

THE REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING OF THE CARBON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONVENEED THIS DATE AT 10:31 A.M. IN THE COMMISSIONER'S MEETING ROOM, COURTHOUSE ANNEX, JIM THORPE, PENNSYLVANIA.

PRESENT WERE COMMISSIONERS NOTHSTEIN, GERHARD, AND O'GUREK, CHIEF CLERK/COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AHNER, SOLICITOR MISCAVIGE, AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MARIANNE BUTRIE.

THE COUNTY CONTROLLER, COUNTY TREASURER, AND ASSISTANT COURT ADMINISTRATOR HAMM WERE ALSO PRESENT.

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

A MOMENT OF SILENCE WAS OBSERVED.

PRAYER:

COMMISSIONER O'GUREK OFFERED THE PRAYER.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

THE MEETING OPENED WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

OFFICIAL ACTIONS OF THE CARBON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

MINUTES:

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD MARCH 10, 2016.

BOARD POLLED:	O'GUREK	YES
	GERHARD	YES
	NOTHSTEIN	YES

GUESTS (CONCERNING COUNTY BUSINESS):

THERE WERE NO GUESTS CONCERNING COUNTY BUSINESS.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:

THE CHAIRMAN REPORTED THAT THERE WERE NO EXECUTIVE SESSIONS HELD.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

CHIEF CLERK/COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR:

BUDGET TRANSFERS:

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO APPROVE THE BUDGET TRANSFERS FOR 2015 AND 2016 AS LISTED ON TRANSMITTALS DATED MARCH 17, 2016.

BOARD POLLED:	O'GUREK	YES
	GERHARD	YES
	NOTHSTEIN	YES

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS:

THERE WERE NO SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS.

EXPENDITURE APPROVAL:

GENERAL FUND CLEARING ACCOUNT:

APPROVAL OF CHECK NUMBERS 121497 THROUGH 121642 FOR EXPENDITURES THROUGH THE GENERAL FUND CLEARING ACCOUNT AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL FUND	\$	389,443.09
RENTAL PROPERTY FUND	\$	1,108.88
COUNTY PARKING FUND	\$	3,623.70
LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND	\$	113.56
AREA AGENCY ON AGING FUND	\$	42,379.83
CHILDREN & YOUTH FUND	\$	201,568.32
HUMAN SERVICE AGENCY FUND	\$	2,637.49
DOMESTIC RELATIONS 4D FUND	\$	15,171.63
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT FUND	\$	8,443.08
PARKS & RECREATION FUND	\$	8,718.71
9-1-1 FUND	\$	24,025.81
HAZ-MAT RESPONSE FUND	\$	105.00
CENTRALIZED BOOKING FUND	\$	152.36
VICTIM/WITNESS FUND	\$	125.29
JUVENILE SUPERVISION FEE FUND	\$	8,110.33
COMMUNITY SERVICE FEE FUND	\$	2,704.89
CDBG FUND	\$	130.50
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	\$	10,386.25
FRINGE BENEFIT PAYMENT FUND	\$	424,357.98
TAX CLAIM FUND	\$	<u>762,775.85</u>
TOTAL:	\$	1,906,082.55

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE CHECK NUMBERS AS LISTED ABOVE.

BOARD POLLED:	O'GUREK	YES*
	GERHARD	YES
	NOTHSTEIN	YES

* MR. O'GUREK VOTED YES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF BILLS FOR THE TIMES NEWS AND BLUE RIDGE COMMUNICATIONS, HE ABSTAINED.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO ACCEPT THE TREASURER'S REPORT DATED MARCH 11, 2016 REPORTING BALANCES AS FOLLOWS:

BALANCES AS OF MARCH 11, 2016:

GENERAL FUND CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$	285.53
PAYROLL CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$	28,887.36
GENERAL FUND SP NOW	\$	8,400,220.22
OPERATING RESERVE	\$	932,466.48

