

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2020

A WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE SCHUYLKILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2020 AT 10:00 AM. THE MEETING WAS HELD IN THE COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM.

PLEASE NOTE: THE PUBLIC MAY JOIN THIS MEETING THROUGH ZOOM, AUDIO ONLY.

ATTENDING: COMMISSIONER BARRON L. HETHERINGTON; COMMISSIONER GEORGE F. HALCOVAGE, JR.; COMMISSIONER GARY J. HESS; ASSISTANT COUNTY SOLICITOR CHRIS HOBBS; ACTING CONTROLLER SHARYN YACKENCHICK; TREASURER LINDA MARCHALK; CLERK OF COURTS MARIA CASEY; COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR GARY BENDER; FINANCE DIRECTOR PAUL BUBER; HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR DOREEN KUTZLER; AND CHIEF CLERK LINDA DEATRICH.

SESSION CALLED TO ORDER BY COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON
AND OPENED WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS HELD

THERE WERE NO EXECUTIVE SESSIONS TO REPORT.

LISA FISHBURN – CONTRACT & RESIGNATION

ON BEHALF OF MH/DS FISCAL OFFICER LISA FISHBURN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR GARY BENDER REQUESTED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR GRANT WRITING SERVICES WITH SCHUYLKILL GRANTWORKS, LLC FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$28,000 FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2021 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2021. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES
COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF THE RESIGNATION OF JOAN KITSOCK AND EUGENE BERDANIER FROM THE MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 2, 2020. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES
COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

MELISSA KALYAN – 2 CONTRACTS

ON BEHALF OF DRUG & ALCOHOL ADMINISTRATOR MELISSA KALYAN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR GARY BENDER REQUESTED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH VALLEY FORGE MEDICAL CENTER WITH AN ANNUAL CAP OF \$10,000 AND A FIVE-YEAR CAP OF \$50,000 FOR FY 2020-2025. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES
COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH CHILD AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES WITH AN ANNUAL CAP OF \$82,908 AND A FIVE-YEAR CAP OF \$414,540 FOR FY 2020-2025. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES
COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

SCOTT KRATER– AGREEMENT

ON BEHALF OF 911 DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS SCOTT KRATER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR GARY BENDER REQUESTED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS’ APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH GREENS COMMUNICATIONS, INC., OF POTTSVILLE, PA, FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE NET CLOCK TIME SYNCHRONIZATION AT A COST OF \$4,200.00 FROM OCTOBER 1, 2020 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2021. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES
COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

PAUL FETTEROLF – PURCHASE OF PPE ITEMS

ON BEHALF OF PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR PAUL FETTEROLF, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR GARY BENDER REQUESTED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS’ APPROVAL TO PURCHASE PPE ITEMS FROM CABLEWHOLESALE INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$31,188.03, TO INCLUDE DISINFECTANT SPRAY, CASES OF SANITIZING WIPES, AND HAND SANITIZING GEL. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES
COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

ANGELA TOOMEY – APPROVAL OF REPOSITORY BIDS

ON BEHALF OF CHIEF ASSESSOR-TAX CLAIM BUREAU DIRECTOR ANGELA TOOMEY, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR GARY BENDER REQUESTED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS’ APPROVAL OF 22 REPOSITORY BIDS PURSUANT TO 72 P.S. § 5860.625. ALL PARCELS WERE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY MUNICIPALITIES AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

PRIVATE SALES				
Parcel Number	Owner(s) of Record	Description	Bid Amount	Bidder(s)
52-05-0449.000	David Royal Andrew Royal	124 Spruce St. Minersville	\$2,365.00	Michael Kyriannis
64-04-0203.000	Mayfair Property Trust	509 W. Coal St. Shenandoah	\$1,500.00	Steven Maisonet
64-04-0231.000	Jim D. Erlandson	419 W. Coal St. Shenandoah	\$1,500.00	Jovelys Puerie Contreras
64-04-0281.000	Roy Bowen Jr.	219 N. Chestnut St. Shenandoah	\$1,500.00	Luis Morales
64-04-0531.000	Gayet Living Trust	111 N. Chestnut St. Shenandoah	\$1,500.00	Marco Jaramillo
64-05-0084.000	Walter J. Jablonski Helen M. Jablonski	110 East Penn St. Shenandoah	\$1,500.00	Ana F. Ciriaco

