

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING- TUESDAY MAY 7, 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.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jindsay Dempse and Brandon Meek (Finance), Allison Senkevich and Lori Guyer (Commissioners), Rebecca Robinson (Purchasing), A.C. Stickle (Controller), Melissa Gillin (Social Services), Mindy Hostler (CYF), Rachel Prosser (ABCD Corp), Rich Huether (Blair County Farmland Preservation Board), Carol Dannenberg (Hollidaysburg Community Watchdog), Kay Stevens (Altoona Mirror), and Nate Taylor (Public Access Channel).

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:

Chief Clerk Hemminger confirmed an Executive Session has not been held since the last meeting on Tuesday, April 30, 2024.

APPROVAL OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES – 4/25

The Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes from April 25th were tabled until the next Board of Commissioners meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commissioner Kessling called for public comment.

Kay Stevens from the Altoona Mirror asked if there will be any future discussion regarding the Opioid Settlement Fund CCAP seminar.

Commissioner Kessling responded that the CCAP seminar gave good information and there will be further discussions about the Opioid Funding at a later date.

Commissioner Burke added that the CCAP seminar was very helpful and informative.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Kessling called for commissioner comments.

Commissioner Webster reminded everyone that as National Small Business Week draws to a close, it is important to support our local small businesses.

PROCLAMATIONS:

Commissioner Kessling read the following proclamation:

**PROCLAMATION
National Corrections Officers and Employees Week, May 5 – May 11, 2024**

WHEREAS, correctional officers are trained law enforcement professionals dedicated to maintaining safe correctional facilities and ensuring public safety; and

WHEREAS, correctional facilities across the U.S. are run by highly qualified and experienced individuals with a deep understanding of the challenges within the profession; and,

WHEREAS, correctional officers and employees are responsible for the custody, care and rehabilitation of thousands of offenders every year, as well as the maintenance of safe and secure facilities; and,

WHEREAS, correctional officers and employees serve admirably in many different capacities, including jail administrators, wardens, chaplains, nurses, supervisors, social workers, teachers, managers and directors; and,

WHEREAS, correctional officers and employees teach, train, mentor, counsel and treat thousands of offenders and provide offenders with direction, hope and a new focus while assisting with reentry and life outside corrections; and,

WHEREAS, although each of these dedicated professionals works in a different field and specializes in a specific area, all are committed to a common goal: to secure, safe and humane operation of our Commonwealth's correctional facilities; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the Blair County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim the week of May 5 – 11, 2024 Corrections Officers and Employees Week in Blair County, and encourage the residents of Blair County to recognize the vital role these dedicated professionals play in ensuring the effective operation of our correctional system in the interest of public safety.

DULY, adopted by the Commissioners of the County of Blair, Pennsylvania, this 7th day of May 2024.

**BLAIR COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**

David Kessling, President

ATTEST:

Amy E. Webster, Vice-President

Nicole Hemminger, Chief Clerk

Laura O. Burke, Secretary

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution 219 – 2024:

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

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
05/07/2024	240507WW	179,698.13
05/07/2024	240507CO	21,987.96
05/07/2024	240507CY	28,501.02
05/07/2024	240507SS	51,284.53

b. Ratification of the following six-6 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
05/03/2024	240503WT	505,041.25
05/01/2024	240501HI	616,443.20
05/01/2024	240430RA	15,308.52
05/01/2024	240501FN	117,016.69
05/02/2024	240502HR	2,548.06
04/29/2024	240429FS	4,428.55

c. Ratification of Total Payroll for the check dated 5/3/2024 in the total amount of \$880,632.94.

d. **2024 Budget Transfer:** To cover maintenance on county vehicles:

From \$ To
01103HW-44730 Highway \$713.45 01202-44730 JPO

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

From \$ To
01103HW-44730 Highway \$788.69 01103BM-44730 Building Maintenance

f. **Blair County Drug and Alcohol Partnership:** Requesting approval for the use of the courthouse courtyard area on August 10, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., to conduct the Central Pa Recovery Walk and Rally.

