

On the above date at 1:00 PM., the Luzerne County Board of Commissioners convened their regularly scheduled meeting with the following present: Gregory A. Skrepenak, Chairman; Todd A. Vonderheid and Stephen A. Urban, Commissioners; Samuel T. Guesto, County Manager for Legislation/Chief Clerk; James Blaum, County Solicitor; James Miller, Valley Crest; Michael L. Morreale, Treasurer; David Muroski, Deputy Controller; James J. Brozena, County Engineer; William P. Burke, Director of Property and Supply,; Adrian F. Merolli, Director of Planning; Sandra J. Russell, Director of Community Development; Salvatore Diaz, Chief of Budget and Finance.

Commissioner Gregory Skrepenak called the meeting and deferred the Chairman position to Commissioner Todd Vonderheid for today’s meeting due to illness making it difficult for him to speak.

Commissioner Vonderheid called the meeting to order and asked everyone to join in saying the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of Silent Prayer. It is noted that all meetings are electronically recorded.

Commissioner Vonderheid announced bids were received at earlier in the Treasurers’ Office and will be reviewed by the Controller later in the agenda.

Commissioner Vonderheid reviewed the protocol for Public Comment and directed Mr. Samuel Guesto, Chief Clerk, to ensure the five-minute time limit is adhered to.

Commissioner Vonderheid introduced Kathy Bozinski and Samuel Guesto for the presentation of the Proclamations.

Commissioner Vonderheid reminded everyone that if you wish to address the Commissioners to see Ms. Bozinski and sign in.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:..... Samuel T. Guesto, Jr.
County Manager /Chief Clerk**

Samuel T. Guesto, Jr, County Manager/Chief Clerk announced the County, in conjunction with Blue Cross, Geisinger, Odyssey Fitness Center and the YMCA are please to announce the creation of the Luzerne County Employee Wellness Program with the following overview:

- Payroll Deducted Discounts for Memberships thru the Odyssey Fitness Center and the various YMCAs.
- Comprehensive evaluations of health issues and individualized program structures to aid and assist employees of reaching their goals and objectives.
- Seminars will be held on issues such as: Nutrition and Weight Loss, Smoking Cessation and stress management to name a few.

Mr. Guesto added more information regarding the program could be obtained by contacting the Human Resource office.

**RECOGNITIONS:..... Kathy Bozinski
Public Information Officer**

1. **Check Presentation: Junior Achievement**
2. **Check Presentation: Wyoming Valley United Way**
3. **Check Presentation: Luzerne County Library System**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tim Grier, Wilkes-Barre, voiced his concerns on how Wilkes-Barre City is, in his opinion, misspending funding from federal, state and local entities. He requested the Board, on behalf of the County, cease any funding and/or forgiveness of taxes on behalf of the City of Wilkes-Barre until such a time as they, the City, can provide details on how the money is really being spent. Mr. Grier recommended that the funds should be released to the residents of Wilkes-Barre who wish to improve their properties.

Richard Ashton, Wilkes-Barre; Jim Spak, Ashley; and Carl Olshefski, Askam; provided comment on the removal of trees along the Susquehanna River levee from the county courthouse to South Street and requested the Board of Commissioners halt the project.

James Brozena, County Engineer, referred to a 2003 study recommending the removal of 74 dead or decaying trees. Adding the tree removal is the start of the \$23 million River Common project in the city which will include multiple construction projects. Mr. Brozena added the tree-removal plan was based on arborist Vincent Cotrone’s 2003 analysis of 154 trees along the levee. According to the study, impending construction would cause root damage to 35 cherry trees near the levee, and most of the cherry trees are in poor condition. Finally, Mr. Brozena stated when the project is complete about 50 trees will be left standing, and 250 new trees will be planted and the plan also includes planting 500 shrubs and 10,000 perennials and bulbs and adding 50,000 pieces of ground cover.

Commissioner Vonderheid added Mr. Cotrone “the greatest advocate of trees in Northeast Pennsylvania” and said “the project is proceeding” after six years of public discussion and planning.

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Minutes

MOTION

Request a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioner’s Meeting held on November 15, 2006.

