

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 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:

Lori Guyer (Commissioners), Lindsay Dempsie (Finance), A.C. Stickel and Angela Wagner (Controller), Glenn Nelson (Fort Roberdeau), Cris Frederickson (EMA), Becky Robinson (Purchasing), Sherry Socie (Blair Planning Commission), Mindy Hostler (CYF), Lisa Logan (Register/Recorder), Kim Wilt, Diane Crile, Lisa My (Altoona Housing Authority), Kim Stephens (Altoona Mirror)

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:

Chief Clerk Tiracave confirmed there was an Executive Session held on April 7, 2025 at approximately 10:30 a.m. regarding a property.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT:

Commissioner Burke reminded everyone of the Child Abuse Prevention event at 11:00 a.m. today in the courtyard.

Commissioner Webster commented that she is not a fan of hockey but was alerted this week that Alex Ovechkin surpassed Wayne Gretzky's all time goal record, with 895 goals in his career. She felt it was heartwarming to see that Mr. Gretzky not only showed up to the game to see history made but also congratulated and celebrated the accomplishment. She stated that it is wonderful to see people sharing that kind of joy and hopes that others in the County would do the same for others in the community.

PROCLAMATION:

Commissioner Webster read the following Proclamation:

Proclamation

Fair Housing Month – April 2025

WHEREAS, the Fair Housing Act, enacted on April 11, 1968, enshrined into federal law the goal of eliminating racial segregation and ending housing discrimination in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing based on race, color, religion, sex, familial status, national origin, and disability, and commits recipients of federal funding to affirmatively further fair housing in their communities; and

WHEREAS, BLAIR COUNTY is committed to the mission and intent of Congress to provide fair and equal housing opportunities for all; and

WHEREAS, our social fabric, the economy, health, and environment are strengthened in diverse, inclusive communities; and

WHEREAS, more than fifty years after the passage of the Fair Housing Act, discrimination persists, and many communities remain segregated; and

WHEREAS, acts of housing discrimination and barriers to equal housing opportunity are repugnant to a common sense of decency and fairness.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commissioners of Blair County do hereby declare the month of April 2025 as Fair Housing Month in Blair County as an inclusive community committed to fair housing, and promoting appropriate activities by private and public entities to provide and advocate for equal housing opportunities for all residents and prospective residents of Blair County.

DULY, adopted by the Commissioners of the County of Blair, Pennsylvania this 10th day of April 2025.

Consent Agenda:

Resolution 165–2025:

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

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
3/31/2025	250331FS	\$1,677.22
4/01/2025	250401FN	\$117,027.00
4/02/2025	250402HI	\$592,406.93
4/03/2025	250403HR	\$16,321.60
4/02/2025	250402WC	\$505.53
4/08/2025	250408SS	\$219,294.73
4/08/2025	250408CY	\$292,431.85
4/08/2025	250408TC	\$513,210.20
4/10/2025	250410AA	\$256,798.97
4/08/2025	250408WW	\$364,561.73

Which includes payment of the following invoices:

- Hollidaysburg Borough in the total check amounts of \$105.00 and \$5,867.80.
- Thomas and Chandra Jandora in the total check amount of \$1,550.00.

b. Ratification of total Payroll for the paycheck dated 4/4/2025 in the total amount of \$901,703.21.

c. **2024 Budget Transfer:** To cover the fees for the White Oak Hall Roof Project not completed in 2024:

From \$ To
01103BM-46030 Building Maintenance \$104,984.70 36101-46030 Capital Reserve
2025 Budget Transfer: To cover the fees for the White Oak Hall Roof Project not completed in 2024:
From \$ To

e. **2025 Budget Transfer:** To cover the fees for the disbursement of PCoRP grant funds:
From \$ To

02101901-46030 Commissioners \$10,131.00 02103901-46030 Building Maintenance
02101901-46030 Commissioners \$3,548.00 02121901-46060 Office Services
02101901-46030 Commissioners \$1,431.00 02158901-46030 District Attorney

f. **2025 Budget Transfer:** To cover the fees for the disbursement of AOPC grant funds:

From \$ To
012011-42020 APO \$319.71 01160195-45060 Veterans Court
2025 Budget Transfer: To cover the fees for maintenance on county vehicles:
From \$ To