RENTAL PROPERTY	\$ 218,334.32
PARKING FUND	\$ 1,161,107.32
LIQUID FUELS	\$ 443,921.30
AREA AGENCY ON AGING	\$ 369,556.55
CHILDREN & YOUTH	\$ 706,271.18
HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY	\$ 29,130.47
DOMESTIC RELATIONS	\$ 36,381.91
WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT	\$ 22,119.17
PARKS & RECREATION FUND	\$ 106,841.55
CARBON TRANSPORTATION	\$ 6.47
911 FUND	\$ 1,276,215.70
HAZMAT FUND	\$ 112,833.38
OFFENDER SUPERVISION	\$ 645,712.60
ADULT ELECTRONIC MONITORING	\$ 176,719.18
FARMLAND PRESERVATION	\$ 96,612.35
HUMAN SERVICES DEVELOPMENT	\$ 12,371.39
HOMELESS GRANT	\$ 274.42
CENTRALIZED BOOKING	\$ 71,421.94
VICTIM WITNESS	\$ 16,399.64
RECORDER OF DEEDS	\$ 30,169.97
RECORDS IMPROVEMENTS	\$ 27,782.72
JUVENILE SUPERVISION FEE	\$ 26,310.73
COMMUNITY SERVICE FEE	\$ 14,994.92
PROTHONOTARY AUTOMATION	\$ 28,120.23
AFFORDABLE HOUSING	\$ 321,459.72
CLERK OF COURTS	\$ 4,888.86
REGISTER OF WILLS	\$ 9,562.55
JUVENILE ELECTRONIC MONITORING	\$ 4,617.31
VITAL STATISTICS	\$ 43,674.51
SUBSTANCE ABUSE EDUCATION FUND	\$ 87,210.28
LIQUID FUELS/ACT 44 FUND	\$ 179,559.62
ACT 13 BRIDGE IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$ 253,307.76
VICTIMS SERVICE FUND	\$ 41,959.88
HOTEL EXCISE TAX FUND	\$ 110,640.52
CDBG FUND	\$ 143.33
DEBT SERVICE	\$ 1,734,313.70
CAPITAL PROJECTS	\$ 236,861.14
FRINGE BENEFITS	\$ 583,153.51
TAX CLAIM	\$ 1,090,462.28

BOARD POLLED: O'GUREK YES
GERHARD YES
NOTHSTEIN YES

PERSONNEL REPORT:

RESIGNATIONS:

TODD A. KRINER, LEHIGHTON, PA – SEASONAL PARK RANGER I, PARKS – EFFECTIVE MARCH 14, 2016.

SARAH E. MODRICK, WESCOSVILLE, PA – FULL-TIME ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER, PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE – EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2016.

SEMINAR/TRAINING REQUESTS:

AREA AGENCY ON AGING

SUSAN ZEIGLER

ANNE HORRIGAN

SENIOR COMMUNITY CENTER SURVEY WEBINAR
PALMERTON, PA

PAMELA SCHLEICHER

SOCIAL MEDIA AND DRUG DIVERSION TRAINING
HARRISBURG, PA
COST: MEALS, MILEAGE (IF COUNTY VEHICLE IS UNAVAILABLE)

ETHEL WHITE

PAMELA HUGHES

SEXUAL ABUSE IDENTIFICATION AND INVESTIGATION
PHILADELPHIA, PA
COST: MEALS, MILEAGE (IF COUNTY VEHICLE IS UNAVAILABLE)

AREA AGENCY ON AGING & HUMAN SERVICES

GLENN SCHOCH

SUSAN ZEIGLER

AAA FINANCIAL TRAINING
HARRISBURG, PA
COST: CONFERENCE FEE \$75 PER PERSON, MEALS, MILEAGE (IF COUNTY VEHICLE IS UNAVAILABLE)

CHILDREN & YOUTH SERVICES

MEGAN CROIZIER

CHRIS MCLAUGHLIN

2016 SWAN/IL SPRING QUARTERLY MEETING
SCRANTON, PA
COST: MEALS

CORONER

PHILIP JEFFRIES

HAROLD SCHISLER

KELLY JANNER

CAROLE LESLIE

MERI JONES

GERALD JONES

2016 CONTINUING EDUCATION TRAINING SEMINAR
STROUDSBURG, PA
COST: CONFERENCE FEE \$50 PER PERSON

CORRECTIONS

JOSEPH KIRALY

SHELBY ZERAVSKY

BASIC TRAINING
ALLENTOWN, PA

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

DAVID J. BODNAR, JR.

