

On the above date at 10:00 A.M., 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; Joseph Loftus-Vergari, Director, Human Services; Noelle Kovaleski, Valley Crest; Michael L. Morreale, Treasurer; Stephen L. Flood, 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; Salvadore Diaz, Chief of Budget and Finance.

Commissioner Gregory Skrepenak 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 Skrepenak announced bids are open in the Treasurers' Office.

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

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

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

Commissioner Skrepenak called for Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

COMMUNICATIONS – SAMUEL T. GUESTO, JR., CHIEF CLERK

Samuel Guesto, Jr., County Manager for Legislation and Chief Clerk, announced the Board of Commissioners held Executive Session at 3:45 PM on January 3, 2005 and at 10:10 AM on January 5, 2005 to discuss personnel issues.

Request a Motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioner's Meetings held on October 20 and November 3, 2004.

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

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

Wachovia Bank, Vouchers 414034GF - 414828GF
County General Fund for 2004

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

PNC Bank, Vouchers 400755LF – 400782LF
Liquid Fuels for 2004

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

Wachovia Bank, Vouchers 400094WCF - 400100WC
Workman's Compensation

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

COMMUNICATIONS (cont'd):

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 No. 12222004** attached dated December 22, 2004, **Resolution No. 1229004** attached dated December 29, 2004) and **Resolution No.01052005** attached dated January 5, 2005).

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

Request a Motion declaring a state of emergency as a result of damage caused by “Tropical Depression Ivan”. The Declarations are dated December 18th and 25th, 2004 and January 1st, 2005.

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

Request a Motion to approve the 2005 West Nile Virus Control Grant. The grant award for January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005 will be \$171,776.00 pending State budget approval.

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

Request a Motion to approve ORIEN Risk as Stop/Loss Insurance Carrier.

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

Request a Motion to approve the following refunds through the Assessor’s Office for the total amount of \$1,828.94:

Jeffrey and Amy Ann Cegelka	Exeter Twp.	\$ 380.77
Dorothy Piccotti	Conyngham Twp.	\$ 58.54
Investrac	White Haven	\$ 1,389.63

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

Request a Motion to adopt a Resolution authorizing the issuance of a Tax AND Revenue Anticipation Note, Series 2005 with the terms set forth in the attached Resolution enclosing documents; approving a form of Note authorizing designated officers to execute and deliver the Note; authorizing and directing the filing of proceedings with the Department of Community and Economic Development; providing for the payment and security of the Note; making certain federal Income Tax covenants in respect of the Note; accepting the proposal of PNC Bank, National Association for the purchase of the Note; and repealing inconsistent resolutions. (Copy of Resolution attached.)

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

Request a Motion to extend the contract for Security Services at the Hazleton DRO with Intrepid Detective Agency for 120 DAYS, Effective January 1, 2005.

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

TREASURER’S OFFICE

Request a Motion to accept the following Financial Statement as submitted:

**LUZERNE COUNTY TREASURER’S OFFICE
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
January 5, 2005**

WACHOVIA BANK

General Fund.....	\$ 14,784,554.90
School, Road & Institution District.....	1,250,157.29
Real Estate Tax Sale Account	508,747.16
Self Insured Workers Compensation Fund.....	39,640.06
Court of Common Pleas - Domestic Relations IV-D Fund	1,712,611.36
Patients’ Personal Fund Account	96,848.08
911 Construction Fund.....	1,790,302.61
911 Operational Fund.....	13,658.30

PNC BANK, NORTHEAST, PA.

Luzerne County Fiscal Agencies:

Office for the Aging	\$ 468,716.58
Children & Youth Department.....	1,201,164.28
Mental Health/Mental Retardation.....	39,907.54
Drug & Alcohol Program.....	405,822.31
Office of Human Services.....	7,762.32
Human Services Agencies/Transportation Department.....	58,285.93
Liquid Fuels Tax Fund	641,767.63
Luzerne County GWBIF Escrow Account	27,279.84
1997 Series Parking & Office Relocation Fund	0.00

CITIZENS BANK

Adult Probation Special Account	\$ 1,328,679.78
Luzerne County Bridges.....	10,810.78
Hazardous Material Emergency Response Account	254,991.54
EMA Radiation Emergency Response Fund.....	31,847.98

