



BLAIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AGENDA

Thursday, April 02, 2026, 10:01 A.M.

COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM, BASEMENT

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Kessling called the meeting order.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

Commissioner Kessling called for a moment of silent prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Kessling asked that everyone participating in the meeting stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present:

Commissioner Kessling, Commissioner Webster, Commissioner Burke, Chief Clark Tiracave.

Others Present:

Lori Guyer (Commissioners), Paul Shaffer (Public Works- Highway), Grant Wills (GIS), Angela Wagner and A.C. Stickle (Controllers), Lisa Logan (Register/Recorder), Mindy Hostler (CYF), Sherry Socie (Blair County Planning Commission), Kay Stephens (Altoona Mirror), and Nate Taylor (Public Access Channel).

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

None.

PROCLAMATIONS

Commissioner Kessling read the following Proclamation

National County Government Month – April 2026

WHEREAS, the nation's 3,069 counties serving more than 330 million Americans provide essential services to create healthy, safe, and vibrant communities; and

WHEREAS, Counties fulfill a vast range of responsibilities and deliver services that touch nearly every aspect of our residents' lives; and

WHEREAS, Counties as intergovernmental partners enact local, state, and federal programs to address the needs of all residents; and

WHEREAS, Blair County and all counties take pride in our responsibility to protect and enhance the health, well-being, and safety of our residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and

WHEREAS, each year since 1991, the National Association of Counties has encouraged counties across the country to elevate awareness of county responsibilities, programs, and services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commissioners of Blair County do hereby declare April 2026 as National County Government Month, and we encourage all county officials, employees, schools, and residents to participate in county government celebration activities.

DULY adopted by the Commissioners of the County of Blair, Pennsylvania, this 2nd day of April 2026.

Motion by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved to adopt the Proclamation for National County Government Month.

Commissioner Burke read the following Proclamation

National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month – April 2026

WHEREAS, in Federal fiscal year 2025, nearly 2.7 million reports were made to child protective services; and,

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect is a serious problem affecting every segment of our community, and finding solutions requires input and action from everyone; and,

WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resources and will shape the future of the Blair County; and,

WHEREAS, child abuse can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects that have lasting consequences for victims of abuse; and,

WHEREAS, protective factors are conditions that reduce or eliminate risk and promote the social, emotional, and developmental well-being of children; and,

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the partnerships created between child welfare professionals, education, health, community- and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and families; and,

WHEREAS, communities must make every effort to promote programs and activities that create strong and thriving children and families; and,

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and contribute to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment; and,

WHEREAS, prevention remains the best defense for our children and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Blair County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of April as NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION MONTH in Blair County and urge all citizens to recognize this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children and families.

Motion by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Kessling, and unanimously approved to adopt the Proclamation for National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month.

Commissioner Webster read the following Proclamation

Fair Housing Month – April 2026

WHEREAS, the nation's 3,069 counties serving more than 330 million Americans provide essential services to create healthy, safe, and vibrant communities; and

WHEREAS, Counties fulfill a vast range of responsibilities and deliver services that touch nearly every aspect of our residents' lives; and

WHEREAS, Counties as intergovernmental partners enact local, state, and federal programs to address the needs of all residents; and

WHEREAS, Blair County and all counties take pride in our responsibility to protect and enhance the health, well-being, and safety of our residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and

WHEREAS, each year since 1991, the National Association of Counties has encouraged counties across the Country to elevate awareness of county responsibilities, programs, and services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commissioners of Blair County do hereby declare April 2026 as National County Government Month, and we encourage all county officials, employees, schools and residents to participate in county government celebration activities.

DULY adopted by the Commissioners of the County of Blair, Pennsylvania, this 2nd day of April 2026.

Motion by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Kessling, and unanimously approved to adopt the Proclamation for Fair Housing Month.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution 137- 2026:

a. Ratification of the following six (6) Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
03/25/2026	260325SF	\$55,000.00
03/26/2026	260326HR	\$12,345.86
03/31/2026	260331CY	\$8,653.00
03/31/2026	260331EO	\$27,949.14
03/31/2026	260331WW	\$458,145.13
03/31/2026	260331SS	\$10,997.90

Which includes payment to the following vendor:

- Blair Senior Services in the total check amount of \$418.62.

b. 2026 Budget Transfer: To cover repairs to the highway garage door:

From	\$	To
01103BM-44840 Building Maintenance	\$649.87	01103HW-44840 Highway

c. 2026 Budget Transfer: To cover fees from Altoona Health Force for pre-employment drug testing and workers' comp claims.

