

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025, 10:00 A.M.

Location: Commissioners Meeting Room, Basement.

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Kessling called the meeting to order.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER:

Commissioner Kessling called for a moment of silent prayer.

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.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Webster, Commissioner Burke, and Chief Clerk Tiracave.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Fori Guyer (Commissioners), Lindsay Dempse (Finance), A.C. Stickel and Angela Wagner (Controller), Wade Kagaris (Judge), Ray Benton (Coroner), Brian Walters, Allison Seidel (Victim Witness), Cindy James (Social Services), Julia Burke (Public Defenders Office), Abbie Tate (Prison), Scott Bailey (Adult Probation Office), Mindy Hostler (Children, Youth and Families), Joe Cox and Molly Wink (Juvenile Probation Office), Melissa Gillin (Social Services), Sam Dunkle and Jessica Miller (Court Administration), Paul Shaffer (Public Works/Highway), Nicholas Burkert (Public Works/Facilities), Chris Fredrickson (Public Safety / EMA), Glenn Nelson (Fort Roberdeau), Becky Robinson (Purchasing), Sherry Socie (Blair Planning Commission), Joe Keller (Keller Engineers), Jeff Hackenberg, Christine Cori, Alicia Musselman, and Joe Musselman (Penn State Extension / 4H), Geoffrey Behrens and John McIntyre (Public /Alto Reste), Perry and Bonnie Miller (Public), Carol Dannenberg (Holidaysburg Community Watchdog). Kay Stevens (Altoona Mirror), and Nate Taylor (Public Access Channel).

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bonnie Miller, Hillside Drive, Duncansville, Pa., stated that she prays that the Commissioners listen with open minds and hearts. She invited the Commissioners to visit her home and see how the proposed new prison site would impact her and her husband Perry's lives and home. She asked, "What would you do in our shoes? Having a prison in my backyard makes my stomach churn. Find a place more remote. One that will not negatively change personal living spaces or disturb prime farmland at the site. We humbly ask you not to make us the people with a prison in our backyard. Thank you very much."

Geoffrey Berans, Vice-President and General Manager of Alto Reste Park Cemetery Association, stated that on January 7, 2025, Alto Reste received a letter from the Blair County Commissioner office with an offer to purchase land from Alto Reste Park to build a new prison, and the land was necessary for the project. On January 17, 2025, the Board of Directors of Alto Reste Park declined the offer. At a Blair County Board of Commissioners meeting held one month ago, they discussed three potential sites for the new prison, with the Alto Reste site still being the most preferred site. When R.P. Good founded the park in 1925, he promised the citizens a place of peace for generations. He committed to the community that the burial grounds would be permanent and perpetually maintained and the property would offer comfort and beauty. R.P. Good intentionally chose this land, and all of the property is vital to the burial park's sustainability. Taking this vital 77 acres of land would severely limit or prevent the burial park from operating in the future. If the Commissioners intend to take the land, he asked that they consider the adverse impact on the 20,000 families with members buried there, future generations' ability to be buried there, and his family's promise that they have tried so hard to uphold over the years. His family understands the need for an upgraded prison, but doing it at the expense of Alto Reste's land hinders the ability to serve the community now and in the future and does not seem like the best way to solve the problem. There are other properties that would not negatively impact businesses or grieving families in the county. Alto Reste appreciates the opportunity to serve the citizens of Blair County and hopes the Board of Commissioners consider the impact before doing irreparable harm to our family's commitment and the community that they promised to serve.

John McIntyre, Frankstown Township, stated that he cannot imagine, nor could anyone here imagine, having a prison in his backyard. He is here because this is important for the community. The other premises do not affect a business. There are 150-plus acres in the Hollidaysburg School District along Route 36 that are for sale for less money, and they are not adjacent to any homes, do not take any business property, and do not impact our community. As a citizen, he is afraid of how much money we are going to spend and if we are going to get into a legal fight for eminent domain or if the Commissioners can simply buy a piece of property that is for sale. Consider the impact of the cemetery and all the people that live along there, and think about if you would like to have a prison in your backyard.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT:

Commissioner Webster stated that she and the Chief Clerk recently had the opportunity to attend the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) conference. It was a great opportunity to meet with legislators to try to convince them to make changes that would be beneficial to the counties. She is hopeful that their time with the legislators is well spent and that the legislators will consider the requests and the needs of the counties and our citizens.