64-05-0192.001	Sydney Wentworth Linda Wentworth	120 North Bower St. Shenandoah	\$1,500.00	Marco Jaramillo
64-05-196.000	Darlene N. Michalik Joseph M. Michalik Jr.	110 N. Bower St. Shenandoah	\$2,171.00	Freddy A. Borquez
64-05-0197.000	Mayfair Property Trust	108 North Bower St. Shenandoah	\$1,500.00	Marco Jaramillo
64-05-0545.000	Joseph Gozditis Charlotte Gozditis	10 S. Lehigh St. Shenandoah	\$1,500.00	Jhanna M. Garcia Roque
64-06-0082.000	Robert Block Roger Allen Diversified Contracting Svc	226 E. Lloyd St. Shenandoah	\$2,597.46	Ordulio Reyes
64-06-0229.000	Christopher Gimaro Lisa A. Gimaro	38 S. Emerick St. Shenandoah	\$1,500.00	Donan Lombert
64-07-0059.000	Patrick C. Gilmore Jessica L. Miller	19 S. Chestnut St. Shenandoah	\$1,935.00	Kelvin Luis Mateo Matos
64-07-0062.000	Michael S. Selbi	13 S. Chestnut St. Shenandoah	\$2,137.00	Kelvin Luis Mateo Matos
64-07-0139.000	Deanna M. Wildes William M. Ransom	522 W. Centre St. Shenandoah	\$1,960.00	Luz Zavala
64-07-0177.000	Luis A. Garcia	415 W. Oak St. Shenandoah	\$1,500.00	Francisco F. Puerie Diaz Romona Noemi Contreras DePuerie
64-07-0184.002	Juan Hernandez	404-406 W New York St. Shenandoah	\$1,500.00	Jorge Jose Tavarez Nova
64-07-0401.000	Robert J. Link Chantilly R. Bowen	326 W. Cherry St. Shenandoah	\$2,614.00	Donan Lombert
64-07-0554.000	Alexandria Tillotson Ronald Tillotson	420 W. Poplar St. Shenandoah	\$2,347.00	Donan Lombert
64-07-0547.000	Sandra Caddy Thomas Caddy	408 W. Poplar St. Shenandoah	\$1,500.00	Reny J. Garcia Roque
64-09-0018.001	Dolores Kozlosky	119 S. Bower St. Shenandoah	\$1,500.00	Jose Luis Filpo Ramos
66-01-0247.000	Joseph F. Thornton Sr.	29 East Wiconisco Ave. Tower City	\$1,269.19	Tina M. Scheer

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

LISA STEVENS – ADDENDUM & 2 AGREEMENTS

ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN & YOUTH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LISA STEVENS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR GARY BENDER REQUESTED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS’ APPROVAL OF AN ADDENDUM TO THE CURRENT AGREEMENT WITH PENNSYLVANIA MENTOR FOR THE TERM JULY 1, 2019 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020 TO UPDATE RATE FOR UNIT ID “FC” FOSTER FAMILY CARE PLACEMENT TO \$90.62 PER DIEM AND UNIT ID “SD” FOSTER FAMILY CARE PLACEMENT TO \$96.94 PER DIEM.

REQUESTED APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE FOLLOWING PROVIDERS FOR THE TERM JULY 1, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021:

PENNSYLVANIA FORENSIC ASSOCIATES, READING, PA, FOR FOSTER CARE (CLASS TE) AT A PER DIEM OF \$169.85, FOSTER CARE (CLASS TA) AT A PER DIEM OF \$173.92, CLINICAL POLYGRAPHS AT A UNIT PRICE OF \$350.00, COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATIONS AT A UNIT PRICE OF \$1500.00, AND INDIVIDUAL/FAMILY THERAPY AT \$100.00 PER HOUR.