JENNIFER HUNSICKER

RYAN RICHARDS

2016 PENNSYLVANIA CD&H PRACTITIONERS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

STATE COLLEGE, PA

COST: CONFERENCE FEE \$150 PER PERSON, LODGING, MEALS, MILEAGE (IF COUNTY VEHICLE IS UNAVAILABLE)

PUBLIC DEFENDER

MATTHEW MATTOLA

2016 JOINT ANNUAL MEETING OF PA ASSOCIATION OF CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS, JUVENILE DEFENDERS ASSOCIATION OF PA, AND PUBLIC DEFENDER ASSOCIATION OF PA

HARRISBURG, PA

COST: CONFERENCE FEE \$450

SHERIFF

JOSEPH V. HAGER

KAREN S. FLEXER

PCORP RISK MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

HARRISBURG, PA

JAMES BONNER

DANIEL LONG

VERBAL JUDO: LEARNING HOW TO CREATE RESULTS NOT REGRETS IN THE WORKPLACE

HARRISBURG, PA

COURTS SEMINAR/TRAINING REQUESTS ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

ADULT PROBATION

JOSEPH BETTINE

JOSEPH BERKE

ADDICTION & CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR

ALLENTOWN, PA

COST: CONFERENCE FEE \$60 PER PERSON, MEALS

DISTRICT COURT

KIMBERLY HOUSER

WENDY SMELAS

ADVANCED CIVIL/LANDLORD TENANT CLASS

ALLENTOWN, PA

COST: MEALS, MILEAGE (IF COUNTY VEHICLE IS UNAVAILABLE)

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO ACCEPT THE PERSONNEL REPORT DATED MARCH 17, 2016.

BOARD POLLED:	O'GUREK	YES
	GERHARD	YES
	NOTHSTEIN	YES

CORRESPONDENCE:

MINUTES RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 16, 2016 MEETING OF THE CARBON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION.

THE FEBRUARY 2016 MONTHLY REPORT WAS RECEIVED FROM THE CARBON COUNTY RECORDER OF DEEDS.

A COMMUNICATION WAS RECEIVED FROM MAUREEN STERNER, JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL,

REQUESTING THAT JIM THORPE BOROUGH BE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS REGARDING THE POSSIBLE SALE OF THE COUNTY OWNED RAILROAD.

A LETTER WAS RECEIVED FROM THE PRESIDENT OF NESQUEHONING BOROUGH COUNCIL ADVISING OF THE COUNCIL'S CONCERNS REGARDING THE POSSIBLE SALE OF THE COUNTY OWNED RAILROAD AND REQUESTING A MEETING BE ARRANGED TO DISCUSS THESE CONCERNS.

A COPY OF CORRESPONDENCE SENT TO THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES IN RESPONSE TO LAND USE REVIEW CONCERNING THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY PENNEAST PIPELINE COMPANY LLC WAS RECEIVED FROM THE CARBON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION.