It was moved by Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Skrepenak.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

Vouchers

Request a motion to ratify and confirm payment of the following vouchers:

Wachovia Bank, Vouchers 440767GF - 443129GF
County General Fund for 2006

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID “ABSTAIN” URBAN

PNC Bank, Vouchers 501403LF - 501455LF
Liquid Fuels for 2006

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

Wachovia Bank, Vouchers 400227WC- 400229WC
Worker’s Compensation for 2006

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Hazleton and Hazle Township

Request a motion to adopt a Resolution continuing a Declaration of a State of Emergency within the city of Hazleton and Hazle Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. Resolution dated November 22, 2006; November 29, 2006; December 6, 2006; December 13, 2006; and December 20, 2006.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Severance Payments

Request a motion to approve pre-2004 severance payments in the amount of \$3,000.00 each, less applicable payroll taxes for the following former management employees:

- a.) Anne Williams – Engineer’s Department
Resigned: 10/11/2002
- b.) Paula Radick – District Attorney’s Office
Resigned: 11/15/2002
- c.) Luke Malonis – Workforce Investment Board
Resigned: 10/2/03

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID “NAYES” URBAN

MOTION

Laurel Run Borough

Request a motion to convey to Laurel Run Borough for \$1.00 consideration certain real estate comprised of 60.65 acres, more or less, situated in Laurel Run Borough to be used solely for recreational purposes.

It was moved by Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Skrepenak.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Hazleton - Condemnation Proceedings

Request a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the exercise of authority under the PA Eminent Domain Act, as amended, to commence condemnation proceedings against real estate situate at 25-31 West Broad Street, Hazleton, Luzerne County Pennsylvania.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID “NAYES” URBAN

MOTION

Luzerne County State of Emergency – Flash Flooding & Flooding

Request a motion of the Luzerne County Board of Commissioners to approve/ratify continuing the State of Emergency from November 16th, 2006 due to flash flooding. This motion is for the weeks of Nov 23, Nov 30, Dec 7, Dec 14, Dec 21 & Dec 28th.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Luzerne County State of Emergency - Tornado/Heavy Rain

Request a motion of the Luzerne County Board of Commissioners to approve/ratify continuing the State of Emergency from December 1ST, 2006 Tornado/Heavy Rain. This motion is for the weeks of Dec 8, Dec 15, Dec 22, & Dec 29th.

It was moved by Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Skrepenak.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Memorandum of Understanding Fees

Request a motion to enter into a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Corrections, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and those Counties having within its borders at least one State Correctional Institution operated by the Department of Corrections.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Tax Refunds – Board of Assessment Appeals

Request a Motion to approve the following refunds through the Assessors Office:

Gilchrist Christopher & John (Billboards)	Ashley Borough	\$1,093.70
Lesante Samuel J & Deborah (Billboards)	Hazle Township	\$275.28
Morris Gerald & Dorothy (Billboards)	Shickshinny Boro	\$137.64
United Rehabilitation Services (Billboards)	Hazleton City	\$236.22
Thomas & James Lloyd t/a Old Orchard Realty Assoc Inc.	Exeter Twp.	\$197.16
HCFP Reitt Mountainside LLC	Dallas Twp.	\$236.22
<u>TOTAL AMOUNT OF REFUNDS</u>	\$2,176.22	

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

(PILOT) Agreements - Ecumenical Enterprises

Request a motion to enter into a payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) Agreements with the Ecumenical Enterprises for properties located in West Pittston Boro., Garden Village Apartments, 65-D11SE4-010-03B, Wyoming Boro, Midtowne Apts., E10SE3-015-004, and Dallas Twp. The Meadows Apts., D8-00A-32H.

This agreement states that Ecumenical Enterprises will pay the County for calendar year 2007 and thereafter, \$27,000.00 per year with an increase of 1% each year thereafter for these three properties as long as property remains a not for profit entity and retains its tax exempt status. The agreements have been approved by The Board of Assessment Appeals.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Tax Forgiveness – Board of Assessment of Appeals

Request a Motion to forgive Shickshinny Area Vol. Ambulance Association's 2004 County real estate tax due on their property located at 32 E. Union Street, Shickshinny, Pa.. Plate # 56-2-1-4/ Pin # L4SE1-022-001. The Luzerne County Board of Assessment Appeals has granted tax exempt status for the year 2005 and forward.

It was moved by Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Skrepenak.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

RFP – Office Space

Request a Motion for permission to advertise for office space for District Justice Malast, District Justice Feissner and District Justice Hasay.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID “NAYES” URBAN

MOTION

2003 Capital Projects Bond Issue – 2003D-14

REQUEST A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF \$1,000,750.73 FROM THE 2003 CAPITAL PROJECTS BOND ISSUE SERIES D FOR ITEMS IDENTIFIED ON SCHEDULE “A” OF REQUISITION 2003D-14.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

2007 General Fund Budget –Resolution

Request a Motion to adopt the following **RESOLUTION NO. 122106A:**

WHEREAS, there was presented to the Board of Commissioners of the County of Luzerne on November 30, 2006, a proposed budget for the year 2007; and

WHEREAS, said proposed budget was made available for public inspection as required by law, and public notice was given as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has given mature consideration to said proposed budget and has recommended the adoption of a budget of \$140,842,029 as now proposed, and has computed the tax levy necessary to raise the funds required at 94.9 mills; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Budget for Luzerne County for the year 2007, as proposed, be and it is hereby adopted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ENACTED, that the tax levy for the year 2007 for Luzerne County to raise and provide the funds set forth in the said budget by and it is hereby fixed at 94.9 mills, or \$9.49 on each \$100 as the assessed valuation of taxable property in Luzerne County to provide for general and sinking funds purposes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ENACTED, that for the expenses of Luzerne County appropriated from the revenue available from the year for the specific purposes set forth below, which amounts are more totally itemized in the County Budget Form on file in the Office of the Luzerne County Commissioners, Hazleton Courthouse Annex, and the Luzerne County Law Library.