VALLEY YOUTH HOUSE, BETHLEHEM, PA, FOR LEHIGH VALLEY SHELTER CARE PLACEMENT AT A PER DIEM OF \$195.35, BUCKS COUNTY SHELTER CARE PLACEMENT AT A PER DIEM OF \$269.46, REAL INDEPENDENT LIVING PLACEMENT (BASE RATE CLASSIFICATION) AT A PER DIEM OF \$169.33, AND SUPERVISED INDEPENDENT LIVING AT A PER DIEM OF \$131.59.

LISA MAHALL – AGREEMENT

ON BEHALF OF REAL ESTATE DIRECTOR/COUNTY ENGINEER LISA MAHALL, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR GARY BENDER REQUESTED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MEI DEMO AND EXCAVATION, INC., PORT CARBON, PA, FOR THE DISMANTLING PROJECT OF THE COUNTY'S RECYCLING DROP OFF PROGRAM. MEI'S BID IS \$8,000. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

PAUL BUBER – 6 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS & 1 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION

PAUL BUBER, FINANCE DIRECTOR, REQUESTED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING:

ON BEHALF OF PLANNING & ZONING:

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A 2020 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$201.00 TO ADJUST BUDGETARY AUTHORITY TO COVER SHORTFALL AND TO PAY REMAINING STENOGRAPHER APPEARANCE FEES AT ZONING HEARINGS FOR 2020. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

ON BEHALF OF DISTRICT JUSTICES:

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A 2020 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$300.00 TO ADJUST BUDGETARY AUTHORITY TO COVER THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) ADDITIONAL PLEXIGLAS SNEEZE GUARDS FOR MDJ OFFICES. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A 2020 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,227.00 TO ADJUST BUDGETARY AUTHORITY TO COVER SHORTFALL AND TO PAY INVOICES THAT WERE NOT RECEIVED TIMELY FROM THOMPSON REUTERS FOR LEGAL UPDATES FOR MDJ OFFICES. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

ON BEHALF OF DRUG & ALCOHOL:

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A 2020 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,300.00 TO ADJUST BUDGETARY AUTHORITY TO COVER SHORTFALL AND TO PURCHASE MATERIAL AND SUPPLIES FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 2020 CALENDAR YEAR. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

ON BEHALF OF ELECTION BUREAU/VOTER REGISTRATION:

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A 2020 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,000.00 TO ADJUST BUDGETARY AUTHORITY TO COVER SHORTFALL AND TO PAY RELATED EXPENSES INCURRED DURING GENERAL ELECTION (E.G., FOR SECURITY, ELECTION NIGHT SUPPORT, ES&S AND PER DIEM WORKERS). **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

ON BEHALF OF ADMINISTRATION

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF A 2020 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$43,883.00 TO ADJUST BUDGETARY AUTHORITY TO COVER A REALLOCATION OF CARES ACT FUNDS TO PURCHASE PPE. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

ON BEHALF OF DRUG & ALCOHOL:

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION #2020-38. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

FINANCE DIRECTOR, PAUL BUBER, EXPLAINED THAT THE DRUG & ALCOHOL AGENCY WAS NOTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DRUG & ALCOHOL THAT THEY WERE AWARDED OUR PROGRAM AN ADDITIONAL \$170,200. THE PURPOSE FOR THIS MONEY IS TO REINVEST IT INTO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OFFERED BY OUR AGENCY; SPECIFICALLY, IT WILL BE USED TOWARDS THE OPIOID CRISIS.

