicole Hemminger announced an Executive Session was held on Monday, January 29, 2024 at 10:30am with Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Webster, Commissioner Burke, and herself to discuss the purchase of property.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES - 1/16, 1/18, 1/23, AND 1/25**

Commissioner Kessling called for the approval Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes of 1/16, 1/18, 1/23, and 1/25. There were no corrections or changes noted.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Commissioner Kessling called for public comment.

Kay Stephens commented on the restoration of the heat at the Prison and wanted to know if there was any connection to the request for a Service Agreement with Caporuscio Plumbing and Heating.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Kessling called for commissioner comments. There were no comments.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Resolution 50 – 2024:**

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

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
1/30/2024	240130CY	\$778,084.47
1/30/2024	240130WW	\$577,058.55
1/30/2024	240130SS	\$390,029.19

b. Ratification of the following 2–two Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
1/23/2024	240123RA	\$51,582.00
1/26/2024	240130TC	\$160.00

c. Ratification of Total Payroll in the check dated 1/26/24 in the total amount of \$853,825.25.

d. **2024 Budget Transfer:** To cover initial administrative fees from the American Arbitration Association for a Prison grievance.

From	\$	To
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$150.00	01209PO-44080 Prison

e. **2024 Budget Transfer:** To cover Insurance Deductible fees from PCoRP:

From	\$	To
01101GCO-44960 General County Operations	\$5,680.00	01209PO-44960 Prison

f. **Resignations:** Dell, Amy, FT, Telecommunicator Trainee, Public Safety – 911 Center, \$13.88/hr., effective 1/22/24; Edmiston, Megan, FT, Parole and Probation Officer, APO, \$16.95/hr., effective 1/24/24; Wakefield, Kanjuette, FT, Caseworker I, CYF, \$20.78/hr., effective 1/26/24; and Barto, Danielle, FT, Administrative Support, District Attorney, effective 1/31/24; Best, Angie, FT, Program Manager, CYF, \$61,012.38, effective 2/1/24; and Hicks, John, FT, Assistant District Attorney, District Attorney, \$53,170.00, effective 2/2/24.

g. **Employments:** Altamara, Michele, FT, Department Clerk II, Domestic Relations, \$11.58/hr., effective 1/29/24.  
h. **Status Changes:** Hamel, Cassandra, Administrative Support, Public Safety – EMA, \$12.16/hr., effective 1/27/24 and Mosel-Miller, Tracy, FT, Deputy Controller, Controller, \$48,677.46 annual to Temporary Department Assistant, \$14.74/hr., effective 2/19/24.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Kessling and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 50-2024.

**STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:**

**Prison:**

- i. Warden Abbie Tate requested approval of a third amendment to the Inmate Telephone Contract between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Prison, and Encartele Inc. to extend the expiration date to June 30, 2029 to allow for the installation of additional technology intended to expand inmate telephone, kiosk, and tablet services, on or before February 15, 2024, at no cost to the County.

Warden Tate explained that this item was brought to the Prison Board and was approved to move forward to the Board of Commissioners meeting for approval today.

Discussion followed.

- ii. Warden Abbie Tate requested approval of a Service Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Prison, and Caporuscio Plumbing and Heating, Inc. to provide plumbing, heating, and drain cleanin services to the Blair County Prison on an as-needed basis at the following rates listed below for 2024:

Plumbing & HVAC Service:	\$239.00 an hour Regular Hours 8am-4pm
	\$289.00 an hour After Hours until 10pm
	\$329.00 an hour after 10pm
Drain Service:	\$259.00 an hour (small machine) Regular Hours
	\$329.00 an hour (big machine or jetter) Regular Hours
	\$339.00 an hour (small machine) After Hours until 10pm
	\$399.00 an hour (big machine or jetter) After Hours until 10pm
	\$399.00 an hour (small machine) after 10pm
	\$469.00 an hour (big machine or jetter) after 10pm

NOTE: Any material needed will be at no cost with no markup. An estimate will be provided for any jobs that require more than a service call (ex. Hot water heater, furnace, etc.)

Warden Tate explained that this service contract will address the drains in the Prison, specifically the length of the drains, which other contractors had difficulty cleaning due to the lack of proper equipment.

Discussion followed.