FIRST NATIONAL COMMUNITY BANK

Luzerne County Convention and Visitors Bureau	\$ 32,348.30
Luzerne County Agencies Account	2,358,298.74
Luzerne County Solid Waste Recycle Account	170,494.58
Luzerne County Property Tax Collection	122,760.71

FIDELITY DEPOSIT & DISCOUNT BANK

Wyoming Valley Airport Account.....	\$ 21,236.30
Adult Probation/Offenders Supervision Fund	71,669.04
Tri-County Airport Feasibility Study	35,686.34
Luzerne County 2002 Capital Projects	1,064,142.88
Workmans’ Compensation Insurance Reserve Account.....	38,083.40
Luzerne County 2003 Capital Projects	306,772.49
Luzerne County 2003 D Capital Projects	0.00

**LUZERNE COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE
CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT
December 28, 2004**

Self Insured Workers Compensation Fund	\$1,150,000.00
Luzerne County Fiscal Agencies	
Mental Health/Mental Retardation	\$2,200,000.00
Office of Human Services	\$270,000.00
Transportation Department	\$1,095,000.00
Drug & Alcohol	\$375,000.00
Luzerne County Solid Waste Recycle Account	\$336,000.00
Total	\$5,426,000.00

Request a Motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented.

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

Request a Motion to accept the following bids for tabulation subject to review by the county solicitor.

E-Z Fall Mats

No Bids

Pressure Reduction Mattresses

No Bids

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

HUMAN SERVICE – JACK McCUTCHEON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT:

A Resolution authorizing submission of the 2005/2006 Community Transportation/5310 Capitol Equipment Grant Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

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

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</u>
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AGING:

Luzerne County Community College	Pre-Employment Training (Senior Aides)	11/15/04- 1/15/05	\$7,450
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CHILDREN & YOUTH:

Children's Service Center	Group Home- Room & Board	11/1/04-6/30/05	\$65.85/day
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St. Michael's School	Short-Term Stay	“ “	\$175.00/day
Yolanda S. Malesky	Spanish Interpreter	12/21/04-6/30/04	\$3,000
Amalia Ramoz	Spanish Interpreter	“ “	\$3,000
Shining Stars, Inc.	Day Care	11/1/04-6/30/05	
		Daily	Half Day
	Infants	\$22.50	\$18.50
	Toddlers	\$22.50	\$18.50
	Preschool	\$18.50	\$14.50
	Before and/or After Kind.	\$16.50	

	Before or after School AM	\$5.50	
<u>PROVIDER</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>RATE</u>

CHILDREN & YOUTH: (Cont.)

Before or after School PM \$6.50

School Early Dismissals – Add \$5.00 to Regular Rate
 School Holidays, Snow Days - \$18.00/day
 Summer Day Camp - \$18.00/day

Infants, 1 Year, 2 Years \$5.50/hour
 3Years, 4 Years, School Age \$5.00/hour

MENTAL HEALTH/MENTAL RETARDATION:

Robert A. Scott, Ph.D. MH Community Services 11/15/04 \$1,200

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

A MOTION TO AMEND THE FOLLOWING CONTRACTS FOR THE PROVIDERS, SERVICES, TERMS AND RATES SPECIFIED:

<u>PROVIDER</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>TERM</u>	<u>RATE</u>	
			<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>

AGING:

Berwick Adult Day Care	Day Care	7/1/04 – 6/30/05	\$7,000	\$17,100
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MENTAL HEALTH/MENTAL RETARDATION:

Community Counseling Services	MH Comm Srvs, ICM, 7/1/03-6/30/04	\$4,320,032	\$5,633,184
	Outpatient, Day Trmt., Comm. Employ., Soc. Rehab., Residential, Crisis, Res. Coord., Adm. Mgmt., Emergency, MR ADT, Family Driven, HBW & P/F/DS Waiver		

Northeast Counseling Srvs.	MH Comm. Srvs., ICM, “ “	\$2,245,476	\$2,903,634
	Outpatient, Day Trmt., Crisis, Comm. Employ., Soc. Rehab., Res. Coord., Adm. Mgmt., & Emergency		

Children's Service Center	MH Comm. Srvs, ICM, “ “	\$1,493,721	\$2,132,326
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Outpatient, Day Trmt.,
Crisis, Family Support,
Res. Coord., Family Based,
Adm. Mgmt., & Emergency