ON BEHALF OF ADMINISTRATION / FINANCE:

PAUL BUBER, FINANCE DIRECTOR, NOTED THAT HE IS PRESENTING TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON BEHALF OF ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE, ORDINANCE # 2020-04. THIS ORDINANCE WILL ALLOW THE BOARD TO MOVE FORWARD WITH A BORROWING NOT TO EXCEED \$6,110,000. THE BORROWING WILL INCLUDE A GENERAL OBLIGATION (GO) TAXABLE

NOTE FOR APPROX. \$3,384,000 AND A GENERAL OBLIGATION (GO) TAX EXEMPT NOTE FOR APPROX. \$2,726,000.

THE BORROWING IS IN CONNECTION WITH THE 911/MICROWAVE COMMUNICATIONS/BROADBAND PROJECT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY.

AN RFP WAS PREPARED AND THE COUNTY RECEIVED STRONG INTEREST FROM NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND FROM LOCAL BANKS. A TOTAL OF EIGHT PROPOSALS WERE RECEIVED AND FOUR OF THE PROPOSALS WERE FROM LOCAL BANKS.

THE PROPOSALS WERE REVIEWED BY PFM, NOTE COUNSEL AND THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

WE ARE RECOMMENDING THE FOLLOWING, WHICH ARE THE MOST FAVORABLE OVERALL TO THE ECONOMIC INTERESTS OF THE COUNTY:

1. TAXABLE NOTE – KEY BANK WITH A FIXED RATE OF 1.858% FOR 10 YEARS
2. TAX EXEMPT NOTE – WEBSTER BANK WITH A FIXED RATE OF 1.311% FOR 10 YEARS

A COMBINATION OF THE COUNTY'S STRONG BOND RATING OF AA2 (3RD HIGHEST OUT OF 16 CATEGORIES) ALONG WITH THE RFP GENERATED ABOUT \$400,000 IN INTEREST SAVINGS FOR THE 10 YEAR PERIOD.

FINANCE DIRECTOR, PAUL BUBER, REQUESTED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' TO APPROVE AND TO ENACT ORDINANCE 2020 – 04, WHICH IS NOW BEFORE THE BOARD THAT AUTHORIZES, *INTER ALIA*, THE FOLLOWING:

INCURRING DEBT PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT TO BE EVIDENCED BY THE ISSUANCE OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION (GO) TAXABLE NOTE – SERIES A AND A GO TAX EXEMPT NOTE – SERIES B, IN THE MAXIMUM AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$6,110,000;

ISSUING GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTES WITH THE PROCEEDS OF THE NOTES TO BE USED AS FOLLOWS: FOR THE PLANNING, DESIGN, PURCHASE, ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, REPAIR, REPLACEMENT, RENOVATION, RECONFIGURATION AND IMPROVEMENT, AND RELATED APPURTENANCES, AND SUITABLE FIXTURES, FURNISHINGS AND EQUIPMENT THEREFOR, AS APPLICABLE OF (A) A 911/MICROWAVE COMMUNICATION/BROADBAND PROJECT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY WITHIN THE COUNTY, AND (B) TO REIMBURSE ITSELF FOR EXPENDITURES MADE FOR SUCH CAPITAL PROJECT FROM THE PROCEEDS OF THE NOTES AND (C) PAYING THE COSTS OF ISSUANCE OF THE NOTES;

ACCEPTING OF THE NOTE PURCHASE PROPOSALS, DATED NOVEMBER 23, 2020, FOR THE PURCHASE OF A GO TAXABLE NOTE – SERIES A FROM KEY GOVERNMENT FINANCE, WHICH INCLUDES A FIXED RATE OF 1.858% AND THE PURCHASE OF A GO TAX EXEMPT NOTE – SERIES B FROM WEBSTER PUBLIC FINANCE, WHICH INCLUDES A FIXED RATE OF 1.311%. BOTH RATES ARE FIXED THROUGH THE FINAL MATURITY ON NOVEMBER 1, 2023;