**Social Services:**

- i. Trina Illig requested approval of a Cooperative Agreement between the County of Blair and Blair Township to submit an application (on their behalf) to DCED to administer a FY 2023 competitive CDBG program grant.
- Discussion followed.
- ii. Trina Illig requested approval of the submission of a FY 2023 application to Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), on behalf of the Township of Blair, for the construction of the Reservoir Road Sanitary Sewer project (contract area 2) in the total amount of \$3,805,316.00.

Ms. Illig mentioned this project encompasses three-3 contract areas. Funding for contract area one-1 has been secured through a state grant with DCED, allowing the County to apply for a grant to secure funding for contract area two-2. The full cost of this project is estimated at \$9.5M to run the entire length of Reservoir Road.

Ms. Illig also felt that this is a very competitive application as the project scope impacts almost 200 homes in low-moderate income areas in the County.

Discussion followed.

- iii. Tricia Johnson requested approval of the submission of the corrected 2021-2022 Income and Expense report to the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services.
- No discussion.
- iv. Tricia Johnson requested approval of the submission of the 2022-2023 Income and Expense report to the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services.
- No discussion.

**Department of Emergency Services:**

Sue Ammerman requested approval of a 5-year Maintenance Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services, and ComPros Inc. for continued maintenance and monitoring of ESINet communications equipment at the yearly rates listed below:

**EQUIPMENT AND PRICES**

QUANTITY	TYPE/MODEL	DESCRIPTION	PRICING	Quarterly Price	EXTENDED
1	ESINet Monitoring	YEAR 1 - 2024	\$47,901.00	11,975.25	47,901.00
1	ESINet Monitoring Microwave Maintenance	YEAR 2 - 2025	\$49,338.00 \$28,426.00	19,441.00	77,764.00
1	ESINet Monitoring Microwave Maintenance	YEAR 3 - 2026	\$50,818.00 \$33,722.00	21,135.00	\$4,540.00
1	ESINet Monitoring Microwave Maintenance	YEAR 4 - 2027	\$52,343.00 \$35,746.00	22,022.25	88,089.00
1	ESINet Monitoring Microwave Maintenance	YEAR 5 - 2028	\$53,913.00 \$37,895.00	22,950.75	91,803.00

**TOTAL FEE** \$399,097.00

No discussion.

**Finance:**

Lindsay Dempse requested approval and signature of the 2024 Certification of County Funds for the Pennsylvania Farmland Preservation program.

Chief Clerk Hemminger mentioned the total allocation is \$148,616 which includes \$18,616 of rollback taxes from 2023 and \$130,000 of the County's 2024 budget allocation.

Discussion followed.

Motion by Commissioner Kessler, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 51-2024.

**Court Administration:**

Scott Schultz requested approval of the Service Agreement Contract between the County of Blair and SBM Electronics received from SBM Electronics for the continued maintenance of five-5 Liberty Court Recording software mixers for the period of 12/31/23 to 12/30/24 in the total amount of \$995.00.

Commissioner Webster requested a copy of the previous agreement to compare costs in preparation for Thursday's meeting.

Discussion followed.

**Fort Roberdeau:**

Glenn Nelson requested approval of a Letter of Support to include with Fort Roberdeau's application to American 250 PA and Infrastructure Improvement and Projects Committee for legacy funding to celebrate the Semiquincentennial.

Mr. Nelson expressed his excitement to submit this application and thanked the Commissioners for their support.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Kessler and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 52-2024.

**Commissioners:**

- i. Chief Clerk Nicole Hemminger requested approval of an Engagement letter from Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC to provide legal services for Blair County and PrimeCare, Inc. in the lawsuit filed by Chrissy Friday.
  
- ii. Chief Clerk Hemminger explained that PrimeCare, Inc. has agreed to indemnify the County in the defense of this claim and this agreement details and explains that relationship.
  
- iii. Assistant County Administrator Allison Senkevich requested approval to submit an application for the 2023-2024 PCoRP Loss Prevention Grant Program to include upgrading a new access control system for the ancillary Adult Probation building in the total amount of \$16,326.00 and upgrading a new access control system for the District Attorney's office in the total amount of \$6,270.00.

Discussion followed.

**Old Business:**

None.

**New Business:**

None.

**Adjourn:**

Meeting Adjourned,

  
Nicole M. Hemminger, Chief Clerk