01103HW-44730 Highway \$27.00 012011-44730 APO
01103HW-44730 Highway \$5.00 01103BM-44730 Building Maintenance
01103HW-44730 Highway \$77.08 01151-44830 Sheriff
01103HW-44730 Highway \$686.19 01151-44730 Sheriff

h. **Employments:** Fox, Amanda, FT, Clean and Green Specialist, Assessment, \$14.08/hr., effective 4/7/2025.

i. **Status Changes:** Frye, Krisyn, PT, Telecommunicator, 911 Center, \$16.30/hr., to FT, Telecommunicator, 911 Center, \$16.30/hr., effective 3/27/2025.

j. **Resignations:** Hamer, Daniel, FT, Deputy, Sheriff, \$15.52/hr., effective 3/31/2025. Yeager, Lynn, Per Unit, Custody Mediation Officer, Court Administration, \$165 per diem, effective 4/3/2025. Parshall, Zachary, FT, Deputy, Sheriff, \$15.52/hr., effective 2/21/2025. Olenick, Olivia, FT, Administrative Support, Juvenile Probation, \$11.58/hr., effective 3/31/2025.

Commissioner Burke noted her abstentions on the payments to Hollidaysburg Borough in the total check amounts of \$105.00 and \$5,687.80, and to Thomas and Chandra Jandora in the total amount of \$1,550.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster and approved to adopt Resolution 165-2025 with the abstentions noted above.

STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:

Blair County Park and Recreation Advisory Board:

Lori Guyer, on behalf of the Blair County Park and Recreation Advisory Board, requested approval of an allocation of Park and Recreation Community Outreach Funds in the amount of \$4,500.00 to CBRC to conduct the Summer Playground Program for ages 6–12 years at Valley View Park, Monday through Friday, June 9, 2025 through July 3, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Resolution 166-2025: Approving the allocation of Park and Recreation Community Outreach Funds in the amount of \$4,500.00 to CBRC to conduct the Summer Playground Program for ages 6–12 years at Valley View Park, Monday through Friday, June 9, 2025 through July 3, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m..

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 166-2025.

Children, Youth and Families:

Mindy Hostler requested approval of the FY 2025-2026 Agreement for Payment of Legal Services between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Ashley Passarello, Esquire, Attorney of Grabill Law Offices, PLLC, for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, at the rate of \$90.00/hour.

Commissioner Webster asked if this was the first agreement of the upcoming year.

Mindy Hostler replied yes, and that they are getting there.

Resolution 167-2025: Approving the Payment of Legal Services Between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Ashley Passarello, Esquire, Attorney of Grabill Law Offices, PLLC, for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 at the rate of \$90.00/hour.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 167-2025.

Fort Roberdeau:

Glenn Nelson requested approval for the award, rejection or rebidding of the bids received for the Fort Roberdeau Farmland Lease for the period of April 20, 2025 through April 19, 2028.

Vendor	Annual Bid Amount	Comments
Wingert Farms Inc.	\$36,576.25	Highest Bidder – Recommended Award
Kulp Family Dairy LLC.	\$35,000.00	

Resolution 168-2025: Approving the award of the highest bid, from Wingert Farms, Inc. in the total amount of \$36,576.25, for the Fort Roberdeau Farmland Lease for the period of April 20, 2025 through April 19, 2028.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 168-2025.

Public Safety / EMA:

- i. Christine Frederickson requested approval for the Submission of the FFY 2023-2025, Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness Grant (HMEP), Year 3, Mid-year Status Report to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), for the period of October 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025.

Resolution 169-2025: Approving the Submission of the FFY 2023-2025, Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness Grant (HMEP), Year 3, Mid-year Status Report to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), for the Period of October 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 169-2025.

- ii. Cris Frederickson requested approval of the electronic Submission of the FFY 2025 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Application for the performance period of October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 170-2025.

Register/Recorder:

Lisa Logan requested approval of the Renewal of the Software Support Agreement between the County of Blair and Optical Storage Solutions, Inc., for 20 Landex full licenses for the Register of Wills & Recorder of Deeds Office, in the amount of \$23,945.00, and two full licenses for the Assessment Office in the amount of \$1,280.00, for a total of \$25,225.00, for the period of May 1, 2025 through April 30, 2026.