OPERATION FUNDS SUMMARY – Estimated Receipts

Cash and Securities for Appropriation	\$ 3,500,000
Receipts from Tax Levy	\$ 83,325,649
Intergovernmental Revenues	\$ 15,641,810
Fines and Forfeits	\$ 1,212,000
Charges for Services	\$ 9,747,563
Other Financing Sources	\$ 27,415,007
<u>Total Available for Appropriation</u>	\$ 140,842,029
Operations and Maintenance	\$ 129,991,491
Debt Service	\$ 10,850,538
<u>Total Estimated Expenditures</u>	\$ 140,842,029

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the forgoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Luzerne on the 21st day of December, 2006.

Samuel T. Guesto, County Manager/Chief Clerk

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID “NAYES” URBAN

Request a motion to approve the 2007 General Fund Budget.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID “NAYES” URBAN

MOTION

2007 Liquid Fuels Budget –Resolution

Request a Motion to adopt the following **RESOLUTION NO. 12232004B:**

WHEREAS, there was presented to the Board of the County of Luzerne on November 30, 2006, a proposed budget for Luzerne County Liquid Fuels for the year 2007 indicating revenues in the amount of \$1,081,600 and disbursements in the amount of \$1,081,600; and

WHEREAS, said proposed budget was made available for public inspection as required by law, and public notice was given as required by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Liquid Fuels Budget for Luzerne County for the year 2007, as proposed, be and it is hereby adopted.

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the forgoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Luzerne on the 21st day of December, 2006

Samuel T. Guesto, County Manager/Chief Clerk

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

Request a motion to approve the 2007 Liquid Fuels Budget.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Resolution No. 122106C – Tax Anticipation Note

Request a motion to adopt Resolution No. 122106C authorizing the issuance of a Tax Anticipation Note, series of 2007 from Community Bank and Trust Co. in an aggregate principal amount of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000); providing for the dated date, interest rate, maturity date, payment and place of payment in respect of the note; accepting the proposal attached hereto as Exhibit “B”; naming a sinking fund depository/paying agent; authorizing the proper officers of the County to execute and deliver the note and certain other documents and certificates in connection therewith; designating the note as a “Qualified Tax-Exempt Obligation” under Section 265(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; authorizing and directing the preparation, certification and filing of the necessary documents with the Department of Community and Economic Development of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

IP Upgrade for PBX Telephone Systems

Request a Motion to approve the purchase of upgrades for the PBX telephone systems that service the Courthouse, the Annex, Penn Place, Road & Bridge/Engineering, Veteran Affairs/Solid Waste Management, and the Voting Machine Warehouse. The \$45,360 expenditure will be funded through bond money. Commonwealth Communications is the sole source in Luzerne County for this Nortel upgrade which will “IP enable” our Meridian Option 61C and 11C systems. The benefits of taking advantage of this limited time manufacturer promotion are as follows:

- IP will reduce the cost of moves, adds and changes by up to 90 percent
- Wiring a building for IP costs 40 to 50 percent less than for traditional voice and data networking
- IP telephony will allow the County to migrate to “unified messaging” as regards voicemail, email, faxes, etc.
- We can continue to use our existing digital phones while we gradually phase-in IP phones

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID “ABSTAIN” URBAN

MOTION

Risk Management Services

Request a motion to approve High Safety Consulting Services as Risk Management Consultants for a total of \$7,995, effective December 21, 2006 to December 21, 2007.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Production Agreement – Recorder of Deeds Office

Motion to approve a Media and Information – Production Agreement for the Landex WEB Store between Optical Storage Solutions and the Recorder of Deeds’ Office.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Insurance Policies Renewal

Request a motion to approve the following Insurance Renewal Policies effective January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007 through Joseph J. Joyce Associates, Inc., with optional 1 year renewal based on yearly percentage increase. All are subject to Solicitor's review and approval.