g. **Resignations:** Vance, Emily L., FT, Telecommunicator, Public Safety, \$16.30/hr., effective 04/26/24. Conner, Debra J., Temporary Department Assistant, Elections, \$11.00/hr., effective 4/26/24. McCormick, Robert J., FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$22.66/hr., effective 5/8/2024. Righenour, Darren R., FT, Warrant Clerk, Sheriff, \$11.58, effective 5/10/24. Wilt, Michael W., FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$22.16/hr., effective 5/11/24.

h. **Employments:** Centi, Mark A., FT, Caseworker, CYF, \$20.00/hr., effective 5/6/24. McCaulley, Skyler D., Temporary Department Assistant, Fort Roberdeau, \$11.00/hr., effective 5/6/24.

i. **Status Change:** Burns, Crystal, from FT, Lead Telecommunicator, Public Safety – 911, \$21.03/hr., to PT, Telecommunicator, Public Safety – 911, \$19.53/hr., effective 5/8/24.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessler, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 219-2024.

STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:

Blair County Agricultural Land Preservation Board:

i. Rich Huether requested approval of a Service Contract between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Agricultural Land Preservation Board, and Keller Engineers, Inc. for the easement survey of the Penn England Family Limited Partnership – Royer Farm in the total amount of \$4,925.00 to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of PA at time of closing.

Mr. Huether added that this easement would preserve about 11.5 acres of the Royer Farm, which is in Woodbury Township.

Commissioner Kessler expressed his appreciation to Mr. Huether for his work on the agriculture preservation projects.

Resolution 220-2024: Approving the Service Contract between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Agricultural Land Preservation Board, and Keller Engineers, Inc. for the easement survey of the Penn England Family Limited Partnership – Royer Farm in the total amount of \$4,925.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessler, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 220-2024.

ii. Rich Huether requested approval of a Service Contract between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Agricultural Land Preservation Board, and Keller Engineers, Inc. for the easement survey of the Penn England Family Limited Partnership – Dilling Farm in the total amount of \$4,000.00 to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of PA at time of closing.

Mr. Huether added that this easement would preserve about 12.5 acres of the Dilling Farm, which is located in Woodbury Township.

Resolution 221-2024: Approving the Service Contract between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Agricultural Land Preservation Board, and Keller Engineers, Inc. for the easement survey of the Penn England Family Limited Partnership – Dilling Farm in the total amount of \$4,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessler, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 221-2024.

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 Evolution Counseling Services, LLC.

Commissioner Burke asked if this is the first provider contract for 2024.

Ms. Hostler confirmed that this is the first provide contract being presented for 2024 and added that this agreement provides assistance with services such as in-home counseling, truancy, and delinquency. This is the same Agreement as last year, the insurance has not expired, and it was previously approved by Attorney Nathan Karn.

Chief Clerk Hemminger noted that we are waiting for an updated signature block on the agreement.

Resolution 222-2024: 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 Evolution Counseling Services, LLC.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, pending receipt of an updated signature block, seconded by Commissioner Kessler, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 222-2024.

Public Works - Facilities:

Ken Ressler requested approval of the Agreement for Purchases Under Bidding Threshold between the County of Blair and Commercial Technical Services, Inc. (CTS) for elevator inspection services for the courthouse and prison in the amount of \$80.00 per unit for the period of January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, in the total amount of \$880.00.

Resolution 223-2024: Approving the Agreement for Purchases Under Bidding Threshold between the County of Blair and Commercial Technical Services, Inc. (CTS) for elevator inspection services for the courthouse and prison in the amount of \$80.00 per unit for the period of January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, in the total amount of \$880.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessler, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 223-2024.

Social Services:

Melissa Gillin requested approval of the FY 23/24 renewal Contract between the County of Blair, on behalf of Social Services, and Central PA Behavioral Health Collaborative, Inc., d/b/a Blair HealthChoices, in the total amount of \$400,000.00.