PROCLAMATION:

Commissioner Webster read the following proclamation:

Proclamation
PENNSYLVANIA 4-H WEEK: March 16-22, 2025

WHEREAS, 4-H is America’s largest youth development organization, supporting nearly six million youth across the country; and

WHEREAS, 4-H has helped 114 youth in Blair county to become confident, independent, resilient, and compassionate leaders as they learn by doing; and

WHEREAS, 4-H in Pennsylvania is delivered by Penn State Cooperative Extension in rural areas, small towns, and cities in all 67 counties of the Commonwealth to more than 77,000 youth ages 5–18;

WHEREAS, 4-H youth in Pennsylvania are served by a network of staff members and more than 6,000 adult volunteers who engage and mentor youth in learning activities and hands-on projects in topics such as animal science, civic engagement, STEM, and health and wellness;

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania 4-H Week showcases the incredible ways that 4-H inspires kids to achieve and highlights the remarkable 4-H youth in Blair county who work each day to make a positive impact on those around them; and

WHEREAS, 4-H’s network provides youth with opportunities for leadership development, career exploration, problem solving, friendships, community involvement, passion, and purpose;

NOW, THEREFORE, we do hereby proclaim March 16-22, 2025, as PENNSYLVANIA 4-H WEEK throughout Blair County and encourage our citizens to acknowledge and celebrate 4-H for its valuable service and continued efforts to empower youth with a foundation of success for a lifetime.

Duly, adopted by the Commissioners of the County of Blair, Pennsylvania, this 20th day of March 2025.

BLAIR COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

David Kessling, President

Amy E. Webster, Vice-President

Laura O. Burke, Secretary

ATTEST:

Alicia Tiracave, Chief Clerk

Jeff Hackenberg, the Penn State Extension Area 7 Client Relationship Manager (CRM), thanked the Commissioners for their support of the extensions’ work and 4H’s work in Blair County. He also thanked the people of Blair County. They are supported by many wonderful volunteers and great kids. He expressed his gratitude to all.

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Kessling, and unanimously approved to accept the Proclamation as prepared.

Consent Agenda:
Resolution 99– 2025:

a. Ratification of the following twelve-12 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
3/10/2025	250310AA	\$235,418.26
3/11/2025	250311SS	\$867.50
3/11/2025	250311CY	\$216,434.65
3/11/2025	250311TC	\$244,261.63
3/11/2025	250311WW	\$231,641.16
3/10/2025	250310FS	\$809.21
3/12/2025	250312RA	\$54,650.00
3/13/2025	250313HR	\$18,927.57
3/13/2025	250313RF	\$3,840.57
3/14/2025	250314ML	\$28,167.32
3/18/2025	250318SS	\$121,212.20
3/18/2025	250318WW	\$594,244.18

Which includes payment of the following invoices:

- Hollidaysburg Borough in the check amounts of \$155.00 and \$8,695.58.
- Blair Senior Services in the total check amount of \$816.80.

b. Ratification of total Payroll for the paycheck dated 1/24/2025 in the total amount of \$900,219.26.

c. **2025 Budget Transfer:** To cover the fees for maintenance on county vehicles:

From	\$	To
01103HW-44730 Highway	\$802.59	01101623-44730 Conservation District
2025 Budget Transfer: To cover the fees for county building repairs:		
From	\$	To

01103BM-44840 Building Maintenance \$274.00 01161DD-44840 MDJ DeAntonio

e. **Employments:** Betz, Christian, FT, Deputy, Sheriff, \$15.52/hr., effective 3/10/2025. Snyder, Shannon, FT, Administrative Support - MDJ Dunio, MDJs, \$12.71/hr., effective 3/10/2025. Bender, Edward, PT, Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$18.42/hr.,

- effective 3/17/2025. Folchetti, Andrew, FT, Deputy, Sheriff, \$15.52/hr., effective 3/10/2025. McCabe, Braeden, and McCabe, Shane, FT, Deputy, Sheriff, \$15.52/hr., effective 3/17/2025. Crowl, Shirley, PT, Tipstaff, Court Administration, \$11.58/hr., effective 3/17/2025. Granlund, Kasey, FT, Deputy, Sheriff, \$15.52/hr., effective 3/24/2025. Mort, Jamie, FT., Administrative Support - MDJ DeAntonio, Magisterial District Justices, \$11.58/hr., effective 3/24/2025. Reynolds, Michael, FT, Custodian, Public Works, \$17.39/hr., effective 3/24/2025.
- f. **Status Changes:** Guyer, Matthew, Temporary, Telecommunicator Trainee, 911 Center, \$13.88/hr., to FT, Telecommunicator, 911 Center, \$16.30/hr., effective 3/15/2025.
- g. **Resignations:** Marlowe, Diane, FT, Custodian, Public Works, \$17.78/hr., effective 3/7/2025. Leslie, Yale, FT, Deputy, Sheriff, \$20.15/hr., effective 3/7/2025. Andrews, Scott, FT, Fiscal Operations Officer, Social Services, \$2,271.23 biweekly, effective 3/7/2025. Miller, Trisha, FT, Case Manager, Victim Witness, \$16.95/hr., effective 3/7/2025. Gaunt, Sean, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.53/hr., effective 2/5/2025.