Insurance Company:	Housing & Redevelopment Insurance Exchange
Property:	\$195,200
Inland Marine:	\$42,734
General Liability:	\$206,064
Automobile:	\$186,732
Crime:	\$1,625
Faithful Performance Bond:	\$1,002

* Note above policy premiums exclude Terrorism coverage.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
"AYES" SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Specific Excess Workers Compensation Insurance

Request a motion to approve Midwest Employers Casualty Company as Specific Excess Workers Compensation Insurance provider for a total of \$91,620, effective January 1, 2007 to January 1, 2008 through Joseph J. Joyce Associates, Inc., with optional 2 years renewal based on yearly percentage increase. This would be subject to the Solicitor's review and approval.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.
"AYES" SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Public Officials Liability Insurance

Request a motion to approve Scottsdale Insurance Company as Public Officials Liability Insurance provider for a total of \$123,871, effective December 31, 2006 to December 31, 2007 through Joseph J. Joyce Associates, Inc., with optional 2 years renewal based on yearly percentage increase. This would be subject to the Solicitor's review and approval.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.
"AYES" SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Equipment Breakdown/Boiler & Machinery Coverage Insurance

Request a motion to approve Chubb Insurance Group as Equipment Breakdown/Boiler & Machinery Insurance provider for a total of \$14,142, effective January 1, 2007 to January 1, 2008 through Joseph J. Joyce Associates, Inc., with optional 2 years renewal based on yearly percentage increase. This would be subject to the Solicitor's review and approval.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
"AYES" SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Luzerne County Capital Grants

Request a motion of the Luzerne County Board of Commissioners to approve the following Capital Grants. This will be the first round of Capital Grants recommended for funding. All grant funding must be drawn down within eighteen (18) months of approval.

1. West Hazleton Little League - \$20,000
2. Osterhout Library - \$300,000
3. Back Mountain Youth Football & Cheerleading - \$5,000
4. Back Mountain Recreation, Inc. - \$200,000
5. Franklin Township - \$25,000
6. The Lands at Hillside Farms c/o Luzerne County Historical Society - \$500,000
7. Dallas Borough/Back Mountain Arts Association - \$250,000
8. The F.M. Kirby Center - \$800,000
9. City of Wilkes-Barre Housing Initiative - \$1,200,000
10. Borough of Duryea - \$300,000
11. Wright Township - \$250,000
12. Borough of Plymouth/Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority - \$350,000
13. North Main/CitiVest/Kings College - \$500,000
14. City of Wilkes-Barre Intermodal - \$500,000
15. SPCA - \$40,000

Total grant funding: \$5,240,000.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

West Nile Virus Grant Award

Request a Motion to accept the West Nile Virus Grant Award for January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007 in the amount \$146,655.00, pending State budget approval.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Junior Achievement of Northeastern Pennsylvania Inc.

Request a motion approving the release of \$100,000 to Junior Achievement of Northeastern Pennsylvania Inc. for the JA Enterprise Village Project. The final release is subject to approval from the County Solicitor.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

‘TIF’ Tax Increment Financing

Request a motion to adopt a resolution of the Luzerne County Board of Commissioners authorizing the Murray Complex Tax Increment District, effective December 21, 2006, as well as authorization for the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners to execute any and all documents, including the Resolution, necessary for the above said Tax Increment District.

Commissioner Urban read a prepared statement outlining his concerns and stating his reasons for voting against the Tax Increment Financing.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID “NAYES” URBAN

MOTION

Medical Stop Loss Insurance

Request a motion to approve Orien Risk Analysts as Medical Stop Loss Insurance provider for a total of \$430,720.00, effective January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007.

It was moved by Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

END OF COMMUNICATIONS

**TREASURER’S OFFICE – MICHAEL L. MORREALE
FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Request a motion to accept the following Financial Statement:

WACHOVIA BANK

General Fund	\$1,499,666.18
School, Road & Institution District.....	409,450.49
Real Estate Tax Sale Account.....	1,445,774.78
Self Insured Workers Compensation Fund.....	(1,312.53)
Domestic Relations IV-D Fund.....	379,857.69
Patients’ Personal Fund Account.....	7,451.23
911 Construction Fund.....	73,212.02
911 Operational Fund.....	17,026.77

PNC BANK

Luzerne County Fiscal Agencies:

Office for the Aging.....	\$588,969.30
Children & Youth Services.....	1,193,705.59
Mental Health/Mental Retardation.....	91,935.78
Drug & Alcohol Program.....	240,084.02
Office of Human Services.....	25,230.17
Transportation Department.....	90,753.07
Liquid Fuels Tax Fund.....	145,844.08
Luzerne County GWBIF Escrow Account.....	27,472.00

CITIZENS BANK

Adult Probation Special Account.....	\$191,216.75
Luzerne County Bridges	112,607.40
Hazardous Material Emergency Response Account	50,861.84
EMA Radiation Emergency Response Fund.....	33,985.96

