

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: TUESDAY, September 24, 2024, 1:00 P.M.

Location: Commissioners Meeting Room, Basement.

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.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Lori Guyer (Commissioners), Lindsay Dempse and Brandon Meck (Finance), Sam Dunkle (Court Administration), Allison Seidel (Victim/Witness), Sarah Seymour (Elections), Melena Koegler and Brian Walters (Human Resources), Becky Robinson (Purchasing), Mindy Hostler and Shannon Tucker (CYF), Devon Saylor (Assessment), Ray Benton (Coroner), Melissa Gillin (Social Services), Ken Ressler (Facilities), Carol Dannenberg (Holidaysburg Community Watchdog), Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror), and Nate Taylor (Public Access Channel).

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:

Chief Clerk Socie stated there were two Executive Session.

The first Executive Session was held on Monday, September 23, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. with Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Webster, Commissioner Burke, Finance Director Lindsay Dempse, and Chief Clerk Socie to discuss one collective bargaining agreement.

The second Executive Session was held on Monday, September 23, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. with Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Webster, Commissioner Burke, Chief Clerk Sherry Socie, and Human Resource Director Melena Koegler to discuss one personnel issue.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commissioner Kessling called for public comment. There were no comments.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT:

Commissioner Kessling called for commissioner comment.

Commissioner Burke stated that National Voter Registration was September 16. She reminded everyone, if you have not already done so, please register by October 21.

Commissioner Webster encouraged municipalities to support decertifying the TPA in order to support other tourism and encourage growth.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution 446-2024:

- a. Payment of the following four-4 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
9/24/2024	240924CY	\$169,120.95
9/24/2024	240924SS	\$ 150,949.02
9/24/2024	240924WW	\$ 876,176.34
9/24/2024	240920RA	\$ 60.00

- b. Ratification of the following five-5 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
9/20/2024	240920RA	\$60.00
9/20/2024	240920RF	\$408.00
9/19/2024	40919HR	\$22,939.34
9/19/2024	240919BH	\$23,079.47
9/19/2024	240916FS	\$2,315.78
9/04/2024	240904WC	\$11,865.66

- c. Ratification of Total Payroll for the paycheck dated 9/20/2024 in the total amount of \$867,831.13. Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 446-2024.

- d. 2024 Budget Transfer: To cover legal fees from McNeess Wallace:

From	\$	To
01101GCCO-44080 General County Operations	\$1,344.00	113201-44080 CYF

- e. 2024 Budget Transfer: To cover maintenance on county vehicles:

From	\$	To
01103HW-44730 Highway	\$280.63	113201-44830 CYF

- f. 2024 Budget Transfer: To cover conflict counsel fees:

From	\$	To
01160-44030 Court Administration	\$2,000.00	01160CO-45140 Custody
g. 2024 Budget Transfer: To cover legal fees from Babst Calland:		
From	\$	To
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$2,414.77	011062-44080 Elections
h. 2024 Budget Transfer: To cover Insurance Deductible fees:		
From	\$	To
01101GCO-44960 General County Operations	\$2,000.00	01151-44960 Sheriff
i. 2024 Budget Transfer: To cover legal fees from McNees Wallace:		
From	\$	To
01101GCO-44080 General County Operations	\$16,857.00	113201-44080 CYF
j. 2024 Budget Transfer: To cover janitorial supply costs at the Prison:		
From	\$	To
01101GCO-41999 General County Operations	\$10,000.00	01209PO-43040 Prison
k. Employments: Pfits, Nathan, FT, Custodian, Public Works, \$18.29/hr., effective 9/12/2024. Ralston, George, FT, Custodian, Public Works, \$16.81/hr., effective 9/23/2024.		
l. Resignations: Ermin, Brenda, FT, Department Support, Domestic Relations, \$11.03/hr., effective 9/13/2024. Bradley, Cierra, PT, Probation Officer Support, Adult Parole and Probation, \$11.87/hr., effective 9/18/2024. Rhone, Philip, PT, Probation Officer Support, Adult Parole and Probation, \$11.58/hr., effective 9/18/2024.		
m. Termination: Eredy, Timothy, FT, Caseworker, CYF, \$20.78/hr., effective 9/20/2024.		
n. Status Changes: Lewis, Charity, FT, District Court Admin. Support, Magisterial District Justices (Jones), \$13.33/hr., to FT, Department Assistant - Voter Registration, Elections, \$13.33/hr., effective 9/16/2024. Miller, Ruth, FT, District Court Admin. Support, Magisterial District Justices (Aigner), \$12.04/hr., to FT, District Court Admin. Support, Magisterial District Justices (Blaffenberger), \$12.04/hr., effective 9/16/2024.		

