



BLAIR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Thursday, January 15, 2026, 10:02 A.M.
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM, BASEMENT

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Kessling called 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 those in attendance 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), Melissa Gillin and Patty Muriceak (Social Services), Hannah Mitchell and Cris Fredrickson (Public Safety EMA), Emily States (Public Safety 911), Nicholas Burket (Public Works/Facilities), Eric Malloy (CYF), Paul Shaffer (Public Works/Highway), Sarah Seymour (Elections), Grant Wills (GIS), Angela Wagner and A.C. Stickel (Controller), DeAnna Heichel (Assessment), Becky Robinson (Purchasing), Brian Walters (Human Resources), Conner Gantz (Altoona Mirror) and Nate Taylor (Public Access Channel)

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution 014– 2026:

- a. Ratification of the following nine (9) Warrant Lists:

EFFECTIVE DATE	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
1/02/2026	260102HR	\$8,818.50
1/02/2026	260105HI	\$671,540.28
1/05/2026	260105FS	\$982.95
1/08/2026	250108HR	\$5,463.35
1/08/2026	251231PC	\$35,438.78
1/13/2026	260113SS	\$88,525.66
1/13/2026	260113TC	\$172,289.08
1/13/2026	260113CY	\$158,808.33
1/13/2026	260113WW	\$375,491.73

Which includes payment of the following invoices:

- Holidaysburg Borough in the total check amounts of \$2,263.41 and \$130.00.

- b. Ratification of total Payroll for the paycheck dated 1/9/2026 in the total amount of \$944,395.95.

- c. 2026 Budget Transfer: To cover the cost of maintenance on County vehicles

From	\$	To
01103HW-44730 Highway	\$500.00	113201-44730 CYF
01103HW-44730 Highway	\$200.00	08607-44730 Fort Roberdeau
01103HW-44730 Highway	\$200.00	65504-44730 Social Services

- d. 2025 Budget Transfer: To cover the cost of upgrades to the Sheriff transport van:

From	\$	To
01151-42110 Sheriff	\$8,559.41	36101-46060 Capital Reserve

- e. 2026 Budget Transfer: To cover the cost of upgrades to the Sheriff transport van:

From	\$	To
36101-46060 Capital Reserve	\$8,559.41	01151-46060 Sheriff

- f. Children, Youth and Families: Requesting an extension (Res 001-2026) of the Internship period of one (1) Penn State University Student Intern, Rachel Gallagher, from the period of January 12, 2026 to May 8, 2026.

- g. Employments: Barkheimer, Marrah, PT, Probation Officer Support, Adult Parole and Probation, \$13.75/hr, effective 1/12/2026. Burr, Vincent, FT, Post-Sentencing Guidelines Coordinator, District Attorney, \$14.44/hr, effective 1/12/2026. Whisker, Erik, Wike, Jacob, FT, Deputy Sheriff, Sheriff, \$19.35/hr, effective 1/12/2026

- h. Resignations: Craig, Lucy, FT, Telecommunicator-Trainee, 911 Center, \$17.90/hr, effective 1/5/2026. Snyder, Jamie, FT, Administrative Support, Public Defender, \$15.96/hr., effective 1/6/2026.

Commissioner Burke noted her abstention to the Hollidaysburg Borough in the total check amounts of \$2,263.41 and \$130.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, approved to adopt the Consent Agenda.

STAFF REPORTS & SPECIAL BUSINESS:

GIS:

Grant Willis requested approval for the Quote received from Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) for GIS software maintenance, in the total amount of \$25,658.00 for the period of February 1, 2026 through January 31, 2027.

Resolution 015-2026: Approving the Quote received from Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) for GIS software maintenance, in the total amount of \$25,658.00 for the period of February 1, 2026 through January 31, 2027.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt.

Children, Youth, and Families:

Eric Malloy requested approval of the 2026 Statement of Work between the County of Blair, on behalf of Children, Youth and Families, and Computer Aid, Inc. (CAI) in the amount of \$180,000.00 with costs varying upon hours worked during the course of the year.

Resolution 016-2026: Approving the 2026 Statement of Work between the County of Blair, on behalf of Children, Youth and Families, and Computer Aid, Inc. (CAI) in the amount of \$180,000.00 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.

Human Resources:

Brian Walters requested approval of the 2026 PACounty of Blair Workmen's Compensation Trust (PComp) Insurance Renewal Proposal in the total estimated contribution of \$275,675.00, for the policy period of 1/1/2026 through 1/1/2027.

Resolution 017-2026: Approving the 2026 PACounty of Blair Workmen's Compensation Trust (PComp) Insurance Renewal Proposal in the total estimated contribution of \$275,675.00, for the policy period of 1/1/2026 through 1/1/2027.

Commissioner Burke noted her abstention.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster and approved to adopt.

Public Safety/911:

- i. Emily States requested approval of the Quote dated August 12, 2025, between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Emergency Services, and Biddle Consulting Group for the Critical/ TestGenius Testing Package in the amount of \$1,806.00.