FIRST NATIONAL COMMUNITY BANK

Luzerne County Convention and Visitors Bureau	\$20,895.49
Luzerne County Agencies Account	1,219,570.77
Luzerne County Solid Waste Recycle Account.....	249,243.09
Luzerne County Property Tax Collection	179,239.45

FIDELITY DEPOSIT & DISCOUNT BANK

Wyoming Valley Airport Account	\$33,916.48
Adult Probation/Offenders Supervision Fund.....	0.00
Tri-County Airport Feasibility Study.....	2,553.79
Luzerne County 2002 Capital Projects.....	89,478.99
Luzerne County 2003 Capital Projects.....	174,194.46
Luzerne County 2003 D Capital Projects.....	1,649.64

MICHAEL L. MORREALE
Luzerne County Treasurer

LUZERNE COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE

CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

Luzerne County General Fund	\$10,000,000.00
Liquid Fuels Tax Fund	\$950,000.00
Domestic Relations IV D Fund	\$1,800,000.00
911 Construction Fund	\$1,650,000.00
Luzerne County Fiscal Agencies:	
Mental Health/Mental Retardation	\$10,900,000.00
Office for the Aging	500,000.00
Office of Human Services	\$185,000.00
Drug & Alcohol	\$180,000.00
Transportation Department	\$960,000.00
Adult Probation Special Account	\$2,250,000.00
Hazardous Material Emergency Response Account	\$185,000.00
Solid Waste Recycle Account	\$455,000.00
Luzerne County Agencies Account	\$2,250,000.00
Total	\$28,715,000.00

MICHAEL L. MORREAL
Luzerne County Treasurer

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

CONTROLLERS REPORT- MARYANNE PETRILLA

Request a motion to ratify and confirm payment of the following vouchers:

1. Request a motion to authorize the Controller to make the following payments under the Luzerne County Community Development Program for various services and projects:

- \$736,538.14 Community Development Block Grant Program
- \$23,392.87 Emergency Shelter Grant Program
- \$216,380.86 HOME Investment Partnership Program
- \$1,995,308.18 Business Development Loan Program

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

2. Request a motion to ratify and confirm the payment of **\$14,577.07** to the Penn State Cooperative Extension, 16 Luzerne Ave., Suite 200, West Pittston, PA. This is the County’s appropriation for the month of December.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

3. Request a motion to ratify and confirm the payment of **\$490,000.00** to the Luzerne County Community College, 1333 Prospect St., Nanticoke, PA. This is the County’s December 2006 appropriation.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

Bids Opened on November 28, 2006:

Sheriff’s Office:

Computer & Accessories
No Bids Received

Request a motion to confirm the following:

Transportation Department:

Voucher No. 532089 to 532200 inclusive in the amount of \$2,534,988.22

Bureau for the Aging:

Voucher No. 615166 to 615658 inclusive in the amount of \$3,801,221.31

Children and Youth:

Voucher No. 627756 to 628640 inclusive in the amount of \$3,214,520.65

Mental Health / Mental Retardation:

Voucher No. 642069 to 642296 inclusive in the amount of \$7,480,947.11

Human Services:

Voucher No. 650432 to 650482 inclusive in the amount of \$1,745,322.07

Drug and Alcohol:

Voucher No. 660465 to 660510 inclusive in the amount of \$1,004,016.61

It was moved by Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Skrepenak.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

Maryanne Petrilla, Controller

END OF CONTROLLERS REPORT

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**HUMAN SERVICES – JOSEPH DEVIZIA, DIRECTOR****REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE/RATIFY THE FOLLOWING CONTRACTS FOR THE PROVIDERS, SERVICES, TERMS AND RATES SPECIFIED:**

<u>PROVIDER</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>RATE/ CONTRACT CAP</u>
<u>AREA AGENCY ON AGING:</u>			
PA Dept. of Aging	Waiver Agreement	7/1/06-6/30/11	\$4,843,080.00
Insalaco Development Group	Lease Agreement for Pittston Senior Center	1/1/2007-12/31/2016	Year 1-5 \$4,712.50/mo. (\$9.75 per sq. ft.)
			Year 6-10 \$5,195.83/mo. (\$10.75/per sq. ft.)
St. Michael's Greek Orthodox Church	Lease Agreement for Freeland Senior Center	11/1/06-10/31/07	\$600.00/mo. (Automatic 1 yr. extension at same rate)
CEO	Direct Service. Worker Initiative (D.S.W.I.)	7/1/06-6/30/07	\$38,502.00
Compassionate Care	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$1,000.00
Associated Family Care	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$11,000.00
Aaron North	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$500.00
Caregivers America	D.S.W.I.	7/1/06-6/30/07	\$17,500.00
Comfort Keepers Mountaintop	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$1,000.00
Silver Care	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$6,900.00
Caring Care	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$1,000.00
ARN	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$5,000.00
Comfort Keepers Hazleton	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$1,000.00
Erwine's Home Health	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$22,000.00
Home Instead	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$1,000.00
Independent Living Service	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$500.00
Oakwood Terrace	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$250.00