COMMUNICATIONS WERE RECEIVED REGARDING THE FOLLOWING PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PERMIT APPLICATIONS:

- CARBON ENGINEERING INC., SUMMIT HILL, PA
(LEHIGH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, APPLICANT)
BWM-GP-11 GENERAL PERMIT FOR MAINTENANCE, TESTING, REPAIR, REHABILITATION,
OR REPLACEMENT OF WATER OBSTRUCTIONS OR ENCROACHMENTS
PROJECT: PUMP HOUSE ROAD, T-503, OVER LESLIE RUN STREAM,
LEHIGH TOWNSHIP, PA
- IMPACT ENVIRONMENTAL, BOHEMIA, NY
GENERAL PERMIT WMGR082 - PROCESSING AND BENEFICIAL USE OF RESIDUAL WASTE
FORMER NJ ZINC SITE, PALMERTON PA

A COMMUNICATION WAS RECEIVED FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION REGARDING NOTIFICATION OF COMPLETION BY GANS COMMUNICATION, L.P. D/B/A METROCAST COMMUNICATIONS OF THE ALTERATION OF PUBLIC CROSSING (DOT 361 400 N) WHERE SR 1005 (TANNERY ROAD) CROSSES, AT GRADE, THE TRACKS OF READING BLUE MOUNTAIN AND NORTHERN RAILROAD COMPANY, LOCATED IN KIDDER TOWNSHIP, CARBON COUNTY.

BOARDS & AUTHORITIES:

#16-089 MH/DS REAPPOINTMENT:

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF SAMUEL J. DOLGOPOL, PH.D., LEHIGHTON, PENNSYLVANIA, TO AN ADDITIONAL THREE-YEAR TERM ON THE CARBON-MONROE-PIKE MENTAL HEALTH/DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD, EFFECTIVE TO MARCH 31, 2019.

BOARD POLLED:	O'GUREK	YES
	GERHARD	YES
	NOTHSTEIN	YES

CHILDREN & YOUTH:

#16-090 AGREEMENT/CWIS:

A REQUEST WAS RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVICES FOR APPROVAL OF THE RENEWAL OF CWIS (CHILD WELFARE INFORMATION SOLUTION) DATA SHARING AGREEMENT WITH THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE REGARDING ELECTRONIC DATA EXCHANGE WITH CARBON COUNTY. THE DATA COLLECTED FROM THE COUNTY SYSTEMS IS USED TO EXPAND STATE LEVEL DATA SHARING AND PROGRAM COORDINATION.

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF THE RENEWAL.

BOARD POLLED:	O'GUREK	YES
	GERHARD	YES
	NOTHSTEIN	YES

COURTS:

#16-091 WORDS FOR THE EYES:

AGREEMENT REVISIONS:

REVISED GENERAL POLICIES, PAYMENT POLICIES, AND RATE SHEET TO THE AGREEMENT WITH WORDS FOR THE EYES, LLC, ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA, FOR CONSULTING AND INTERPRETATION SERVICES FOR THE DEAF WERE PRESENTED FOR BOARD ACTION.

THE SERVICE IS ON AN AS NEEDED BASIS. INCREASED RATES RANGE FROM \$54.00 TO \$120.00 PER HOUR PLUS TRAVEL (\$50.00 TO \$76.00/TRIP). THE REVISIONS ARE EFFECTIVE APRIL 15, 2016.

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO APPROVE THE REVISED POLICIES AND RATE SHEET TO THE AGREEMENT WITH WORDS FOR EYES.

BOARD POLLED:	O'GUREK	YES
	GERHARD	YES
	NOTHSTEIN	YES

SERVICE AGREEMENTS:

#16-092 COURTS/STENOGRAPH LLC:

STENOGRAPH WRITER PROTECTION PLANS FOR TWO (2) DIAMANTE STENO MACHINES (SERIAL #Z14559 AND #Z14561 IN COURTROOM #3 FOR THE TERM 4/08/16 TO 4/07/17 – RENEWAL CONTRACT #MQ079700 (PROTECTION PLAN – BASIC WITH LOANER) AT THE PRICE OF \$379.00 EACH (NO INCREASE) WERE SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL.

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF THE SERVICE AGREEMENTS.

BOARD POLLED:	O'GUREK	YES
	GERHARD	YES
	NOTHSTEIN	YES

SHERIFF'S OFFICE:

#16-093 UNIFORM BOOT POLICY:

A COMMUNICATION WAS RECEIVED FROM SHERIFF ANTHONY HARVILLA ADVISING OF A REVISION TO THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE POLICY MANUAL – SECTION 40, PROPERTY: DEPARTMENTAL: PROCEDURES: F. BOOT POLICY.