Commissioner Burke noted her abstentions to the payments to the Hollidaysburg Borough and Blair Senior Services due to a conflict of interest.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 99-2025 with abstentions as noted.

STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:

Park and Recreation Advisory Board:

Joe Keller requested approval of the Quote received from New Enterprise Stone and Lime Co., Inc., for grading, distribution, and rolling of asphalt millings at the Valley View Park soccer field parking lot in the total amount of \$17,940.00.

Mr. Keller stated quotes were received: Glenn O. Hawbaker for \$19,560.00, which we received late; Cottles Asphalt in the amount of \$19,240.00; and New Enterprise Stone and Lime in the amount of \$17,940.00. The Park and Recreation Advisory Board recommends the bid from New Enterprise Stone and Lime in the amount of \$17,940.00.

Resolution 100-2025: Approving the Quote received from New Enterprise Stone and Lime Co., Inc., for grading, distribution, and rolling of asphalt millings at the Valley View Park soccer field parking lot in the total amount of \$17,940.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 100-2025.

Commissioner Webster stated she is happy to have this happen. This will continue the use of the soccer field and place for people to park. The parking lot was such a mess. This is a much better cost than completely redoing it, and it should give us another 10 years or so of use. This is fabulous and you guys have done a great job.

Coroner:

Coroner Ray Benton requested approval of the Quote received from Guardian Forensic Sciences for forensic DNA sampling for identification of unknown skeletal remains, in the total amount of \$2,300.00.

Resolution 101-2025: Approving the Quote received from Guardian Forensic Sciences for forensic DNA sampling for identification of unknown skeletal remains, in the total amount of \$2,300.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 101-2025.

Prison:

- i. Abbie Tate requested approval of a Service Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Prison, and William Hoak d/b/a Summit Radiation Safety Services to provide an annual radiation safety evaluation of the TEK84 X-Ray Body Scanner unit, a radiation safety audit, and annual radiation safety officer training for a total cost of \$775.00.

Resolution 102-2025: Accepting the Service Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Prison, and William Hoak d/b/a Summit Radiation Safety Services to provide an annual radiation safety evaluation of the TEK84 X-Ray Body Scanner unit, a radiation safety audit, and annual radiation safety officer training for a total cost of \$775.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 102-2025.

- ii. Abbie Tate requested approval of the Quote received from Tek84 Inc. for the Tek84 Intercept Whole Body Security Scanning System Annual Service Agreement for the period of December 2, 2024 through December 1, 2025, in the total amount of \$10,900.00.

Resolution 103-2025: Accepting the Quote received from Tek84 Inc. for the Tek84 Intercept Whole Body Security Scanning System Annual Service Agreement, for the period of December 2, 2024 through December 1, 2025, in the total amount of \$10,900.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 103-2025.

Public Defender:

Russell Montgomery requested approval of the Contract Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Public Defender's Office, and JusticeText, Inc. for the purchase of a site-wide license to the JusticeText Platform for the period of February 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026, in the total amount of \$8,000.00. This will be paid out of the Indigent Defense Grant.

Resolution 104-2025: Approving the Contract Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Public Defender's Office, and JusticeText, Inc. for the purchase of a site-wide license to the JusticeText Platform for the period of February 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026, in the total amount of \$8,000.00. This will be paid out of the Indigent Defense Grant.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 104-2025.

Elections:

Chief Clerk Tiracave, on behalf of Sarah Seymour, requested approval for acceptance of the bids received for the printing of election ballots and to award or reject per county code thereafter.

Vendor	Total Price 4 Years	Price Per Ballot
William Penn Printing	\$175,760.00	\$.26
NPC, Inc.	\$131,820.00	\$.18 - \$.21

Resolution 105-2025: Accepting the bids received for the printing of election ballots and to award or reject per county code thereafter.

Vendor	Total Price 4 Years	Price Per Ballot
William Penn Printing	\$175,760.00	\$.26
NPC, Inc.	\$131,820.00	\$.18 - \$.21

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 105-2025.