Chief Clerk Hemminger asked for clarification on when the fiscal year begins and ends.

Ms. Gillin responded that this contract will run from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Commissioner Kessler asked for an example of the type of services Blair HealthChoices provides.

Ms. Gillin explained that this provider assists with Medicaid enrollment and mental health case management.

Resolution 224-2024: Approving the FY 23/24 Contract between the County of Blair, on behalf of Social Services, and Central PA Behavioral Health Collaborative, Inc., d/b/a Blair HealthChoices, in the total amount of \$400,000.00.

Commissioner Burke noted her abstention due to conflict of interest with her position on the Blair HealthChoices board.

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Kessler, and approved to adopt Resolution 224-2024 with abstention as noted.

Commissioners:

i. Rachel Prosser requested approval to execute the Indemnity Agreement between the Altoona Blair County Development Corporation (ABCD Corp.), KB Revitalization LLC (Sub-Grantee), and the County of Blair and the Cooperation Agreement between the Altoona Blair County Development Corporation and the County of Blair to receive funding under the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP), in the total amount of \$1,500,000.00 for the renovation and modernization of the former Kress Building.

Ms. Prosser added that this funding would assist in renovating an 18,000 square foot historic structure in Altoona.

Resolution 225-2024: Approving the execution of the Indemnity Agreement between the Altoona Blair County Development Corporation (ABCD Corp.), KB Revitalization LLC (Sub-Grantee), and the County of Blair and the Cooperation Agreement between the Altoona Blair County Development Corporation and the County of Blair to receive funding under the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP), in the total amount of \$1,500,000.00 for the renovation and modernization of the former Kress Building.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessler, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 225-2024.

ii. Allison Senkevich requested approval to accept the second 2023-2024 PCoRP Loss Prevention Grant award in the total amount of \$7,404.00.

Ms. Senkevich added that amount would utilize the total grant award available which was \$30,000.

Chief Clerk Hemminger explained that this grant helps to cover unexpected costs as well as funding special projects.

Resolution 226-2024: Approving the acceptance of the second 2023-2024 PCoRP Loss Prevention Grant award in the total amount of \$7,404.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 226-2024.

- iii. Allison Senkevich requested approval of a quote Change Proposal received from American Corrections Maintenance for purchasing additional bullet-resistant glass for one of our MDJ locations, in the total amount of \$4,867.04.

Commissioner Kessling added that this change to the original contract was due to discrepancies in the measurements of glass provided by the County as part of the security upgrade project and, therefore, need to be reordered. The grant funds were able to offset this additional cost.

Resolution 227-2024: Approving the quote Change Proposal received from American Corrections Maintenance for purchasing additional bullet-resistant glass for one of our MDJ locations, in the total amount of \$4,867.04.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 227-2024.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioners:

Requesting approval of a Certificate of Substantial Completion for the Blair County Parking Garage Stair Tower Repair Project dated October 20, 2023.

Commissioner Webster stated that, after getting her questions answered by the County's solicitor, it is now up to the Commissioners if they would like to approve the Certificate of Substantial Completion.

Chief Clerk Hemminger clarified that the County does not have any outstanding construction issues that would prevent the Commissioners from signing the Certificate.

Commissioner Kessling ask if signing would affect the stair tread warranty and reduce it to 3 years instead of 5 years.

Commission Webster replied it would not affect the warranty.

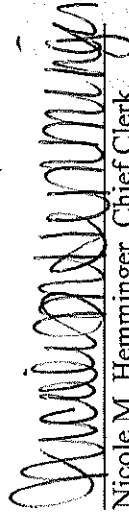
Commissioner Webster added that by approving the Certificate, the subcontractor would be able to proceed with his claim.

Resolution 228-2024: Approving the Certificate of Substantial Completion for the Blair County Parking Garage Stair Tower Repair Project dated October 20, 2023.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 228-2024.

Adjourn:

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



Nicole M. Hemminger, Chief Clerk