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 446-2024.

STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:

Coroner:

Ray Benton requested approval of the Lease Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Coroner's Office, John E. Smith, and Elaine M. Smith for the property located at 15257 Dunning Highway, East Freedom, Blair County, Pennsylvania, for the period of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2026, at the rate of \$1,800.00 per month for the two (2)-year term.

Coroner Benton stated the new lease of the former Miller Funeral Home would run less than the current lease while providing more room.

Commissioner Kessling thanked Coroner Benton for finding a better building with greater opportunities and at a reduced price to the county.

Resolution 447-2024: Approving the Lease Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Coroner's Office, John E. Smith, and Elaine M. Smith for the property located at 15257 Dunning Highway, East Freedom, Blair County, Pennsylvania, for the period of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2026, at the rate of \$1,800.00 per month for the two (2)-year term.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 447-2024.

Social Services:

i. Melissa Gillin requested approval of the Quote between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Social Services, and Seven Mountains Media to promote the 988 number for suicide prevention in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Ms. Gillin added that this would provide 25 60-second commercials on Froggy and 8 commercials per station as a non-profit.

Commission Burke and Commissioner Kessling noted they are happy to support this.

Resolution 448-2024: Approving of the Quote between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Social Services, and Seven Mountains Media to promote the 988 number for suicide prevention in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 448-2024.

ii. Melissa Gillin announced that the agenda item requesting approval of a County of Blair Demolition Fund Program Disbursement in the total amount of \$4,225.00 for the demolition of property within the City of Altoona located at 1329 21st Avenue, Altoona, has been canceled. The city decided to renovate the home. No action was taken.

Children, Youth and Families:

i. Mindy Hostler requested approval of the FY 24/25 Child Welfare Information System (CWIS) Data Sharing Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Human Services, for the period of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025.

Resolution 449-2024: Approving the FY 24/25 Child Welfare Information System (CWIS) Data Sharing Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Human Services, for the period of October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 449-2024.

ii. Mindy Hostler requested approval of the 2024 Agreement for Purchases Under Bidding Threshold between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and RC's Print Specialists for sweatshirts and bags in the amount of \$1,438.00.

Ms. Hostler stated this purchase is for their yearly training and team-building event and will be paid with Caseworkers Visitation Grant Funds.

Resolution 450-2024: Approving the 2024 Agreement for Purchases Under Bidding Threshold between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and RC's Print Specialists for sweatshirts and bags in the amount of \$1,438.00. Said fee shall be paid with Caseworker Visitation Grant Funds.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 450-2024.

iii. Mindy Hostler requested approval for Submission of the proposed FY 24/25 Implementation Plan and the FY 25/26 Blair County Children, Youth and Families' Needs-Based Plan and Budget Narrative to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as outlined below:

FY Plan and Budget Amount County Share
FY 24/25 Implementation Plan \$17,371,856.00 \$4,081,960.00
FY 25/26 Needs-Based Plan and Budget \$19,908,120.00 \$3,683,829.00

Commissioner Kessling thanked Ms. Tucker, as Interim Director, and her staff for doing this budget.