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE COMMUNICATION FROM SHERIFF HARVILLA REGARDING THE BOOT POLICY REVISION.

BOARD POLLED:	O'GUREK	YES
	GERHARD	YES
	NOTHSTEIN	YES

TOSHIBA TELEPHONE SYSTEMS:

#16-094 VOICE MAIL UPGRADE:

DIEFENDERFER:

A PROPOSAL WAS RECEIVED FROM DIEFENDERFER TELECOMMUNICATIONS, ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA, FOR AN UPGRADE TO THE TOSHIBA VOICE MAIL SYSTEM AT A TOTAL COST OF \$18,854.55.

THE QUOTE IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH GSA (GENERAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATION) CONTRACT #GS-35F-0252T FOR TOSHIBA AMERICA INFORMATION SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED AND DOES NOT REQUIRE PUBLIC BIDDING.

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AS SUBMITTED BY DIFENDERFER TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF SAME.

BOARD POLLED: O'GUREK YES
GERHARD YES
NOTHSTEIN YES

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

#16-095 BANNER REQUEST:

A BANNER REQUEST WAS SUBMITTED FOR THE FOLLOWING:

CARBON COUNTY CHAMBER & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2016 "TASTE OF CARBON" RESTAURANT WEEK, APRIL 11TH - APRIL 17TH

BANNER REQUEST: 3/28/16 TO 4/18/16

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF THE BANNER REQUEST AS SUBMITTED.

BOARD POLLED: O'GUREK YES
GERHARD YES
NOTHSTEIN YES

CLERK OF COURTS:

#16-096 AGREEMENT/MCGOWAN:

A COMMUNICATION WAS RECEIVED FROM THE CLERK OF COURTS REQUESTING APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND THERESA M. MCGOWAN OF JIM THORPE, PENNSYLVANIA FOR SERVICES IN THE CLERK OF COURTS OFFICE.

THE AGREEMENT WILL BE EFFECTIVE MARCH 21, 2016. COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES SHALL BE \$25.00/HOUR, NOT TO EXCEED 140 HOURS.

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO APPROVE AND EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT WITH THERESA MCGOWAN.

BOARD POLLED: O'GUREK YES
GERHARD YES
NOTHSTEIN YES

ESG GRANT/2015:

#16-097 ACTION COMMITTEE:

LETTER OF AGREEMENT:

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO RATIFY THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND THE CARBON COUNTY ACTION COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN SERVICES FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE 2015 EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT, FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 14, 2016 THROUGH JULY 14, 2017, TO PROVIDE HOMELESS PREVENTION AND RAPID RE-HOUSING SERVICES IN CARBON COUNTY.

BOARD POLLED: O'GUREK YES
GERHARD YES
NOTHSTEIN YES

#16-098 AGREEMENT/PA DCED:

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO RATIFY THE AGREEMENT WITH THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR AN EMERGENCY

SOLUTIONS GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,000.00 WITH A LOCAL MATCH OF \$42,230.00 PROVIDED THROUGH THE CARBON COUNTY ACTION COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN SERVICES, TO PROVIDE HOMELESS PREVENTION AND RAPID RE-HOUSING SERVICES IN CARBON COUNTY (GRANT PERIOD: JANUARY 14, 2016 THROUGH JULY 14, 2017).

BOARD POLLED: O'GUREK YES
GERHARD YES
NOTHSTEIN YES

PARKS/RECREATION:

#16-099 AGREEMENT/GAME COMMISSION:

A COMMUNICATION WAS RECEIVED FROM THE PARKS DIRECTOR ENCLOSING A NEW COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CARBON COUNTY AND THE PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PUBLIC ACCESS PROGRAM. UNDER THE AGREEMENT, THE COUNTY WILL OPEN ITS LAND TO PUBLIC HUNTING; AND IN TURN, WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE FOOD AND COVER SEEDLINGS AS WELL AS WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS.