ACCEPTING HEREAFTER OF AN ADDENDUM TO THE NOTE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS (THE "ADDENDUM"), PROVIDED THAT THE TERMS OF THE ADDENDUM ARE CONSISTENT WITH AND MEET THE PARAMETERS SET FORTH IN THIS ORDINANCE, AND ARE ACCEPTABLE TO OFFICIALS OF THE COUNTY;

PLEDGING THE COUNTY'S FULL FAITH, CREDIT AND TAXING POWER IN SECURING THE NOTES;

COUNTY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER THE NOTES, THE NOTE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS, THE ADDENDUM, AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY FOR APPROVAL, ISSUANCE AND DELIVERY THEREOF;

COUNTY OFFICIALS, COUNTY SOLICITOR, FINANCIAL ADVISOR AND NOTE COUNSEL TO UNDERTAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS AND ALL ACTION RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF THE NOTES. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – NO

COMMISSIONER HESS COMMENTED THAT THE CARES ACT MONEY WAS TO TAKE CARE OF THE 911 BROADBAND PROJECT. HE SAID THE COMMISSIONERS' ARE NOW TURNING AROUND AND TAKING OUT A BOND TO PAY FOR THE PROJECT.

COMMISSIONER HESS SAID HE UNDERSTANDS AND AGREES WITH TAKING THE CARES MONEY THAT IS ELIGIBLE AND ALLOWABLE TO HELP PAY FOR PAYROLL AND BENEFITS FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE, 911, PRISON, DISTRICT ATTORNEY OFFICE AND COUNTY DETECTIVES TO

HELP BALANCE THE 2020-2021 BUDGET WITH NO TAX INCREASE. HE THANKED THE FINANCE/BUDGET TEAM FOR MAKING THIS HAPPEN.

FROM THE ONSET OF THIS PANDEMIC, THE COMMISSIONERS KNEW THEY WERE GOING TO HAVE ISSUES WITH THE 2020-2021 BUDGET. THIS OPTION SHOULD HAVE BEEN LOOKED INTO BEFORE GOING INTO THIS LARGE PROJECT, WHICH COULD HAVE GIVEN MORE MONEY FOR BUSINESSES, NONPROFITS, AND MUNICIPALITIES. SCHUYLKILL COUNTY IS ONE OF THE LOWEST COUNTIES IN THE PERCENTAGE OF GIVING OUT CARES ACT FUNDS COMPARED TO NEIGHBORING COUNTIES.

COMMISSIONER HESS IS VERY HAPPY TO FINALLY SEE THE CARES ACT MONEY GO OUT TO THESE GROUPS. HE WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE SEEN MORE BUSINESSES, NONPROFITS AND MUNICIPALITIES TO RECEIVE THE NEEDED FUNDS TO HELP THEM GET THROUGH THESE TOUGH TIMES. THIS IS WHAT THE CARES ACT MONEY WAS TO BE USED FOR.

COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE ASKED, “CAN WE NOT AFFORD IT”? THIS PROJECT DOWN THE LINE IS ONE THAT IS GOING TO ASSIST ALL THE CITIZENS IN THE COUNTY. WE ARE DEALING WITH SCHOOL DISTRICTS WHERE STUDENTS DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET. THIS IS A PROJECT THAT WE HAVE SPOKEN TO DR. GREGORY KOONS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE SCHUYLKILL COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT, WHO WILL BE ASSISTING AND WORKING WITH US ALONG WITH THE STATE AND FEDERAL DELEGATION.

REQUESTED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS’ APPROVAL FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

TO RETAIN PFM FINANCIAL ADVISORS FOR A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACTING AS A FINANCIAL ADVISOR TO THE COUNTY IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2020 GO NOTES.

TO RETAIN ECKERT SEAMANS CHERIN & MELLOTT LLC FOR A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$13,500 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACTING AS NOTE COUNSEL TO THE COUNTY IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2020 GO NOTES.