From	\$	To
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$445.00	012011-42000 APO
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$115.00	01107-42000 Assessment
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$120.00	01103BM-42000 Building Maintenance
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$175.00	01160-42000 Court Administration
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$115.00	01160JB-42000 Judge Bernard
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$55.00	01160LS-42000 Judge Schmitt
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$60.00	01161DD-42000 MDJ DeAntonio
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$60.00	01161KS-42000 MDJ Stoltz
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$120.00	01152-42000 Coroner
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$120.00	01103CS-42000 Custodial Services
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$515.00	113201-42000 CYF
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$235.00	01158-42000 District Attorney
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$120.00	011062-42000 Elections
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$55.00	08607-42000 Fort Roberdeau
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$960.00	01103HW-42000 Highway
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$145.00	01202-42000 JPO
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$120.00	01153-42000 Prothonotary
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$60.00	011192-42000 Records Management
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$475.00	01151-42000 Sheriff
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$3,310.00	01209PO-42000 Prison
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$180.00	44122-42000 Public Safety - 911
01101GCO-42000 General County Operations	\$120.00	01164711-42000 Victim Witness

- d. Children, Youth and Families: Requesting approval for the use of the courthouse courtyard area on Thursday, April 9, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., to conduct an annual Child Abuse Awareness Event.
- e. Children, Youth and Families: Requesting approval to light the courthouse up in blue lights during the month of April in support of Child Abuse Awareness Month.
- f. District Attorney: Requesting approval of one (1) University of Richmond School of Law student intern, Olivia Day, for the period of May 26, 2026 through July 31, 2026. Internship is for credit only and at no cost to the county.

g. Commissioners: Ratification of a Letter of Support from the Blair County Board of Commissioners to the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority Board, in support of the Blair Township Water and Sewer Authority's Reservoir Road sewer project.

h. Commissioners: Requesting approval of a Letter of Support from the Blair County Board of Commissioners to Jesse and Emily Cole, in support of the Altoona Curve as a host location for the 2027 Banana Ball World Tour.

i. Employments: Logan, Blake J., FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.53/hr, effective 3/20/2026. Daversa, John M., FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.53/hr, effective 3/23/2026. Bickford, Megan, FT, Vector Control Specialist, EMA, \$21.97/hr, effective 3/30/2026.

j. Separations of Employment: Kuhn, Dameon R., FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.53 hr, effective 3/3/2026. Smith, Saje A., FT, Corrections Officer, Prison, \$21.53 hr, effective 3/24/2026. Shaffer, Teely E., FT, Director, Veterans Affairs, \$26.48/hr, effective 3/27/2026.

Commissioner Burke abstained from the payment to Blair Senior Services due to conflict of interest.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling and seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved with the abstention as noted.

STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:

a. Public Works/Highway:

i. Paul Shaffer requested approval for the acceptance of the bids received for the County Road 101 Preservation Project and to award or reject per county code thereafter.

Vendor	Bid Amount
Grannas Bros.	\$414,466.45
Quaker Sales Corporation	\$406,625.90
Glenn O. Hawbaker Inc.	\$381,549.65

Commissioner Kessling abstained due to conflicts of interest.

Motioned by Commissioner Webster, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved with the abstentions as noted.

ii. Paul Shaffer requested approval of the Proposal of Service Contract between the County of Blair and Keller Engineers, Inc. for the safety inspection of the fifteen (15) County-owned bridges listed below, in the total amount of \$33,250.00.

Bridge 19	Bridge 47	Bridge 56
Bridge 76	Bridge 76	Bridge 79
Bridge 87	Bridge 88	Bridge 89
Bridge 90	Bridge 91	Bridge 92
Bridge 93	Bridge 94	Bridge 95
Bridge 96		

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved.

b. Public Safety/EMA:

i. Grant Willis requested approval for the acceptance of the bids received for the Blair County Department of Emergency Services Public Safety Grade Small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUAS) and to award or reject per county code thereafter.

Name	Cost with all Optional Equipment	Cost without Optional Equipment
Axon Enterprise, Inc	\$61,990.00	\$58,980.00
W.S. Darley and Co.	\$44,252.00	\$34,500.00

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved.

iii. Grant Willis requested approval for the Submission of the 2027 Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant Application to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency in the amount of \$17,650.00.

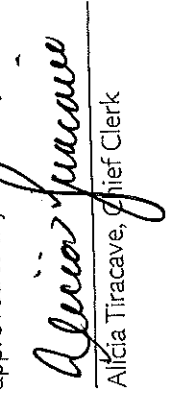
Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURN

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


Alicia Tiracave, Chief Clerk