Prothonotary:

Robin Patton requested approval of a Service Agreement extension between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Prothonotary's office, and Modern Business Service (MBS) for two Lektrievers and seven Kompact Movable Shelving Systems for the period of January 1, 2025 through January 1, 2026, in the total amount of \$2,331.00.

Ms. Patton stated that this is an annual fee that has not increased in price. It is paid out of the Prothonotary Reserve Fund.

Resolution 106-2025: Approving a Service Agreement extension between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Prothonotary's office, and Modern Business Service (MBS) for two Lektrievers and seven Kompact Movable Shelving Systems for the period of January 1, 2025 through January 1, 2026, in the total amount of \$2,331.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 106-2025.

Adult Probation and Parole:

Scott Bailey requested approval of the Agreement for Purchases Under Bidding Threshold between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Adult Probation and Parole, and Pharmchem for drug testing sweat patches and analysis as set forth in County-approved Purchase Orders.

Resolution 107-2025: Approving the Agreement for Purchases Under Bidding Threshold between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Adult Probation and Parole, and Pharmchem for drug testing sweat patches and analysis as set forth in County-approved Purchase Orders.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 107-2025.

Public Safety / EMA:

- i. Cris Fredrickson requested approval of the Professional Services Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services, and MCM Consulting Group, Inc., to conduct a Commodity Flow Study, involving a manner in which the transportation of hazardous materials flows through the County of Blair, by highway, rail, and pipeline, for \$13,005.00, with \$8,000.00 paid by the FFY 2024-2025 HMEP Grant and \$5,005.00 paid by the LEPC.

Resolution 108-2025: Approving the Professional Services Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Emergency Services, and MCM Consulting Group, Inc., to conduct a Commodity Flow Study, involving a manner in which the transportation of hazardous materials flows

through the County of Blair, by highway, rail, and pipeline, for \$13,005.00, with \$8,000.00 paid by the FFY 2024-2025 HMEP Grant and \$5,005.00 paid by the LEPC.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 108-2025.

- ii. Cris Fredrickson requested approval of the 2024 Annual Report on the Hazardous Materials Preparedness HMERP report to be entered into the ESA by Cris Fredrickson, which serves as the HMRF grant application for July 2025-June 2026.

Resolution 109-2025: Approving the 2024 Annual Report on the Hazardous Materials Preparedness HMERP report to be entered into the ESA by Cris Fredrickson, which serves as the HMRF grant application for July 2025-June 2026.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 109-2025.

- iii. Cris Fredrickson requested approval of the Quote received from AristaTek, Inc. for eight (8) annual licenses of PEAC-WMD, which includes Tier II Integration and Commodity Hazard Vulnerability Analysis, and Worst Case Analysis for planning, exercise, and response, for the period of April 15, 2025 through April 14, 2026, in the total amount of \$5,950.00. (\$4,760.00 to be paid with HMEP grant funds and \$1,190.00 to be paid with LEPC hazardous materials funds).

Ms. Fredrickson stated that this is software that the Hazmat and Emergency Response Teams use in response to a hazardous materials event or in planning a response to a hazardous materials event at the SARA facilities within the county. If there is an event, the teams can use the current information that we have that was reported by those facilities, in addition to the current weather conditions. If there is a release, they can pull it up and see the substances, the direction of the wind, and who they need to evacuate or shelter in place.

Resolution 110-2025: Approving the Quote received from AristaTek, Inc. for eight (8) annual licenses of PEAC-WMD, which includes Tier II Integration and Commodity Hazard Vulnerability Analysis, and Worst Case Analysis for planning, exercise, and response, for the period of April 15, 2025 through April 14, 2026, in the total amount of \$5,950.00. (\$4,760.00 to be paid with HMEP grant funds and \$1,190.00 to be paid with LEPC hazardous materials funds).

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 110-2025.

Fort Roberdeau:

- i. Glenn Nelson requested approval of the Quote received from New Look Uniform for t-shirts to be sold in the Fort Roberdeau gift shop in the amount of \$1,445.00.

Resolution 111-2025: Approving the Quote received from New Look Uniform for t-shirts to be sold in the Fort Roberdeau gift shop in the amount of \$1,445.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 111-2025.

- ii. Glenn Nelson requested approval of the Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of Fort Roberdeau, and the Altoona Mirror for advertisement in the Altoona Mirror special editions throughout the 2025 calendar year as outlined in the agreement, in the total amount of \$3,084.50.