CCS-First Hospital MH Inpatient Services “ “ \$350,000 \$351,617
Division

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

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT – JAMES BROZENA, COUNTY ENGINEER

Request a Motion to award the Luzerne County Courthouse ADA and Security Upgrades
Electrical Construction Contract to Brennan electric, Inc. Edwardsville, at the low bid amount of
\$61,875.00

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

Request a Motion to award the Luzerne County Courthouse ADA and Security Upgrades
General Construction Contract to Panzitta Enterprises, Inc., Wilkes-Barre, at the low bid amount
of \$69,000.00.

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

Request a Motion to award the Hazleton Paper Company Building Demolition Contract of
Lycoming Supply, Inc., Williamsport, at the low bid amount of \$49,343.12.

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

Request a Motion to authorize the proper officials to execute an agreement with High Safety
Consulting Services, LTD in the amount of \$9,998.00 to provide Assistance Loss Control
Services for Self-Insured Employers for calendar year 2005.

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

ROAD AND BRIDGE DEPARTMENT – JAMES BROZENA, ACTING DIRECTOR

No Agenda

VALLEY CREST – JAMES MILLER, ADMINISTRATOR

No Agenda

PROPERTY AND SUPPLY – WILLIAM P. BURKE, DIRECTOR

LUZERNE COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENT AGENDA:

REQUEST PERMISSION TO ADVERTISE THE FOLLOWING:

Cleaning Service for the Juvenile Detention Center, Pittston Twp., PA.

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

PLANNING COMMISSION – ADRIAN F. MEROLLI, DIRECTOR

No Agenda

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – SANDRA RUSSELL, DIRECTOR

Request a Motion authorizing the adoption of a resolution by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Luzerne, approving the sale of 171 rental units and transfer of loan obligations to the County, in the amount of \$2.6 million from the Housing Development Corporation of NEPA to the Housing Authority of the County of Luzerne.

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

Request a Motion authorizing the adoption of a resolution by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Luzerne, approving the Luzerne County Consolidate Plan for the Fiscal Year 2005 through 2010, along with the Fiscal Year 2005 Action Plan, and authorizing the Chairman fo the Board of Commissioners to execute any and all documents relative to the Consolidated Plan and the application for and receipt of Community Development Block Grant (\$6,014,000), HOME (\$1,066,559) and Emergency Shelter Grant (\$222,147) Funds.

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

**PERSONNEL – SAMUEL T. GUESTO, COUNTY MANAGER FOR LEGISLATION
AND CHIEF CLERK**

APPOINTMENTS:

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENT

AT CORONERS OFFICE:

William Finnegan, Solicitor at an annual salary \$10,374.00 effective January 1, 2005. To fill vacancy.

AT LUZERNE COUNTY 911:

TRISCIA JONES, 426 WASHINGTON STREET, WHITE HAVEN,

TELECOMMUNICATOR @ \$21,500.00 PER ANNUM.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 7, 2005. TO FILL VACANCY.

AT RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

THE FOLLOWING RECREATION AIDES AT \$6.00 PER HOUR, 250 HOURS,

EFFECTIVE JAUARY 6, 2005

Martha Miller.Seth Serbel, Sandra Wegrzynowicz,

AT CHILDREN & YOUTH:

Eladio Matos, Hazleton as a Caseworker 2 (ps# 21-Y740-L0624-0062) at an annual salary of \$26,825 effective December 27, 2004.

Michael Benzi, Mountain Top as a Clerk 3 (ps# 21-Y740-L0013-0003) at an annual salary of \$20,890 effective January 3, 2005.

DRUG & ALCOHOL:

John Judge, Wyoming as a Drug & Alcohol Casemanagement Specialist (ps# 007-K040-L0683-0003) at an annual salary of \$25,325 effective January 7, 2005.