THE AGREEMENT WILL EXTEND ON A YEAR TO YEAR BASIS UNLESS TERMINATED BY EITHER PARTY UPON SIXTY (60) DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE.

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF THE AGREEMENT WITH THE GAME COMMISSION.

BOARD POLLED: O'GUREK YES
GERHARD YES
NOTHSTEIN YES

#16-100 PROCLAMATION:

PA 811 SAFE DIGGING MONTH:

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2016 AS "PENNSYLVANIA 811 SAFE DIGGING MONTH":

PROCLAMATION #2016-04
CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG IN CARBON COUNTY
DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2016 AS
"PENNSYLVANIA 811 SAFE DIGGING MONTH"

WHEREAS, AS ENGINEERS, DESIGNERS, EXCAVATORS AND HOMEOWNERS WORK TO KEEP PACE WITH THIS COMMONWEALTH'S UNPRECEDENTED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, IT IS IMPORTANT TO MINIMIZE DAMAGE TO UNDERGROUND UTILITY LINES, DANGER TO WORKERS, ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION AND LOSS OF UTILITY SERVICE TO PENNSYLVANIA CITIZENS; AND

WHEREAS, THE PENNSYLVANIA ONE CALL SYSTEM, A UTILITY SERVICE INFORMATION CENTER CELEBRATING MORE THAN 44 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS SERVICE TO THE COMMONWEALTH, IS KEY TO PREVENTING INJURIES AND DAMAGE WHEN EXCAVATING; AND

WHEREAS, THIS UNIQUE SERVICE PROVIDES EASY, ONE-CALL NOTIFICATION ABOUT CONSTRUCTION AND EXCAVATION PROJECTS WHICH MAY ENDANGER WORKERS AND JEOPARDIZE UTILITY LINES WHILE PROMOTING WORKPLACE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, REDUCING UNDERGROUND UTILITY DAMAGE, MINIMIZING UTILITY SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS AND PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT; AND

WHEREAS, THIS VITAL SERVICE, WHICH BEGAN WITH ONLY SIX UTILITY COMPANIES IN WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA AND THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH, NOW SERVES MORE THAN 100,000 EXCAVATORS AND 3,600 CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE OWNERS THROUGHOUT THIS COMMONWEALTH; AND

WHEREAS, EACH YEAR, THE PENNSYLVANIA ONE CALL SYSTEM RECEIVES MORE THAN 750,000 NOTIFICATION REQUESTS AND TRANSMITS MORE THAN SIX MILLION NOTIFICATIONS, PROVIDING PROTECTION TO UTILITY COMPANIES, THEIR EMPLOYEES AND CUSTOMERS.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CARBON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DESIGNATE THE MONTH OF APRIL 2016 AS "PENNSYLVANIA 811 SAFE DIGGING MONTH" TO ENCOURAGE ALL EXCAVATORS AND HOMEOWNERS OF CARBON COUNTY TO DIAL 8-1-1 OR 1-800-242-1776 BEFORE DIGGING IN ORDER TO "KNOW WHAT'S BELOW," AVOID INJURY, PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT, AND PREVENT MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN DAMAGES AND TO REMIND EXCAVATORS THAT THREE BUSINESS DAYS' NOTICE IS THE LAW, FOR SAFE DIGGING IS NO ACCIDENT, AND THAT MORE INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED BY VISITING WWW.PAONECALL.ORG.

ADOPTED BY THE CARBON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THIS 17TH DAY OF MARCH, 2016.