Resolution 112-2025: Approving the Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of Fort Roberdeau, and the Altoona Mirror for advertisement in the Altoona Mirror special editions throughout the 2025 calendar year as outlined in the agreement, in the total amount of \$3,084.50.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 112-2025.

- iii. Glenn Nelson requested approval of the Quote received from BDS Partners LLC d/b/a Press Geek for 15,000 Fort Roberdeau 2025 brochures in the total amount of \$1,300.00.

Resolution 113-2025: Approving the Quote received from BDS Partners LLC d/b/a Press Geek for 15,000 Fort Roberdeau 2025 brochures in the total amount of \$1,300.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 113-2025.

- iv. Glenn Nelson requested approval of an advertising agreement between the County of Blair and Where & When for a summer and a fall 1/4-page advertisement in the total amount of \$1,560.00.

Commissioner Kessling asked if we get feedback from how many people this draws in.

Mr. Nelson responded that Where & When and the Altoona Mirror both increase attendance.

Resolution 114-2025: Approving the advertising agreement between the County of Blair and Where & When for a summer and a fall ¼-page advertisement in the total amount of \$1,560.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 114-2025.

Children, Youth and Families:

Mindy Hostler requested approval of the FY 24/25 Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Hoffman Homes, Inc.

Resolution 115-2025: Approving the FY 24/25 Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Hoffman Homes, Inc.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 115-2025.

Social Services:

- i. Melissa Gillin requested approval of an Affordable Housing Trust Fund Disbursement for the Deferred Weatherization Program to assist with moisture deficiencies in the basement at 138 Wingard Lane, Hollidaysburg, PA, in the total amount of \$10,000.00.

Resolution 116-2025: Approving the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Disbursement for the Deferred Weatherization Program to assist with moisture deficiencies in the basement at 138 Wingard Lane, Hollidaysburg, PA, in the total amount of \$10,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 116-2025

- ii. Melissa Gillin requested approval of an Affordable Housing Trust Fund Disbursement for the Deferred Weatherization Program to assist with roof leaking and moisture deficiencies at 224 Liberty Lane, Duncansville, PA, in the total amount of \$10,000.00.

Resolution 117-2025: Approving the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Disbursement for the Deferred Weatherization Program to assist with roof leaking and moisture deficiencies at 224 Liberty Lane, Duncansville, PA, in the total amount of \$10,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 117-2025

- iii. Melissa Gillin requested approval of an Affordable Housing Trust Fund Disbursement for the Deferred Weatherization Program to assist with moisture deficiencies in the basement at 1318 Windbrook Street, Altoona, PA, in the total amount of \$10,000.00.

Resolution 118-2025: Approving the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Disbursement for the Deferred Weatherization Program to assist with moisture deficiencies in the basement at 1318 Windbrook Street, Altoona, PA, in the total amount of \$10,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 118-2025

- iv. Melissa Gillin requested approval of an Affordable Housing Trust Fund Disbursement for the Deferred Weatherization Program to assist with moisture deficiencies in the basement and roof at 1000 W. Loop Road, Hollidaysburg, PA, in the total amount of \$10,000.00.

Resolution 119-2025: Approving the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Disbursement for the Deferred Weatherization Program to assist with moisture deficiencies in the basement and roof at 1000 W. Loop Road, Hollidaysburg, PA, in the total amount of \$10,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 119-2025

- v. Melissa Gillin requested approval of an Affordable Housing Trust Fund Disbursement for the Code Compliance Repair Assistance Program to assist with code ordinance violations, which include the removal of a recreational vehicle and dilapidated boat/trailer at 615 White Street, Hollidaysburg, PA, in the total amount of \$5,000.00.

Resolution 120-2025: Approving the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Disbursement for the Code Compliance Repair Assistance Program to assist with code ordinance violations, which include the removal of a recreational vehicle and dilapidated boat/trailer at 615 White Street, Hollidaysburg, PA, in the total amount of \$5,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 120-2025

- vi. Cindy James requested approval to submit the Blair County Early Intervention Program Report to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Human Services for FY 2022-2023.

Resolution 121-2025: Approving the submission of the Blair County Early Intervention Program Report to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Human Services for FY 2022-2023.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 121-2025

- vii. Cindy James requested approval of the Quote by and between the County of Blair and HSS Systems to change services codes in the HSS software, in the total amount of \$500.00.

Commissioner Burke asked if this is the State's software and if we will get something else soon.

Ms. James responded that yes, this is the State's software and hopefully we will be getting something new soon.