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

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL TRANSFERS

AT: VALLEY CREST:

Deborah Ciannilli

LPN 3-11

effective 1-3-05

4 Carroll Street Pittston, Pa.		transfer from Per Diem to Full Time
Stewart Bender 1 Kopko Drive Wilkes-Barre, Pa.	Maintenance	effective 12-20-04 transfer to Boiler Room Supervisor
Rosalie Booth 8 Bond Avenue Swoyersville, Pa.	Laundry Aide	effective 1-3-05 transfer to Env. Service Aide
Frank Sandor 46 Fox Ridge Court Wilkes-Barre, Pa.	Environmental Services	effective 1-1-05 transfer to Dietary Aide
John Womelsdorf 294 Carey Avenue Wilkes-Barre, Pa.	Environmental Services	effective 1-3-05 transfer to Dietary Aide
Kristen Kmush 22 Midtown Village Larksville, Pa.	Dietary Aide	effective 1-3-05 transfer to Auxiliary Aide
Cathy Cometa 213 Exeter Avenue	Activity Aide	effective 1-3-05 Restorative Aide

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

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RECLASSIFICATIONS AT AGING:

The Reclassification of Marie Olver to Food Service Worker 1 (ps# 10-0G140-L1031-0013) at an hourly rate of \$8.91 effective January 17, 2005.

CHILDREN & YOUTH:

A Change in the Reclassification Date for Kate Comny to Caseworker 2 (ps# 21-Y740-L0624-0036) at an annual salary at \$26,825 effective December 27, 2004.

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

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING LAYOFFS AT VALLEY CREST:

Kathy Donlin 52 Church Street Plymouth, Pa.	Dietary Aide	effective 12-31-04 Layoff
Christine Smith 1277 Main Street Jenkins Twp., Pa.	Environmental Services	effective 12-31-04 Layoff

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

REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESIGNATION AT CORONERS OFFICE:

Joseph P. Giovannini, Solicitor effective December 31, 2004.

AT LUZERNE COUNTY 911:

JEFFREY FOX – 54 OREGON STREET, WILKES-BARRE, PA. TELECOMMUNICATOR –RESIGNED- EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 14, 2004. VALLEY CREST:

Janine Mayewski LPN 3-11 effective 12-16-04
 48 East Noble Street Resigned
 Nanticoke, Pa.

Dawn Mazonis CNA 3-11 effective 12/23/04
 26 W Grand Street Resigned
 Nanticoke, Pa.

Christina Firmin CNA 3-11 effective 12-10-04
 113M Country Club Estates Resigned
 Thornhurst, Pa.

Jacqueline M. DeMoraes RN 7-3 effective 1-3-05
 633 McKinley St. Apt.205 Resigned
 Hazleton, Pa.

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

**REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RETIREMENT
 AT VALLEY CREST:**

Margaret Kreski CNA 11-7 effective 1-5-05
 244 Village Drive Retired
 Hunlock Creek, Pa.

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

**REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TERMINATION
 AT TRANSPORTATION:**

John Breznitsky, Driver (ps# 88-LWCTD-9210-0012) effective January 5, 2005.

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

**REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING LEAVE OF ABSENCE
 AT AGING:**

A Leave of Absence Without Pay for Sharon Considine, Aging Care Manager 2 (ps# 10-G140-L0635-0030) effective December 22, 2004.

TRANSPORTATION:

A Leave Without Pay for Timothy Cerullo, Driver (ps# 86-LWCTD-9201-0014) effective December 27 and 28, 2004.

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

**A MOTION TO APPROVE/RATIFY THE FOLLOWING TRAININGS FOR A TOTAL
 COST OF APPROXIMATELY \$1,295.00:**

<u>ATTENDEE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>COST</u>
<u>DRUG & ALCOHOL:</u>				
Martha Dempsey	Model Programs Institute	New Brunswick, NJ	1/25-1/26/05	\$157
<u>MENTAL HEALTH/MENTAL RETARDATION:</u>				
Nick Moranski	MH/MR Administrators	Hershey	1/13-1/14/05	\$340
Denyse Duaine Judy Kresky Mary Ann Benick Paulette Zerfoss	Brain Training: New Hope for Autism	Wilkes-Barre	1/26-1/27/05	\$420

January 5, 2005

OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES:

Carlie Wetzel Excel Computer Training Wilkes-Barre 1/19/05 \$378
Kathy Fiske
Mary Grebeck
Susan Yozwiak

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

A Motion was entertained to adjourn the Commissioners’ Meeting.

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

Respectfully,



Patricia Wilk, Recording Secretary