RATE/

<u>PROVIDER</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>CONTRACT CAP</u>
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AREA AGENCY ON AGING: (Continued)

Community Counseling Day Care	D.S.W.I.	7/1/06-6/30/07	\$1,000.00
Helpmates	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$1,200.00
VNA	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$8,000.00
Riverside Day Care	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$12,000.00
We Care Nurses	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$1,000.00
Personal Care Home Health	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$2,000.00
Revolutionary Nurses	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$500.00
Bayada Nurses	D.S.W.I.	" "	\$2,000.00

CHILDREN & YOUTH:

Keystone Community Resources	Group Home (Autism) Community Home	11/30/06-6/30/07	\$445.00/day \$225.00/day
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MENTAL HEALTH/MENTAL RETARDATION:

Snyder & Clemente	Auditing Services	7/1/06 to 6/30/07	\$45,000/yr \$45,000
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TRANSPORTATION:

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation	Transportation	7/1/06-6/30/07	\$9.65 less than 5 air miles \$11.85 greater than 5 air miles \$14.95 not shared
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It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

A MOTION TO APPROVE/RATIFY THE FOLLOWING CONTRACT AMENDMENTS FOR THE PROVIDERS, SERVICES, TERMS, AND RATES SPECIFIED:

<u>PROVIDER</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>RATE</u>	<u>TERM</u>	
			<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
<u>AREA AGENCY ON AGING:</u>				
CEO	Home Modifications	7/1/06-6/30/07	\$25,000.00	\$75,000.00

CHILDREN & YOUTH:

Dr. Frank Vita	Comprehensive Family Assessment	10/1/06-6/30/07	\$90.00/hr. \$3,000.00	\$90.00/hr. \$4,185.00
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<u>PROVIDER</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>RATE</u>	<u>TERM</u>	
			<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
<u>MENTAL HEALTH/MENTAL RETARDATION:</u>				
Impact Systems, Inc.	Employ. Srvs. & Residential	7/1/06-6/30/07	\$3,534,410	\$3,579,665
AVP Transport, Inc.	Transport Srvs.	“ “	\$28,375	\$41,100
Posten Taxi	Transport Srvs.	“ “	\$18,000	\$18,000
<u>(Funding Source Change – no change to total contract)</u>				
Chiverella Inc.	Transport Srvs.	“ “	\$8,640	\$47,100
Glen & Gwen Transport.	Transport Srvs.	“ “	\$21,100	\$27,100
Institute for Human Resources	Residential	7/1/05-6/30/06	\$3,933,472	\$3,968,784
Impact Systems, Inc.	Employ. Srvs. & Residential	“ “	\$3,534,410	\$3,579,665
Step-By-Step, Inc.	Employ. Srvs., Housing Support & Residential	“ “	\$6,099,735	\$6,468,806
ARC of Wyoming County	Residential	7/1/05-6/30/06	\$955,212	\$935,391
Goodwill Industries	Employ. Srvs., & Residential	“ “	\$1,657,369	\$1,892,879
Nat’l Mentor Healthcare	Residential	“ “	\$1,295,569	\$1,144,742
Family Care Consortium	Residential	“ “	\$152,989	\$170,673

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU):

OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES:

An MOU between Luzerne County and the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) to be completed for consideration for National Institute of Justice (NIJ) grants being offered through Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. Grant consideration is for a pilot program "County Justice Information Exchange Program" (CJIEP). This grant would be used to develop critical information sharing throughout the County's Criminal Justice system, tying in multiple County agencies affiliated with that system.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

ENGINEER’S OFFICE – JAMES BROZENA, COUNTY ENGINEER

MOTION

Authorize the proper officials to execute Change Order #3 with G. C. Wall Inc. in the amount of \$2,182.48 for contract changes on the Courthouse Annex Project General Construction Contract.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Authorize the proper officials to execute Change Order #3 with Bognet Inc. in the amount of \$645.41 for contract changes on the Courthouse Annex Project Plumbing Contract.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Authorize the proper officials to execute Change Order #3 with 3-R Electric Inc. in the amount of \$5,621.69 for contract changes on the Courthouse Annex Project Electrical Contract.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Authorize the proper officials to execute Change Order #3 with Marx Sheet Metal & Mechanical Inc. in the amount of \$(887.00) for contract changes on the Courthouse Annex Project Mechanical Contract.

