

COMMISSIONERS' MEETING: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2025, 10:01 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 Socie.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Alicia Tiracave and Lori Guyer (Commissioners), Lindsay Dempsie (Finance), Ray Benton (Coroner), Tricia Johnson and Jindy James (Social Services), Sarah Seymour (Elections), Paul Shaffer (Public Works/Highway), Nicholas Burkert (Public Works/Facilities) Joseph Cox III (Juvenile Probation Office), DeAnna Heichel (Assessment), Mindy Hostler (Children, Youth and Families), and Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror).

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:

Chief Clerk Socie confirmed there was an Executive Session held on January 27, 2025 at approximately 10:00 a.m. with Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Burke, Commissioner Webster, Chief Clerk Socie, Assistant Chief Clerk Tiracave, and Human Resource director Melena Koegler concerning one open position. There was also an Executive Session held on January 28, 2025 at approximately 9:00 a.m. with Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Burke, Commissioner Webster, Chief Clerk Socie, Assistant Chief Clerk Tiracave, Highway Director Paul Shaffer, Facilities Director Nicholas Burkert, Finance Director Lindsay Dempsie, and Keller Engineers concerning acquisition of property. An additional Executive Session was held on February 3, 2025 at approximately 10:00 a.m. with Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Webster, Commissioner Burke, Chief Clerk Socie, Finance Director Lindsay Dempsie, and Solicitor Christopher Gabriel regarding a property.

APPROVAL OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES: – 1/16/2025 & 1/23/2025

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Kay Stephens stated she would like to know where the prison project stands. She also advised that the Opioid Advisory Committee be public per the Sunshine Law.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT:

Commissioner Kessling called for Commissioners Comments.

Commissioner Burke reminded everyone that February is Black History Month and that Daniel Hale Williams, the first person to perform heart surgery and was the first black physician to become a charter member of the American College of Surgeons, was born in Hollidaysburg.

Commissioner Webster weighed in on Act 77 by stating that Act 77 makes common sense and eases the burden on county staff. She added that the increase on the 911 surcharge is not new. It is a surcharge on landlines that has now transferred to cell phones. These surcharges on your phone bills are necessary since these funds fill gaps in community services such as mental health care and 911 services. Everyone that has a phone will be contributing.

Consent Agenda:

Resolution 28–2025:

a. Payment of the following six-6 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
01/28/2025	250128WW	152,952.84
01/28/2025	250128SS	68,936.56
01/31/2025	250210AA	260,175.87
01/31/2025	250204WW	1,375,033.71
01/31/2025	250204SS	285,809.55
01/31/2025	250204CY	212,940.77

Which includes payment of the following invoices:

- Blair Senior Services in the total check amount of \$1,384.78.
- Thomas and Chandra Jandora in the total check amount of \$1,550.00.
- Burke & Co. LLC in the total check amount of \$9,986.00.

b. Ratification of the following seven-7 Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
01/24/2025	250124WX	\$7,300.43
01/24/2025	250122RA	\$178.00
01/27/2025	250127FS	\$2,155.38
01/30/2025	250130HR	\$14,030.95
01/29/2025	250129CY	\$1,000.00
01/29/2025	250129RA	\$950.00
01/29/2025	250129SS	\$65,538.00

c. Ratification of total Payroll for the paycheck dated 1/24/2025 in the total amount of \$813,836.67.

d. **2025 Budget Transfer:** To cover the fees for Insurance Deductibles:

From	\$	To
01101GCO-44960 General County Operations	\$2,458.70	01209PO-44960 Prison
01101GCO-44960 General County Operations	\$147.00	01209PO-44960 Prison

e. **2025 Budget Transfer:** To cover the fees for re-coding to new Org:

From	\$	To
012011-34400 Adult Probation	\$70,288.00	01201728-34400 Adult Probation
01158-34800 District Attorney	\$2,500.00	01158903-34800 District Attorney

f. **Blair County Drug and Alcohol Partnership:** Requesting approval for the use of the courthouse courtyard area on Saturday, August 2, 2025, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., to conduct the Central Pa Recovery Walk and Rally.

g. **Bridge #69:** Requesting approval for payment #1 to Merlo Inc. for Bridge #69 construction in the amount of \$161,637.99.

h. **Park & Recreation Advisory Board:** Requesting approval for the appointment of Jacob Leon Wible to the Advisory Board filling the expired term of Fred Miller. Term effective February 6, 2025 through April 30, 2026.

i. **Employments:** Burkett, Nicholas A., FT, Manager – Facilities, Public Works Facilities, \$2,109.66/biweekly, effective 1/27/2025. Danella, Annette M., FT, Department Clerk I, DRS, 11.03/hr., effective 1/27/2025. Kovac, Taylor L., FT, Casework Supervisor, CYF, \$1,730.96/biweekly, effective 1/27/2025. McCloskey, Haley M., Administrative Support, DRS, \$11.58/hr., effective 1/27/2025. Ritchey, Deborah R., PT, Tipstaff, Court Administration, \$11.58/hr., effective 1/27/2025. Weakland, Kirsten A., FT, Juvenile Probation Officer, JPO, \$16.30/hr., effective 1/27/2024. Reynoso, Jeanette, FT, Criminal Case Manager, Court Administration, \$16.29/hr., effective 2/3/2025.

j. **Status Changes:** Gozaydin, Crystal A., FT, Department Support, Prothonotary, \$11.31/hr., to FT, 2nd Deputy Orphans' Court, Prothonotary, \$12.77/hr., effective 2/1/2025. Brant, Richard L., PT, Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$16.46/hr., to FT, 2nd Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$1,620 bi-weekly, effective 2/1/2025. Tiracave, Alicia C., FT, Assistant Chief Clerk, Commissioners, \$57,319.60 annually to FT, Chief Clerk, Commissioners, \$78,003.92 annually, effective 2/4/2025.

k. **Resignations:** Ray, Terri L., FT, Telecommunicator Trainee, 911 Center, \$13.88/hr., effective 1/17/2025. Kuhn, Brian D., FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$23.11/hr., effective 2/6/2025. Kinley, Jerome J., FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.53/hr., effective 2/7/2025. Forsht, William D., PT, Deputy Coroner, Coroner, \$19.54/hr., effective 12/27/2024.

Commissioner Burke noted her abstentions on the payments to Blair Senior Services, Thomas and Chandra Jandora, and Burke & Co. LLC.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and approved to adopt Resolution 28-2025 with the abstentions as noted.

STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:

Coroner:

Coroner Ray Benton requested approval of the Renewal Contract between the County of Blair and Quincy Technology Solutions, Inc. for License, Maintenance, and Support in the amount of \$9,890.00 and Applicable Custom Software Enhancements in the amount of \$3,110.00 for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

Coroner Benton stated that this is the Electronic Record System that he uses in the office. The records are sent through secure email and are uploaded. He used to use at least 6 reams of paper per year, and now it's down to half of a ream.

Commissioner Burke stated it is good to get it here.

Resolution 29-2025: Approving the Renewal Contract between the County of Blair and Quincy Technology Solutions, Inc. for License, Maintenance, and Support in the amount of \$9,890.00 and Applicable Custom Software Enhancements in the amount of \$3,110.00 for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 29-2025.

Elections:

Sarah Seymour requested approval to submit the Election Integrity Grant Program Post Election Report to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community and Economic Development, for the November 5, 2024 Election in the total amount of \$260,584.27.

Ms. Seymour stated that this is the grant that we have to report.

Resolution 30-2025: Approving the submission of the Election Integrity Grant Program Post Election Report to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community and Economic Development, for the November 5, 2024 Election in the total amount of \$260,584.27.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 30-2025.