CARBON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- /S/ WAYNE E. NOTHSTEIN, CHAIRMAN
- /S/ TOM J. GERHARD, VICE-CHAIRMAN
- /S/ WILLIAM J. O'GUREK, MEMBER

ATTEST:

/S/ ELOISE K. AHNER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR/CHIEF CLERK

BOARD POLLED:	O'GUREK	YES
	GERHARD	YES
	NOTHSTEIN	YES

#16-101 RESOLUTION:

STATE BUDGET IMPASSE:

MOTION BY MR. GERHARD, SECONDED BY MR. O'GUREK, TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

RESOLUTION #16-010

STATE BUDGET IMPASSE

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF CARBON, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, URGING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ADMINISTRATION TO RESTORE FUNDING FOR HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAMS TO HISTORIC LEVELS, AND TO PUT MECHANISMS IN PLACE TO ASSURE ANY FUTURE BUDGET IMPASSE OR BUDGET DELAY DOES NOT BECOME A BURDEN ON CARBON COUNTY AND ITS CONSTITUENTS.

WHEREAS, COUNTIES ARE AT THE FOREFRONT FOR DELIVERY OF CRUCIAL HUMAN SERVICES THAT PROTECT THE MOST VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS, SUCH AS CHILD WELFARE AND PROTECTIVE, MENTAL HEALTH, INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES, SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT, HOMELESS ASSISTANCE, MEAL PROGRAMS, LOTTERY FUNDED TRANSPORTATION, AND OTHERS; AND

WHEREAS, THE CAPACITY TO MEET CRITICAL SERVICE NEEDS HAS BEEN COMPROMISED BY A STEADY DECREASE IN STATE FUNDING OVER THE PAST DECADE, ESPECIALLY THE DRASTIC TEN PERCENT AGGREGATE CUT TO THE SEVEN HUMAN SERVICES LINE ITEMS IN FY 2012-2013; AND

WHEREAS, THE HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT HAS PROVIDED MUCH-NEEDED FLEXIBILITY FOR THE 30 COUNTIES ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE, BUT REMAINS CLOSED TO THE REMAINING 37 REMAINING COUNTIES; AND

WHEREAS, NEW MANDATES AND ADDITIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS CONTINUE TO BE PLACED ON COUNTIES IN THE FACE OF DECREASING STATE FUNDS; AND

WHEREAS, WHILE THE REBALANCING INITIATIVE FOR CHILD WELFARE SERVICES IS PORTRAYED AS ONLY AN ACCOUNTING CHANGE, THE INITIATIVE SHIFTS A FULL QUARTER OF FUNDS FOR MANDATED CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES INTO THE FOLLOWING BUDGET YEAR WITH NO MORE THAN A PROMISE OF BEING MADE WHOLE; AND

WHEREAS, AS A RESULT OF THE NINE-MONTH BUDGET IMPASSE IN FY 2015-2016, COUNTIES AND THE PROVIDERS WITH WHOM THEY CONTRACT WERE FORCED TO MAKE DIFFICULT DECISIONS ABOUT REMAINING OPEN AND MEETING CLIENTS' NEEDS WHILE STATE PAYMENTS WERE WITHHELD; AND

WHEREAS, MANY COUNTIES TAPPED RESERVES, BORROWED FUNDS, REDUCED OR SUSPENDED PAYMENTS TO VENDORS OR SUBCONTRACTORS, LIMITED STAFF TRAVEL, LAID OFF OR REDUCED HOURS OF EMPLOYEES, AMONG OTHER STRATEGIES, TO MAINTAIN THEIR FOCUS ON SERVICE DELIVERY AND ASSURE THAT CLIENTS FELT NO HARM; AND

WHEREAS IN ORDER TO CONTINUE PROVIDING SERVICES DURING THE BUDGET IMPASSE, CARBON COUNTY WAS FORCED TO LOAN FUNDS FROM ITS GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET TO SUPPLEMENT THE OPERATIONS OF THE AREA AGENCY ON AGING AND THE CARBON-MONROE-PIKE DRUG AND ALCOHOL PROGRAM IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO COUNTY CONSTITUENTS; AND

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT CARBON COUNTY REMAINS COMMITTED TO THE IMPORTANT ROLE WE PLAY IN DELIVERY OF SERVICES TO OUR COMMUNITIES; AND