It was moved by Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Skrepenak.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

ROAD & BRIDGE DEPARTMENT – JAMES BROZENA, COUNTY ENGINEER

MOTION

Request permission to purchase Four (4) Single Axle Dump Trucks for the Road and Bridge Department from State Contract.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

Ratify the award of the Demolition of County Bridge 24203 to Lycoming Supply Inc. in the amount of \$49,300.00.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

PURCHASING DEPARTMENT – GREGORY HUNSINGER, DIRECTOR

REQUEST A MOTION FOR PERMISSION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS:

MH/MR AGENCY:

IBM RACK MOUNT SERVER & SOFTWARE

LUZERNE/WYOMING COUNTIES TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT:

SALE OF TWO (2) SALVAGE VEHICLES

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

REQUEST A MOTION TO RE-ADVERTISE FOR THE MANUFACTURING AND DELIVERY OF GOVERNMENT PRE-CAST BASES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

REQUEST A MOTION TO RENEW THE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH SWOYERSVILLE BOROUGH FOR MAGISTRATE BARILLA’S OFFICE (DISTRICT 11-1-06) FOR THREE YEARS BEGINNING 1/1/07 AND ENDING 12/31/09 AT THE FOLLOWING RATE SCHEDULE:

2007-\$ 875/MONTH
2008-\$ 925/MONTH
2009-\$1,000/MONTH

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - ANDY REILLY, DIRECTOR

MOTION

Request a motion approving the following activities through the County's Economic Development Programs:

GREATER WILKES-BARRE DEVELOPMENT CORP. - \$1,000,000 bridge loan for the Hanover Crossings project to assist in the completion of construction activities for Phase II of the project.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

END OF DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

PERSONNEL

DECEMBER 21, 2006

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS AT:

ROAD AND BRIDGE DEPARTMENT:

Appoint Jeffrey Zalutko, Hazleton, to the position of Truck Driver at an annual salary of \$19,500.00 effective November 13, 2006. To fill vacancy.

Appoint William Witner, Zion Grove, to the position of Truck Driver at an annual salary of \$19,500.00 effective November 13, 2006. To fill vacancy.

Appoint John Frohman, Swoyersville, PA 18704 to the position of Equipment Operator at an annual salary of \$21,500.00 effective November 13, 2006. To fill vacancy.

Appoint Terrance Meehan, Harveys Lake, PA 18618 to the position of Truck Driver at an annual salary of \$19,500.00 effective November 20, 2006. To fill vacancy.

CHILDREN & YOUTH:

The Appointment of the following Caseworker 2's at an annual salary of \$28,877:

Rochelle Mirowski, Plains, effective December 1, 2006
David Fox, Bear Creek, effective December 1, 2006
Wayne T. Gregory, Mountain Top, effective December 15, 2006
Paul Koval, Mountain Top, effective December 11, 2006
Jacquelyn Pollard, Wilkes-Barre, effective December 18, 2006
Megan Roccograndi, Wanamie, effective December 18, 2006
Tanya Jolley, Mountain Top, effective December 15, 2006

The Appointment of Tennille Deslauriers as a Social Services Aide 1 at an annual salary of \$18,378 effective December 26, 2006.

TRANSPORTATION:

The Appointment of the following Part Time Drivers at an hourly rate of \$8:

Marlene Starrie, Bear Creek, effective November 13, 2006
Edward Pucylowski, Larksville, effective November 13, 2006
Joseph Chesna, Wyoming, effective November 13, 2006

The Appointment of Jeffrey Pesotski, Wilkes-Barre, as a Scheduler at an annual salary of \$19,096 effective November 17, 2006.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RECLASSIFICATIONS AT:

DRUG & ALCOHOL:

The Reclassification of Mary Ann Riffon to D&A Case Management Specialist at an annual salary of \$26,613 effective December 15, 2006.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING PROMOTIONS AT:

AGING:

The Promotion of Colleen Jones to Aging Care Management Supervisor 1 at an annual salary of \$31,897 effective November 20, 2006.

CHILDREN & YOUTH:

The Promotion of Brian Steve to Casework Supervisor at an annual salary of \$34,496 effective December 15, 2006.

The Promotion Gina Pechulis to Fiscal Technician at an annual salary of \$24,703 effective December 1, 2006.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING PAY ADJUSTMENTS AT:

CHILDREN & YOUTH:

A \$1,000 Certification Pay Adjustment for Kerris Bellino, at an annual salary of \$29,877 effective July 31, 2006.

It was moved by Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESIGNATIONS AT:

SECURITY:

Andrew Hirko, Security Guard, effective November 30, 2006.