Assessment:

- i. DeAnna Heichel requested approval to ratify the agreement between the County of Blair and Vision Government Solutions, Inc. to provide Vision 8 CAMA Software Implementation Services in the amount of \$544,500.00.

Resolution 31-2025: Approving the ratification of the agreement between the County of Blair and Vision Government Solutions, Inc. to provide Vision 8 CAMA Software Implementation Services in the amount of \$544,500.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 31-2025.

- ii. DeAnna Heichel requested approval to ratify the agreement between the County of Blair and Vision Government Solutions, Inc. for a Software Subscription upgrade from the Legacy EST CAMA to the Vision 8 CAMA Software Services in the amount of \$18,500.00 for Web Hosting Services and \$75,825 for the subscription period of one year to be automatically renewed annually thereafter.

Ms. Heichel stated that this is an upgrade to their current antique software, which creates issues and prevents them from doing new assessments. This new upgrade is needed to run the office.

Commissioner Kessling added that the current software is no longer available.

Resolution 32-2025: Approving the ratification of the agreement between the County of Blair and Vision Government Solutions, Inc. for a Software Subscription upgrade from the Legacy EST CAMA to the Vision 8 CAMA Software Services in the amount of \$18,500.00 for Web Hosting Services and \$75,825 for the subscription period of one year to be automatically renewed annually thereafter.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 32-2025.

Social Services:

Cindy James requested approval of the Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Department of Social Services, and UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital for Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) training, for the period of April 30, 2025 through May 2, 2025, for an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.

Commissioner Burke asked who this is open to.

Ms. James responded that this is limited to 30 people, so Crisis and Mobile personnel first and then newer people coming on.

Resolution 33-2025: Approving the Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Department of Social Services, and UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital for Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) training, for the period of April 30, 2025 through May 2, 2025, for an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 33-2025.

Highway and Facilities:

- i. Paul Shaffer requested approval of the Contract between the County of Blair and Smithmyer's Electronics for the purchase and installation of two (2) new batteries in the fire alarm control panel at the 911 facility in the amount of \$223.40.

Resolution 34-2025: Approving the Contract between the County of Blair and Smithmyer's Electronics for the purchase and installation of two (2) new batteries in the fire alarm control panel at the 911 facility in the amount of \$223.40.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 34-2025.

- ii. Paul Shaffer requested approval for the designation of Keller Engineers as the County Engineer for the year 2025 at the following hourly rates:

Senior Professional Engineer	\$155.00
Professional Engineer	\$135.00
Landscape Architect	\$130.00
Professional Surveyor	\$151.00
Surveyor	\$95.00
Survey Assistant	\$75.00
Environmental Manager	\$155.00 (new)
Environmental Specialist	\$90.00
Environmental Scientist	\$75.00 (new)
Senior Designer	\$125.00
Designer	\$100.00
Senior Technician	\$95.50

Technician	\$75.00
Senior Resident Project Representative.....	\$102.00
Resident Project Representative	\$97.00
Administrative Support	\$55.00
Mileage (IRS Allowable)	Presently \$0.70/mile
Report Copies	(8 ½ "x 11") \$0.15/page (black and white) \$1.00/page (color)
Report Copies	(11" x 17") \$0.50/page (black and white) \$2.50/page (color)
Prints	(22" x 34") \$2.75/sheet (black and white) \$8.75/sheet (color)

Resolution 35-2025: Approving the designation of Keller Engineers as the County Engineer for the year 2025 at the following hourly rates:

Senior Professional Engineer	\$155.00
Professional Engineer.....	\$135.00
Landscape Architect	\$130.00
Professional Surveyor.....	\$151.00
Surveyor	\$95.00
Survey Assistant	\$75.00
Environmental Manager	\$155.00 (new)
Environmental Specialist.....	\$90.00
Environmental Scientist.....	\$75.00 (new)
Senior Designer	\$125.00
Designer	\$100.00
Senior Technician	\$95.50
Technician	\$75.00
Senior Resident Project Representative.....	\$102.00
Resident Project Representative	\$97.00
Administrative Support	\$55.00
Mileage (IRS Allowable)	Presently \$0.70/mile
Report Copies	(8 ½ "x 11") \$0.15/page (black and white) \$1.00/page (color)
Report Copies	(11" x 17") \$0.50/page (black and white) \$2.50/page (color)
Prints	(22" x 34") \$2.75/sheet (black and white) \$8.75/sheet (color)

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 35-2025.

iii. Paul Shaffer requested approval of a Quote between the County of Blair and Paul Carnell Auto Repair for the repairs of the Blair County Juvenile Probation Office Vehicle #21 in the total amount of \$950.00.

Resolution 36-2025: Approving the Quote between the County of Blair and Paul Carnell Auto Repair for the repairs of the Blair County Juvenile Probation Office Vehicle #21 in the total amount of \$950.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 36-2025.

Children, Youth and Families:

i. Mindy Johnson requested approval of the 2025 Contract between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Computer Aid Inc. (CAI) for a maximum amount of \$210,200.00 (\$168,160.00 – State funded and \$42,040.00 – County funded) with costs varying upon hours worked during the course of the year.

Commissioner Kessling stated that we approve a lot of significant contracts and asked if the groups are helping.

Ms. Hostler responded that they did an audit of what we were billed for and what we received.

Commissioner Burke stated that we are doing assessments.

Resolution 37-2025: Approving the 2025 Contract between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Computer Aid Inc. (CAI) for a maximum amount of \$210,200.00 (\$168,160.00 – State funded and \$42,040.00 – County funded) with costs varying upon hours worked during the course of the year.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 37-2025.

ii. Mindy Hostler requested approval to extend the Lease Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of Children, Youth, and Families, and JJ Keller Family Limited Partnership for offices 120-129 located at 317 Union Street, Hollidaysburg, PA, for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, in the amount of \$1,975.00 per month.

Ms. Hostler asked that this item be tabled since she has not received the updated forms for 2025-2026.

Juvenile Probation Department:

Joseph Cox requested approval of the Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Juvenile Probation Department, and the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission (JCJC), for the use of the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory Assessment for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025. Assessments will be purchased at a per-use rate of \$4.00.

Resolution 38-2025: Approving the Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Juvenile Probation Department, and the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC), for the use of the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory Assessment for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025. Assessments will be purchased at a per-use rate of \$4.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 38-2025.

Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee:

Tricia requested approval of the Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Juvenile Probation Department, and the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC), for the use of the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory Assessment for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025. Assessments will be purchased at a per-use rate of \$4.00.

Resolution 39-2025: Approving the Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Juvenile Probation Department, and the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC), for the use of the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory Assessment for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025. Assessments will be purchased at a per-use rate of \$4.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 39-2025.

Commissioners:

Commissioner Burke requested to reject the proposed reauthorization of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act bill, also known as the "Stronger Workforce for America Act," and the subsequent Senate amendments that are being proposed.

Resolution 40-2025: Rejecting the proposed reauthorization of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act bill, also known as the "Stronger Workforce for America Act," and the subsequent Senate amendments that are being proposed.

Motioned by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Kessling, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 40-2025.

Children, Youth and Families:

Andy Hostler requested approval of the FY 2024-2025 Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Blair County Drug and Alcohol Program, Inc.

Resolution 41-2025: Approving the FY 2024-2025 Purchase of Service Agreement and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Children, Youth and Families, and Blair County Drug and Alcohol Program, Inc.

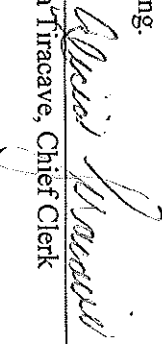
Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt Resolution 41-2025.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

Adjourn:

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



Alicia Trincave, Chief Clerk

