

**COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: THURSDAY, JULY 3, 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 Assistant Chief Clerk Guyer.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Jen Cutshall (Commissioners), Lindsay Dempsie (Finance), A.C. Stickel and Angela Wagner (Controller), Kyle Brashear and Melena Koegler (Human Resources), Becky Robinson (Purchasing), Ginny Christy and Nikki McHugh (Social Services), Mindy Hostler (CYF), Joseph Cox (Juvenile Probation), Honorable Judge Jolene Kopriva (Court Administration), Rachel Foor (Altoona Mirror), Nate Taylor (Public Access).

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENT:**

Commissioner Burke noted that she was happy to be back.

Commissioner Webster wished everyone a happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July and invited everyone to attend the events at Fort Roberdeau this holiday weekend.

**Consent Agenda:**

**Resolution 320– 2025:**

- a. Ratification of the following ten-10 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
6/23/2025	250623RF	\$1,918.86
6/26/2025	250626WX	\$7,581.75
6/25/2025	250625RF	\$2,604.28
6/25/2025	250625RA	\$3,722.00
6/25/2025	250625ML	\$83,445.45
6/26/2024	250626HR	\$13,721.17
7/01/2025	250701SS	\$132,982.93
7/01/2025	250701CY	\$184,814.24
7/01/2025	250701TC	\$30,214.09
7/01/2025	250701WW	\$347,550.03

Which includes payment of the following invoices:

- Blair Senior Services in the total check amount of \$1,065.62.
- b. Ratification of total Payroll for the paycheck dated 6/27/2025 in the total amount of \$928,178.00.
- c. **2025 Budget Transfer:** To cover the payment of a late fee dated 06/13/25 from Ameriflex.
- | From                                     | \$      | To                                |
|--|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 01101GCO-42250 General County Operations | \$35.00 | 01105-42250 Penalties & Late Fees |
- d. **2025 Budget Transfer:** To cover the fees for maintenance on county vehicles:
- | From                  | \$       | To                                 |
|-----------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| 01103HW-44730 Highway | \$500.00 | 113201-44730 CYF                   |
| 01103HW-44730 Highway | \$300.00 | 01103BM-44730 Building Maintenance |
| 01103HW-44730 Highway | \$200.00 | 01202-44730 Juvenile Probation     |
| 01103HW-44730 Highway | \$200.00 | 01209PO-44730 Prison               |
- e. **Employments:** Cutshall, Jennifer, FT, Administrative Coordinator, Commissioners, \$18.42/hr., effective 6/30/25. Hoenstine, Haileigh, FT, Advocate, Victim Witness, \$13.41/hr., effective 6/30/2025. Muriceak, Patricia, FT, Fiscal Operations Officer, Social Services, \$2,204.60 biweekly, effective 6/30/2025.
- f. **Resignations:** Frye, Kristyn, PT, Telecommunicator, 911 Center, \$16.30/hr., effective 5/23/2025. Sipes, Ashley, FT, Civil Case Processor, Court Administration, \$11.58/hr., effective 6/23/2025. Plazek, Jeffrey, FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$22.81/hr., effective 6/24/2025. Starbird, Jordan, FT, Administrative Support, Juvenile Probation, \$11.58/hr., effective 6/24/2025. Bleicher, Kathy, PT, Tipstaff, Court Administration, \$11.87/hr., effective 6/27/2025. Nelson, Elizabeth, FT, Grants Specialist, Social Services, \$20.75/hr., effective 6/27/2025.

Commissioner Burke noted her abstention on the payment to Blair Senior Services in the total amount of \$1,065.52.

Commissioner Webster asked that item c, 2025 Budget Transfer to cover payment of a late fee dated 06-13-2025 from Ameriflex, be pulled from today's Consent Agenda pending further inquiry by Human Resources.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 320-2025, with the exception of item c, 2025 Budget Transfer to cover payment of a late fee dated 06-13-2025 from Ameriflex, and the abstention as noted.

**STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:**

**Children, Youth and Families:**

Mindy Hostler requested approval of the Payment of the Invoice Made Outside the County Purchasing Policy received from Survey Monkey for survey software, for the period of June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026, in the amount of \$496.08.

Commissioner Kessling asked if Survey Monkey was still being used.

Lindsay Dempsey stated that this is the last a payment will be made to Survey Monkey as their contract was cancelled. Other alternatives are being looked at.

**Resolution 321-2025:** Approving the Payment of the Invoice Made Outside the County Purchasing Policy received from Survey Monkey for survey software, for the period of June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2026, in the amount of \$496.08.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and approved to adopt Resolution 321-2025.

**Human Resources:**

Kyle Brashear requested approval of a tentative agreement letter authorizing the execution of payroll and benefit-related changes for active and vacant UMW A positions as outlined within, effective retroactively to January 4, 2025.

**Resolution 322-2025:** Approving the tentative letter agreement authorizing the execution of payroll and benefit-related changes for active and vacant UMW A positions as outlined within, effective retroactively to January 4, 2025.

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 322-2025.

**Juvenile Probation:**

Joseph Cox requested approval of a Student Assistance Program and Juvenile Probation Office Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Juvenile Probation Office, and the Hollidaysburg Area School District for the period of August 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

**Resolution 323-2025:** Approving the Student Assistance Program and Juvenile Probation Office Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Juvenile Probation Office, and the Hollidaysburg Area School District for the period of August 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 323-2025.

**Employee Wellness Committee:**

Lindsay Dempsey requested approval to accept the 2025 PComp Wellness Improvement Grant in the amount of \$5,000.00.

**Resolution 324-2025:** Approving to acceptance of the 2025 PComp Wellness Improvement Grant in the amount of \$5,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 324-2025.

**Court Administration:**

Honorable Judge Jolene Kopriva requested approval of the Agreement between the County of Blair and Preservation & Decorative Arts P.D.A. for restoration of six (6) judicial portraits in the amount of \$40,000.00. This will be fully funded by the Blair County Bar Association and a private donation from Michael and Astride McLanahan.

Commissioner Webster noted that there are several paintings throughout the facility and expressed concern as to why Commissioners are being involved in this request. She also asked who owns the pictures, what happens if they are damaged during the restoration process and what if there is some type of breach during restoration (i.e. the Bar Association does not pay for the work).

Judge Kopriva replied that the paintings are owned by the County, are historically part of the Blair County Courthouse, and their restoration promotes good stewardship. The six (6) portraits in question were painted by Samuel Calvin. Judge Kopriva stated that as far as any potential breach, there is written documentation from both the Bar Association and Michael and Astride McLanahan outlining their willingness to contribute to the cost. The McLanahans are related to one of the judges in the portraits to be restored, and they also previously funded the replacement of damaged portrait frames.

Commissioner Webster stated that she appreciates the willingness of the Bar Association and the McLanahans to participate in funding the restoration.

Commissioner Burke commented that there was a large renovation done in 2018-2019, prior to the current Board of Commissioners, and that Courtroom #1 feels incomplete. She hopes that this restoration of the six (6) paintings will complete the renovation.

Commissioner Kessling noted that he is honored to have Judge Kopriva as an active participant in both the community and the Courthouse and that we are blessed to have her. He echoed his appreciation to Michael and Astride McLanahan and thanked them for their generosity and for their willingness to preserve Blair County history.

Judge Kopriva expressed her appreciation to the Commissioners and noted that Jacinta Kruc is the artist that previously completed stenciling work in Courtroom 1 and restored the mural in Courtroom 2.

**Resolution 325-2025:** Approving the Agreement between the County of Blair and Preservation & Decorative Arts (P.D.A.) for restoration of six (6) judicial portraits in the amount of \$40,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 325-2025.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**ADJOURN:**

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

  
Alicia Tiracave, Chief Clerk