ROAD & BRIDGE:

William A. Engle, Truck Driver, effective November 17, 2006

William B. Witner, Truck Driver, effective December 6, 2006

CHILDREN & YOUTH:

Jessica Martin, Caseworker 2, effective December 5, 2006

Erin Howley, Caseworker 2, effective December 8, 2006

Linda Shupp, Caseworker 2, effective December 22, 2006

MENTAL HEALTH/MENTAL RETARDATION:

Tiffany Baran, Caseworker 2, effective December 15, 2006

TRANSPORTATION:

John Hagan, Part Time Driver, effective November 2, 2006

Theresa Ryzner, Part Time Driver, effective November 3, 2006

Joseph Nardone, Part Time Driver, effective November 6, 2006

Edward Pucylowski, Part Time Driver, effective November 15, 2006

Marlene Starrie, Part Time Driver, effective November 16, 2006

Joseph Chesna, Part Time Driver, effective November 21, 2006

Jeffrey Pesotski, Scheduler, effective November 21, 2006

James Whitenight, Part Time Driver, effective December 20, 2006

Eric Hollock, Manager of External Operations, effective December 6, 2006

Anthony Rostock, Part Time Driver, effective December 7, 2006

Jeffrey Booth, Driver, effective December 20, 2006.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING SEPARATIONS AT:

TRANSPORTATION:

Lisa Abdul-Al Ghafur, Part Time Driver, effective December 20, 2006
Charles Hennebaul, Sr., Part Time Driver, effective December 20, 2006
Andre Waters, Part Time Driver, effective December 20, 2006

It was moved by Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING SUSPENSION AT:

TRANSPORTATION:

Jeffrey Booth, Driver, effective December 7, 2006

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RETIREMENT AT:

CHILDREN & YOUTH:

June Smith, Caseworker 2, effective January 5, 2007

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Vonderheid.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING LEAVE OF ABSENCES AT:

AGING:

An FMLA for Kathleen Warren, Aging Care Manager 2, effective November 30, 2006.

CHILDREN & YOUTH:

An FMLA With Pay for Marijo Sullivan, Children, Youth & Families Program Specialist 1, effective November 13, 2006 through November 27, 2006.

A Leave of Absence for Melissa Elliott, Caseworker 2 effective November 13, 2006.

An FMLA With Pay for Tammy Jones, Social Services Aide 3, effective November 13, 2006.

A Leave Without Pay for Kellie Kizis, Caseworker 2, effective November 23 through December 1, 2006.

MENTAL HEALTH/MENTAL RETARDATION:

A Leave Without Pay for Mary Moyer, Clerk Typist 2, effective December 8 through December 13, 2006.

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.

“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE/RATIFY THE FOLLOWING TRAININGS FOR:

<u>ATTENDEE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>APPROX. COST</u>
<u>AREA AGENCY ON AGING:</u>				
Mary Beth Farrell	Nursing Home	Pittston	12/1/06	\$25
Linda Casey	Transition Conf.			
Gerry Chickeletti	Collaborative			
Kariann Ballon	Partner Symposium			
Angelo Grasso				
Debbie Milz				
Sharon Moss				

<u>ATTENDEE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>APPROX. COST</u>
<u>CHILDREN & YOUTH:</u>				
Frank Castano	PCYA Quarterly	Harrisburg	12/17-12/19/06	\$700
Gerard Muth	Meeting			

MENTAL HEALTH/MENTAL RETARDATION:

Judy Kresky	Creative Curriculum in PA	Carlisle	12/4/06	\$92
Joseph Petrizzi	Winter Meeting of the MH/MR Administrators Association	Hershey	1/25-1/26/07	\$245

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE/RATIFY THE FOLLOWING TRAININGS FOR:

<u>ATTENDEE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>APPROX. COST</u>
<u>BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS</u>				
Certified Property Evaluator Training classes				
11 Certified Pennsylvania Evaluators		Ccnvention Hall Pittston Twp.	12/15/06	\$275.00
Anthony Alu Director of Assessments	AAP Board Meeting	Lancaster	1/12/07	\$150.00

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

MOTION

APPOINTMENT/EXECUTIVE COMMISSION

LUZERNE-WYOMING COUNTIES DRUG AND ALCOHOL:

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPOINT THE FOLLOWING TO THE LUZERNE-WYOMING COUNTIES DRUG AND ALCOHOL EXECUTIVE COMMISSION FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM BEGINNING NOVEMBER 16, 2006 TO NOVEMBER 16, 2009:

Kevin E. Straka – Wilkes-Barre

It was moved by Commissioner Skrepenak, seconded by Commissioner Urban.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

A Motion was entertained to adjourn the Commissioners’ Meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Skrepenak.
“AYES” SKREPENAK, VONDERHEID, URBAN

Respectfully,



Patricia Wilk, Recording Secretary