TO RETAIN M&T BANK TO SERVE AS PAYING AGENT, REGISTRAR, AND SINKING FUND DEPOSITORY FOR THE 2020 GO NOTE – SERIES A. THE COST FOR THE 2020 GO NOTE – SERIES A FOR THE INITIAL PAYING AGENT FEE IS \$500 AND SHALL BE \$750 ANNUALLY THEREAFTER.

TO RETAIN WEBSTER BANK TO SERVE AS PAYING AGENT, REGISTRAR, AND SINKING FUND DEPOSITORY FOR THE 2020 GO NOTE – SERIES B. THE COUNTY WILL NOT BE CHARGED FOR THE COST OF THIS SERVICE. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUESTS.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES
COMMISSIONER HESS – NO

GARY BENDER - RATIFICATION OF DESIGNEE CONTRACTS

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, GARY BENDER, REQUESTED THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS’ APPROVAL TO RATIFY THE FOLLOWING DESIGNEE APPROVED CONTRACTS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 2020. **MOTION REQUESTED.**

CONTRACTS – DESIGNEE APPROVED

NOVEMBER 2020

Department/Agency	Vendor	Date/Term	Amount	Date Approved
Planning And Zoning Printer Maintenance	Print-O-Stat York, Pa	10/21/20-10/21/21	1480.00	11/13/20
Recorder Of Deeds Copier Maintenance	Fraser Reading, Pa	10/25/20-10/24/21	762.00	11/17/20
Drug And Alcohol D&A Prevention And Treatment	Culture2culture Pottsville, Pa	7/1/20-6/30/21	16,100	11/18/20
Public Works Sidewalk Repairs	Dallago Backhoe Service Pottsville	4/1/20-7/31/21	18,400	11/24/20
Solicitor’s Office Consulting Service	Flamm Walton Heimbach Allentown	11/18/20-5/17/21	200.00/Hr	11/18/20

MOTION

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HESS TO APPROVE THE ABOVE REQUEST.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON – YES

COMMISSIONER HALCOVAGE – YES

COMMISSIONER HESS – YES

DOREEN KUTZLER –PERSONNEL ACTIONS & INFORMATIONAL

DOREEN KUTZLER, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR, PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

MH/DS – RETIREMENT & PROMOTION

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF THE RETIREMENT OF MH/DS PROGRAM SPECIALIST II, KEITH SEMEROD, MECHANICSVILLE, PA, FROM SAID POSITION. EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 2020.

REQUESTED APPROVAL TO PROMOTE CARA TRAN, PINE GROVE, PA, FROM A MH PROGRAM SPECIALIST I POSITION TO A MH PROGRAM SPECIALIST II POSITION, EXEMPT, PAY RANGE 7, STEP 13, AT A SALARY OF \$54,552.00. EFFECTIVE JANUARY 4, 2021.

ELECTION BUREAU – RETIREMENT

REQUESTED APPROVAL OF THE RETIREMENT OF CLERK TYPIST I, DEBRA MCDONALD, PALO ALTO, PA, FROM SAID POSITION. EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 30, 2020.

HUMAN RESOURCES – APPOINTMENT

REQUESTED APPROVAL TO APPOINT HEIDI ZULA, MINERSVILLE, PA, TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR POSITION, EXEMPT, PAY RANGE 9, AT A SALARY OF \$79,000.00. EFFECTIVE JANUARY 11, 2021.

INFORMATIONAL

ELECTION BUREAU – RESIGNATION

PER DIEM ELECTION TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR GERALD KUPERAVAGE, EAST NORWEGIAN TOWNSHIP, PA, HAS RESIGNED FROM SAID POSITION. EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 30, 2020.

*ALL APPOINTMENTS ARE PENDING DRUG TEST AND PHYSICAL

*ALL ACTIONS INVOLVING SALARY OR FOR POSITIONS BEING CREATED ARE PENDING SALARY BOARD APPROVAL.

ADJOURNMENT

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, COMMISSIONER HETHERINGTON ADJOURNED THE MEETING.

ATTEST: _____