Resolution 122-2025: Approving the Quote by and between the County of Blair and HSS Systems to change services codes in the HSS software, in the total amount of \$500.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 122-2025

- viii. Cindy James requested approval to accept the Connect to Home Coordinated Entry Agreement as presented and grant Tricia Johnson, Blair County Social Services Director, permission to sign said Agreement.

Commissioner Kessling asked what the Home Coordinated Entry is.

Ms. James responded that this item is not hers, but she will get that information and forward it to him.

Resolution 123-2025: Accepting the Connect to Home Coordinated Entry Agreement as presented and grant Tricia Johnson, Blair County Social Services Director, permission to sign said Agreement.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 123-2025.

- ix. Cindy James requested approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Social Services, and Pyramid Healthcare, to refer clients needing another level of care (higher or lower) between the reciprocating agencies where clinically appropriate.

Resolution 124-2025: Approving the Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Social Services, and Pyramid Healthcare, to refer clients needing another level of care (higher or lower) between the reciprocating agencies where clinically appropriate.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 124-2025.

- x. Cindy James requested approval of the Reciprocal Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Department of Social Services, and Indiana County, for a Blair County resident who is being discharged from the Torrance State Hospital to Indiana County for up to a year after the discharge date, and upon completion of that year, Indiana County will assume responsibility for that resident.

Resolution 125-2025: Approving the Reciprocal Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Department of Social Services, and Indiana County, for a Blair County resident who is being discharged from the Torrance State Hospital to Indiana County for up to a year after the discharge date, and upon completion of that year, Indiana County will assume responsibility for that resident.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 125-2025.

- xi. Cindy James requested approval of to submit the FY 2023/2024 Income and Expense Report Revision #1 to the Department of Human Services for Block Grant Counties for Mental Health, Intellectual Disabilities, Drug and Alcohol, and Human Services Programs.

Resolution 126-2025: Approving the submission of the FY 2023/2024 Income and Expense Report Revision #1 to the Department of Human Services for Block Grant Counties for Mental Health, Intellectual Disabilities, Drug and Alcohol, and Human Services Programs.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 126-2025.

Public Works / Facilities:

- i. Nicholas Burket requested approval of the Quote by and between the County of Blair and Burke & Company, LLC d/b/a S.P. McCarl & Company for five (5) new HVAC units for the Courthouse in the total amount of \$20,508.00.

Commissioner Webster stated that this is a great part of the continuing maintenance of the building.

Resolution 127-2025: Approving the Quote by and between the County of Blair and Burke & Company, LLC d/b/a S.P. McCarl & Company for five (5) new HVAC units for the Courthouse in the total amount of \$20,508.00.

Commissioner Burke abstained due to conflict of interest.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 127-2025 with the abstention as noted.

- ii. Nicolas Burket requested approval of the Contract between the County of Blair and David M. Maines Associates Inc. for the roof replacement of the Highway Department/Election building in the total amount of \$940,258.00.

Resolution 128-2025: Approving

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 128-2025.

Public Works / Highway:

- i. Paul Shaffer requested approval of Change Order #1 (Resolution 339-2024) for the County Roads 105 and 105A Rehabilitation Project for an Increase in the Substantial Completion date to May 31, 2025 and a Decrease of \$20,143.64 in the contract price. The new total amount of the contract is \$2,283,856.36.

Commissioner Kessling asked why there is a decrease.

Mr. Shaffer responded that it was because of materials that were not used.

Resolution 129-2025: Approving Change Order #1 (Resolution 339-2024) for the County Roads 105 and 105A Rehabilitation Project for an Increase in the Substantial Completion date to May 31, 2025 and a Decrease of \$20,143.64 in the contract price. The new total amount of the contract is \$2,283,856.36.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 129-2025.

- ii. Paul Shaffer requested approval of Change Order #2 for the County Roads 105 and 105A Rehabilitation Project to secure ownership of the millings and transportation of the millings to the Valley View Park for an increase of \$5,056.00. The new total amount of the contract is \$2,288,912.36.

Commissioner Webster stated that this is the other part of the item Joe Keller presented earlier and she is glad it came together.

Resolution 130-2025: Approving Change Order #2 for the County Roads 105 and 105A Rehabilitation Project to secure ownership of the millings and transportation of the millings to the Valley View Park for an increase of \$5,056.00. The new total amount of the contract is \$2,288,912.36.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 130-2025.

Human Resources:

- i. Melena Koegler requested approval of an Amendment to the Services Agreement between the County of Blair and PMA Management Corp. for the administration of run-off workers' compensation claims for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, in the annual amount of \$14,280.00, plus additional fees as outlined in Exhibit A.

Commissioner Kessling asked Ms. Koegler to briefly explain.