Resolution 451-2024: Approving the Submission of the proposed FY 24/25 Implementation Plan and the FY 25/26 Blair County Children, Youth and Families' Needs-Based Plan and Budget Narrative to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as outlined below:

FY Plan and Budget Amount County Share
FY 24/25 Implementation Plan \$17,371,856.00 \$4,081,960.00
FY 25/26 Needs-Based Plan and Budget \$19,908,120.00 \$3,683,829.00

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 451-2024.

iv. Mindy Hostler requested approval of the FY 24/25 Purchase of Service Agreement and a HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Summit School Inc. d/b/a Summit Academy.

Resolution 452-2024: Approving the FY 24/25 Purchase of Service Agreement and a HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Summit School Inc. d/b/a Summit Academy.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 452-2024.

v. 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 Community Specialists Corp. d/b/a The Academy.

Ms. Hostler added that this facility is used to place older teens.

Resolution 453-2024: 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 Community Specialists Corp. d/b/a The Academy.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 453-2024.

District Attorney:

Attorney Peter Weeks requested approval of an Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County District Attorney, and LeadsOnline in the amount of \$7,798.00 for the period of August 15, 2024 through August 14, 2025.

Attorney Weeks noted this is for online tracking services.

Resolution 454-2024: Approving the Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County District Attorney, and LeadsOnline in the amount of \$7,798.00 for the period of August 15, 2024 through August 14, 2025.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 454-2024.

Elections:

Sarah Seymour requested approval of the Quote received between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Board of Elections, and Election Systems and Software, LLC for the purchase of an Election Management Software laptop in the total amount of \$3,996.00.

Ms. Seymour stated that this software will be a backup in case of an emergency and will allow election results to be uploaded to the Department of State. This software will be paid with fees from the Election Integrity Grant.

Resolution 455-2024: Approving the Quote received between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Board of Elections, and Election Systems and Software, LLC for the purchase of an Election Management Software laptop in the total amount of \$3,996.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 455-2024.

Victim Witness:

Allison Seidel requested approval for payment of the invoice made outside of the County Purchasing Policy received from Crogan Inc. Pressbox Printing Company for Victim Witness Brochures in the total amount of \$300.93.

Resolution 456-2024: Approving the payment of the invoice made outside of the County Purchasing Policy received from Crogan Inc. Pressbox Printing Company for Victim Witness Brochures in the total amount of \$300.93.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 456-2024.

Facilities:

Ken Kessler requested approval of the Change Order to the Contract Agreement between the County of Blair and Ralph J. Albarano & Sons, Inc. for liquidated damages incurred during the Stair Tower Replacement Project at the Blair County Parking Garage, in the decreased amount of \$96,000.00.

Resolution 457-2024: Approving the Change Order to the Contract Agreement between the County of Blair and Ralph J. Albarano & Sons, Inc. for liquidated damages incurred during the Stair Tower Replacement Project at the Blair County Parking Garage, in the decreased amount of \$96,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 457-2024.

Commissioners:

- i. Lindsay Dempstie requested approval to execute the Certification Form for funds to be distributed from the County Abatement Account and for Commissioner David Kessling to execute said form.

Ms. Dempstie stated this is for the 4th payment of the Opioid Settlement funds.

Resolution 458-2024: Approving to execute the Certification Form for funds to be distributed from the County Abatement Account and for Commissioner David Kessling to execute said form.

Motion by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 458-2024.

- ii. Chief Clerk Socie requested Ratification of the Letter of Support for the Borough of Hollidaysburg's Railroad Crossing Elimination Application for the Hollidaysburg Pedestrian Overpass to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Chief Clerk Socie added that this letter was due to be returned to Hollidaysburg Borough by Friday, September 20, 2024.

Chief Clerk Socie confirmed this pedestrian overpass will connect Hollidaysburg with the proposed 9-11 trail that will be coming through our county.

Resolution 459-2024: Approving the Ratification of the Letter of Support for the Borough of Hollidaysburg's Railroad Crossing Elimination Application for the Hollidaysburg Pedestrian Overpass to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Commissioner Burke abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest.

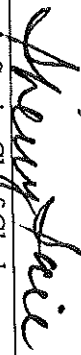
Motion by Commissioner Kessler, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 459-2024 with the abstention as noted.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

Adjourn:

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


Sherry Socie, Chief Clerk