Resolution 018-2026: Approving the Quote dated August 12, 2025, between the County of Blair, on behalf of Blair County Emergency Services, and Biddle Consulting Group for the Critical/ TestGenius Testing Package in the amount of \$1,806.00.

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

- ii. Emily States requested acceptance of the FY 2026 911 Statewide Interconnectivity Funding Grant in the amount of \$396,536.01 for the projects and amounts listed below:

Project	Amount
SAC CHE Maintenance Project	\$107,487.50
SAC Regional CAD Maintenance Project	\$86,658.27

SCM ESINet Maintenance Project	\$127,414.34
NG911 GIS Services	\$25,000.00
Legacy telephone (ILEC) charges	\$6,526.70
Workstation upgrade	\$43,449.20

Resolution 019-2026: Accepting the FY 2026 911 Statewide Interconnectivity Funding Grant in the amount of \$396,536.01 for the projects and amounts listed below:

Project	Amount
SAC CHE Maintenance Project	\$107,487.50
SAC Regional CAD Maintenance Project	\$86,658.27
SCM ESINet Maintenance Project	\$127,414.34
NG911 GIS Services	\$25,000.00
Legacy telephone (ILEC) charges	\$6,526.70
Workstation upgrade	\$43,449.20

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

Public Safety/EMA:

Cris Fredrickson requested acceptance of the FY 2025-2026 Grant Agreement (C9550005396) between the County of Blair and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), for the Hazardous Materials Response Fund (HMRF) Grant Program in the total amount of \$12,237.00.

Resolution 020-2026: Accepting the FY 2025-2026 Grant Agreement (C9550005396) between the County of Blair and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), for the Hazardous Materials Response Fund (HMRF) Grant Program in the total amount of \$12,237.00.

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

Social Services:

- i. Patricia Muriceak requested approval to submit the Annual Human Service Block Grant Income and Expenditures Report to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Human Services for FY 2024-2025.

Resolution 021-2026: Approving the submission of the Annual Human Service Block Grant Income and Expenditures Report to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Human Services for FY 2024-2025.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt.

- ii. Tricia Johnson requested approval of a revision to the Blair County Demolition Fund Program Guidelines to waive the requirement for matching funds as part of the application process for demolition funds. This revision also applies to applications that have been received and those currently in process.

Request tabled. No vote.
- iii. Melissa Gillin requested approval of the FY 2025/2026 Purchase of Service Agreements between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Social Services, and Aimee Willett, Esquire; A. Thomas Farrell, Esquire; and Maryann Joyce Bistline, Esquire, to provide Mental Health Procedures Act legal representation for court appearances as court-appointed Mental Health Review Officers for the Blair County Department of Social Services at a rate of \$175.00 per hearing and reimbursement for mileage in excess of 50 miles, copy costs and filing fees.

Resolution 022-2026: Approving the FY 2025/2026 Purchase of Service Agreements between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Department of Social Services, and Aimee Willett, Esquire; A. Thomas Farrell, Esquire; and Maryann Joyce Bistline, Esquire, to provide Mental Health Procedures Act legal representation for court appearances as court-appointed Mental Health Review Officers for the Blair County Department of Social Services at a rate of \$175.00 per hearing and reimbursement for mileage in excess of 50 miles, copy costs and filing fees.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke and unanimously approved to adopt.

- iv. Melissa Gillin requested approval of four (4) Sub-Recipient Agreements for housing assistance under the County's PA Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement (PHARE) Program for 25/26 between the County of Blair and the following agencies:
 - Blair Health Choices in the total amount of \$12,500.00

- Catholic Charities in the total amount of \$12,500.00
- Center for Community Action in the total amount of \$12,500.00
- Family Services, Inc. in the total amount of \$12,500.00

Resolution 023-2026: Approving the four (4) Sub-Recipient Agreements for housing assistance under the County's PA Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement (PHARE) Program for 25/26 between the County of Blair and the following agencies:

- Blair Health Choices in the total amount of \$12,500.00
- Catholic Charities in the total amount of \$12,500.00
- Center for Community Action in the total amount of \$12,500.00
- Family Services, Inc. in the total amount of \$12,500.00

Commissioner Burke noted her abstention to the Blair Health Choices in the total amount of \$12,500.00.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, approved to adopt.

Highway:

- Paul Shaffer requested approval of a Proposal of Service/Contract between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Highway Department, and Keller Engineers, Inc. for supplemental construction services for the rehabilitation of CR-105 (Convention Center Boulevard) in Allegheny Township, in the amount of \$46,571.37.

Resolution 024-2026: Approving the Proposal of Service/Contract between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Highway Department, and Keller Engineers, Inc. for supplemental construction services for the rehabilitation of CR-105 (Convention Center Boulevard) in Allegheny Township, in the amount of \$46,571.37.

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

- Paul Shaffer requested approval of a Work Change Directive between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Highway Department, and John Claar Excavating Inc. for soil remediation required in order to proceed with the Salt Storage Project, in the additional amount of \$66,073.18, for a revised total contract amount of \$490,067.18.