Ms. Koegler replied that there were three (3) additional Workers Compensation claims that they did not take over.

Resolution 131-2025: Approving the Amendment to the Services Agreement between the County of Blair and PMA Management Corp. for the administration of run-off workers' compensation claims for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, in the annual amount of \$14,280.00, plus additional fees as outlined in Exhibit A.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 131-2025.

- ii. Brian Walters requested approval of a Renewal Agreement between the County of Blair and Interflex Payments LLC d/b/a Ameriflex to administer Flexible Spending Account (FSA) and Dependent Care Account (DCA) administration on behalf of the enrolled employees of the County of Blair who are eligible. Changes that the County of Blair will adopt for the plan year April 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026, are increases to the 2025 maximum Health FSA funding limit of \$3,300.00 and FSA carryover (rollover) limit to \$660.00 annually and the authorization for Brian Walters to complete the online renewal with Ameriflex, implementing the aforementioned changes, and electronically signing on behalf of Commissioner Dave Kessling as the authorized representative of the County of Blair.

Resolution 132-2025: Approving the Renewal Agreement between the County of Blair and Interflex Payments LLC d/b/a Ameriflex to administer Flexible Spending Account (FSA) and Dependent Care Account (DCA) administration on behalf of the enrolled employees of the County of Blair who are eligible. Changes that the County of Blair will adopt for the plan year April 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026, are increases to the 2025 maximum Health FSA funding limit of \$3,300.00 and FSA carryover (rollover) limit to \$660.00 annually and the authorization for Brian Walters to complete the online renewal with Ameriflex, implementing the aforementioned changes, and electronically signing on behalf of Commissioner Dave Kessling as the authorized representative of the County of Blair.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 132-2025

Court Administration:

Judge Wade Kagarise requested approval of a Court Interpreter Services Grant Application for Language Access Reimbursable Costs for Calendar Year 2024 to the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), in the total amount of \$19,477.19.

Judge Kagarise continued by stating this is an annual application and the county is required by a number of different rules of judicial administration and state and federal statutes to provide language access services to individuals in court. That requires the County to pay interpreters to do that. Once we get our annual amount, we are allowed to seek reimbursement for the previous year's amount. This grant is for a partial grant reimbursement of that amount. The amount has steadily increased over the years due to the need involved.

Resolution 133-2025: Approving a Court Interpreter Services Grant Application for Language Access Reimbursable Costs for Calendar Year 2024 to the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), in the total amount of \$19,477.19.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt resolution 133-2025

Victim Witness:

Allison Seidel requested approval for the acceptance of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency Rights and Services Act (RASAA) Grant #45162 for the project period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, in the awarded amount of \$95,148.00.

Resolution 134-2025: Accepting the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency Rights and Services Act (RASAA) Grant #45162 for the project period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, in the awarded amount of \$95,148.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 134-2025

Juvenile Probation:

- i. Joseph Cox requested approval for the Payment of the Invoice Made Outside the County Purchasing Policy between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Juvenile Probation Department, and Parkside Psychological Associates, LLC for a juvenile's psychological assessment in the total amount of \$1,350.00.

Resolution 135-2025: Approving the Payment of the Invoice Made Outside the County Purchasing Policy between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Juvenile Probation Department, and Parkside Psychological Associates, LLC for a juvenile's psychological assessment in the total amount of \$1,350.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 135-2025.

- ii. Joseph Cox requested approval for the acceptance of the Victims of Juvenile Offenders (VOJO) Grant Award, Sub-grant Number: 2023-VF-107-44558 from The Pennsylvania Commission on Crimes and Delinquency, effective January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, for \$33,540.00.

Resolution 136-2025: Acceptance of the Victims of Juvenile Offenders (VOJO) Grant Award, Sub-grant Number: 2023-VF-107-44558 from The Pennsylvania Commission on Crimes and Delinquency, effective January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, for \$33,540.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 136-2025.

Controller:

A.C. Stickel requested approval of the Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC Engagement and Governance Letter including the Peer Review, for the 2024 audit.

Mr. Stickel added that the three (3) year contract was approved. This is for the final year. We already have an approved purchase order. This is for the engagement letter that states what they are going to do and how they are going to do it. It is the same thing they do each year. And the Governance Letter that covers the rules of how they are doing what they are doing.

Resolution 137-2025: Approving the Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC Engagement and Governance Letter including the Peer Review, for the 2024 audit.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 137-2025

Finance:

- i. Lindsay Dempsie requested approval for the submission of the County Settlement Allocation Report for the reporting period of July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, to the PA Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust.