RESOLVED, THAT CARBON COUNTY STANDS READY TO WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA IN SUPPORT OF COUNTIES' TOP PRIORITY FOR 2016, THE COMMONWEALTH BUDGET AND HUMAN SERVICES FUNDING; AND

RESOLVED, THAT CARBON COUNTY SUPPORTS RESTORATION OF FUNDING OF THE TEN PERCENT REDUCTIONS TO THE SEVEN KEY HUMAN SERVICES LINE ITEMS THAT OCCURRED IN FY 2012-2013, AS WITHOUT RESTORATION TO PRIOR FUNDING LEVELS, ALL COUNTIES FIND IT DIFFICULT TO SERVE THE STATE'S MOST NEEDY CITIZENS; AND

RESOLVED, THAT CARBON COUNTY OPPOSES "REBALANCING" INITIATIVES FOR CHILD WELFARE SERVICES THAT WILL FORCE COUNTIES TO REDUCE FUNDING BY A QUARTER, REDUCE PAYMENTS TO PROVIDERS, SHORTEN CONTRACT PERIODS, OR USE COUNTY PROPERTY TAX FUNDS TO COVER THE STATE'S OBLIGATION UNTIL A FUTURE BUDGET MAKES A TRUE ALLOCATION; AND

RESOLVED, THAT CARBON COUNTY ASKS THAT STATE LEADERS CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THEM TO FIND WAYS TO ADMINISTER HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAMS IN A WAY THAT ENSURES BOTH QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY, INCLUDING EXPANSION OF THE HUMAN SERVICES BLOCK GRANT TO ANY WILLING AND ABLE COUNTY; AND

RESOLVED, THAT CARBON COUNTY WILL WORK IN CONCERT WITH THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA AND STATE LEADERS TO DEVELOP COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTIONS FOR ANY FUTURE BUDGET IMPASSE OR DELAY TO ENSURE THAT COUNTIES ARE NEVER AGAIN PUT IN A SITUATION WHERE THEY ARE FORCED TO COVER THE STATE'S FUNDING OBLIGATIONS; AND

RESOLVED, THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE SENT TO THE CARBON COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION, TO GOVERNOR WOLF, AND TO THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CARBON, THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, THIS 17TH DAY OF MARCH, 2016.

CARBON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/S/ WAYNE E. NOTHSTEIN, CHAIRMAN
/S/ TOM J. GERHARD, VICE-CHAIRMAN
/S/ WILLIAM J. O'GUREK, MEMBER

ATTEST:

/S/ ELOISE K. AHNER, CHIEF CLERK/COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

BOARD POLLED: O'GUREK YES
GERHARD YES
NOTHSTEIN YES

FURTHER BUSINESS:

AVENUE OF FLAGS:

COMMISSIONER NOTHSTEIN REFERENCED THE VETERANS PROGRAM "AVENUE OF FLAGS", NOTING THAT INFORMATION WAS SENT TO THE NEWS MEDIA A FEW WEEKS AGO.

HE REPORTED THAT 75 CASKET FLAGS HAVE ALREADY BEEN DONATED. THESE FLAGS WILL BE FLOWN AT THE CEMETERY AT FORT INDIANTOWN GAP BETWEEN MEMORIAL DAY AND VETERANS DAY AND THEN WILL BE RETIRED AND DISPOSED OF PROPERLY. THE DIRECTOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS HOPES TO REACH HIS GOAL OF 100 FLAGS BY MEMORIAL DAY.

4-H LETTER/BUDGET:

COMMISSIONER NOTHSTEIN REPORTED THAT HE HAND DELIVERED THE LETTER FROM THE CARBON COUNTY 4-H CLUB REGARDING THE IMPASSE OF THE STATE BUDGET TO THE GOVERNOR AT THE OPENING SESSION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA (CCAP) SPRING CONFERENCE ON MARCH 13TH IN HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD,

THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADJOURNED AT 10:43 A.M.

ELOISE K. AHNER,
CHIEF CLERK/COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

WAYNE E. NOTHSTEIN, CHAIRMAN