Resolution 025-2026: Approving the Work Change Directive between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Highway Department, and John Claar Excavating Inc. for soil remediation required in order to proceed with the Salt Storage Project, in the additional amount of \$66,073.18, for a revised total contract amount of \$490,067.18.

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

Assessment:

DeAnna Hichel requested approval of the 2026 Independent Contractor Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Assessment Office, and Weiss Burkart Kramer LLC for legal counseling services in assisting with 2026 assessment issues for the period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, at the rate of \$165.00 per hour.

Resolution 026-2026: Approving the 2026 Independent Contractor Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Assessment Office, and Weiss Burkart Kramer LLC for legal counseling services in assisting with 2026 assessment issues for the period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, at the rate of \$165.00 per hour.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Webster, unanimously approved to adopt.

Elections:

- Sarah Seymour requested approval of the Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Board of Elections, and Election Systems & Software, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, for coding the 2026 Special, General Primary and Election ballot with coding fees as outline in Exhibit A and B and on-side support as outline in Exhibit C.

Resolution 027-2026: Approving the Agreement between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Board of Elections, and Election Systems & Software, LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability Company, for coding the 2026 Special, General Primary and Election ballot with coding fees as outline in Exhibit A and B and on-side support as outline in Exhibit C.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt.

- ii. Sarah Seymour requested approval of four (4) Election Polling Place Lease Agreements between the County of Blair, Blair County Board of Elections, and the following School Districts for the 2026-2029 Primary and Elections:

- Altoona Area School District
- Hollidaysburg Area School District
- Spring Cove Area School District
- Tyrone Area School District

Resolution 028-2026: Approving the four (4) Election Polling Place Lease Agreements between the County of Blair, Blair County Board of Elections, and the following School Districts for the 2026-2029 Primary and Elections:

- Altoona Area School District
- Hollidaysburg Area School District
- Spring Cove Area School District
- Tyrone Area School District

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt.

- iii. Sarah Seymour requested approval and signature of two-2 Election Polling Place Lease Agreements between the County of Blair and the property owners (Municipal/Federal Government and Privately-Owned Facility) for the May 19, 2026 Primary Election and the November 3, 2026 General Election.

Resolution 029-2026: Approving and signature of two-2 Election Polling Place Lease Agreements between the County of Blair and the property owners (Municipal/Federal Government and Privately-Owned Facility) for the May 19, 2026 Primary Election and the November 3, 2026 General Election.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt.

- iv. Sarah Seymour requested approval of a Special Election Polling Place Lease Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Board of Elections, and the polling places in the 79th Legislative District for the Special Election to be held on March 17, 2026.

Resolution 030-2026: Approving the Special Election Polling Place Lease Agreement between the County of Blair, Blair County Board of Elections, and the polling places in the 79th Legislative District for the Special Election to be held on March 17, 2026.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt.

- v. Sarah Seymour requested approval of a Professional Service Agreement by and between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Board of Elections, and NPC, Inc. for professional services related to managing data, printing, mailing and/or other related digital solutions and services for the 2026 General Primary and Election and Special Election as listed below:

Mail-in Absentee Ballot Package with Windowed Outer Envelope	\$1.55 /mail package
Annual Mail-in Ballot Application Mailing	\$.22 / mail package
Flat Programming Management and Set-up Fee per election	\$7,500.00

Resolution 031-2026: Approving the Professional Service Agreement by and between the County of Blair, on behalf of the Blair County Board of Elections, and NPC, Inc. for professional services related to managing data, printing, mailing and/or other related digital solutions and services for the 2026 General Primary and Election and Special Election as listed below:

Mail-in Absentee Ballot Package with Windowed Outer Envelope	\$1.55 /mail package
Annual Mail-in Ballot Application Mailing	\$.22 / mail package
Flat Programming Management and Set-up Fee per election	\$7,500.00

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt.

District Attorney/Victim Witness

Commissioner David Kessling, on behalf of Peter Weeks, requested approval of a 2026 renewal of SAVIN Maintenance and Service Agreement between the County of Blair and the PA District Attorneys Institute for the

PA SAVIN Program within the Victim/Witness Office for the period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, at no cost to the County.

Resolution 032-2026: Approving the 2026 renewal of SAVIN Maintenance and Service Agreement between the County of Blair and the PA District Attorneys Institute for the PA SAVIN Program within the Victim/Witness Office for the period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, at no cost to the County.

Motioned by Commissioner Kessling, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and unanimously approved to adopt.

Public Works – Facilities:

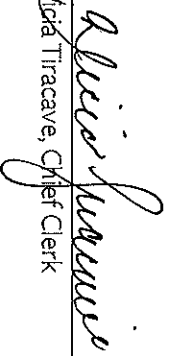
Nicholas Burkett requested approval of the Estimate dated 1/09/2026 received from Craig's Critter Control for the capture and removal of skunks at the County Highway Yard in the total amount of \$500.00.

Resolution 033-2026: Approving the Estimate dated 1/09/2026 received from Craig's Critter Control for the capture and removal of skunks at the County Highway Yard in the total amount of \$500.00.

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

1. **OLD BUSINESS**
None

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


Alicia Tiracave, Chief Clerk