Resolution 171-2025: Approving the Renewal of the Software Support Agreement between the County of Blair and Optical Storage Solutions, Inc., for 20 Landex full licenses for the Register of Wills & Recorder of Deeds Office, in the amount of \$23,945.00, and two full licenses for the Assessment Office in the amount of \$1,280.00, for a total of \$25,225.00, for the period of May 1, 2025 through April 30, 2026.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 171-2025.

Finance:

Indsay Dempsie requested approval of the amendment to the Master Energy Sales Agreement between MP2 Energy LLC, Shell Energy, and the County of Blair to increase payment terms to 30 days and change the interest accrual rate to the statutory rate referenced for governmental entities at no cost.

Resolution 172-2025: Approving the amendment to the Master Energy Sales Agreement between MP2 Energy LLC, Shell Energy, and the County of Blair to increase payment terms to 30 days and change the interest accrual rate to the statutory rate referenced for governmental entities at no cost.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 172-2025.

Commissioners:

- i. Lindsay Dempsey requested approval of the DCED Grant Closeout Report for Grant C000083394 to be submitted to the Department of Community and Economic Development.

Lindsay Dempsey noted that this Grant was received for the Prison Feasibility Study.

Resolution 173-2025: Approving the DCED Grant Closeout Report for Grant 000083394 to be submitted to the Department of Community and Economic Development.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 173-2025.

- ii. Alicia Tiracave requested approval to accept the Award for the 2024-2025 PCoRP Loss Prevention Grant Program for the projects listed below in the total amount of \$15,110.00:

1. Johnson Controls – fire system safety NAC sub-panel	\$10,131.00
2. Johnson Controls – fire safety system District Attorney Holding Room	\$ 1,431.00
3. Empire – freight elevator digital video intercom	\$ 3,548.00

Resolution 174-2025: Accepting the Award for the 2024-2025 PCoRP Loss Prevention Grant Program for the projects listed below in the total amount of \$15,110.00:

1. Johnson Controls – fire system safety NAC sub-panel	\$10,131.00
2. Johnson Controls – fire safety system District Attorney Holding Room	\$ 1,431.00
3. Empire – freight elevator digital video intercom	\$ 3,548.00

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 174-2025.

- iii. Alicia Tiracave requested approval of the Agreement between the County of Blair and TransSystems Corporation Consultants of Pennsylvania for architectural design services for the new Blair County Prison Project in the amount of 4% of the budget for the Cost of the Work.

Commissioner Kessling noted that the initial agreement charged the County 6% of the Cost of the Work. Commissioner Webster reached out and was able to negotiate a 2% decrease, which is a significant amount when talking about the cost of a prison.

Resolution 175-2025: Approving the Agreement between the County of Blair and TransSystems Corporation Consultants of Pennsylvania for architectural design services for the new Blair County Prison Project in the amount of 4% of the budget for the Cost of the Work.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 175-2025.

- iv. Alicia Tiracave requested approval of the Agreement between the County of Blair and Mark T. Gingrich for the lease of four (4) parking spaces located at 208 Union Street, Hollidaysburg, PA, 16648 in the amount of \$25.00 per space per month effective April 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

Commissioner Kessling noted that this is in preparation of the closure of the parking garage, which needs significant repairs done.

Resolution 176-2025: Approving the Agreement between the County of Blair and Mark T. Gingrich for the lease of four (4) parking spaces located at 208 Union Street, Hollidaysburg, PA, 16648 in the amount of \$25.00 per space per month effective April 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 176-2025.

- v. Alicia Tiracave requested approval for the County of Blair to submit an application for the 2024-2025 PCoRP Loss Prevention Grant Program for the project listed below in the amount of \$11,278.55:

1. Two (2) Taser 10 Bundles for the Blair County Prison by Axon Enterprise Inc.

Resolution 177-2025: Approving the submission of an application for the 2024-2025 PCoRP Loss Prevention Grant Program for the project listed below in the amount of \$11,278.55.

1. Two (2) Taser 10 Bundles for the Blair County Prison by Axon Enterprise Inc.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 177-2025.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

ADJOURN:

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



licia Tiracave, Chief Clerk