Resolution 138-2025: Approving the submission of the County Settlement Allocation Report for the reporting period of July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, to the PA Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 138-2025.

- ii. Lindsay Dempsie requested approval to submit the 2024 Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) annual report to the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Ms. Dempsie added that these are funds that we have received two years in a row. It's a total of \$100,000.00, so until that grant fund is closed out, we have to continue to submit reports. We don't have any expenditures for 2024 since we used it in 2022 and 2023.

Commissioner Kessling asked what the Tribal Consistency Fund is.

Ms. Dempsie replied that the tribal consistency fund is the name they gave it. It's for our pilot program, which helps us keep revenue for the properties that we do not receive tax revenue on.

Resolution 139-2025: Approving the submission of the 2024 Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) annual report to the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 139-2025.

Electric Supply Pricing:

Lindsay Dempsie requested approval to review rates for the County's electric suppliers and to authorize Mike Polosky of Efficient Energy Solutions to lock in an electric supply rate on behalf of the County.

Ms. Dempsie stated that this morning she forwarded to the Commissioners the pricing that the County's two suppliers, Shell and Dynegy, gave for one (1) and two (2)-year contracts. For Dynegy, the one-year contract is 7.287 and the two-year contract is 7.100. For Shell, the one-year contract is 7.453 and the two-year contract is 7.278. This is a fixed price, but the capacity in transmission is pass-through, so the County pays that based on usage. She stated that Mike Polosky's recommendation is to go with a 2-year fixed-price term contract with pass-through capacity and transmission at 7.1 cents per kWh with an approval not to exceed 7.4 cents per kWh to potentially adjust for any market movement.

Commissioner Webster asked if the market changed constantly.

Ms. Dempsie responded that the market changes constantly.

Ms. Dempsie recommended that the Board of Commissioners vote to approve moving forward with a 2-year fixed-price term contract with pass-through capacity and transmission at 7.1 cents per kWh with an approval **not to exceed 7.4 cents** per kWh with an approval **not to exceed 7.4 cents** per kWh to potentially adjust for any market movement tomorrow.

Resolution 140-2025: Approving a 2-year fixed-price term contract with pass-through capacity and transmission at 7.1 cents per kWh with an approval of **not to exceed 7.4 cents** per kWh and authorizing Mike Polosky of Efficient Energy Solutions to lock in the electric supply rate on behalf of the County.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 140-2025

Commissioners:

- i. Commissioner Kessling requested approval to advertise a public hearing on the decertification of the TPA.

Resolution 141-2025: Approving to advertise a public hearing on the decertification of the TPA.

Commissioner Burke stated that out of an abundance of caution, she would abstain due to a prior conflict of interest.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 141-2025 with Commissioner Burke's abstention as noted.

- ii. Commissioner Kessling requested approval to Advertise an Ordinance signifying the intent to take by eminent domain of a fee simple interest of two parcels of land in the township of Allegheny.

Bonnie Miller stated that she did not understand what that means.

Commissioner Kessling responded that by law and statute, the County has a right to take a property even if the owners do not want to give up the property. That is what is meant by "Eminent Domain."

Ms. Miller asked if that means that is what the Commissioners are doing right now, taking that parcel of ground.

Commissioner Kessling responded that this is for the Advertisement if it goes in this direction. There are steps we must take if we are going to do that, and this is one of the steps if things cannot be worked out.

Ms. Miller asked if there are possible sites that the Commissioners would still look at.

Commissioner Kessling stated that people need to understand this is not a knee-jerk reaction. Many parcels have been looked at, assessed, and evaluated over a two-year process. These are the three (3) parcels that the company the county is working with to do the assessment has singled out as the best options. That is what we have to take into account. There are still a lot of steps to be taken. There are still a lot of, hopefully, negotiations to be had. Again, this is a process the County must take. This is part of the process we must take legally. So, this is just approving the Advertisement of the Ordinance for that in the event of.

Commissioner Burke stated that she just received her email from the Millers today and she was unaware of the property Attorney McIntyre cited during his presentation. She did not see the harm in waiting a week and looking at these claims.

Resolution 142-2025: Approving to Advertise an Ordinance signifying the intent to take by eminent domain of a fee simple interest of two parcels of land in the township of Allegheny.

Commissioner Burke voted nay at this time on the Advertisement of an Ordinance signifying the intent to take by eminent domain of a fee simple interest of two parcels of land in the township of Allegheny.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 142-2025 with the nay vote as noted.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURN:

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



Alicia Tiracave, Chief Clerk

