WEST VIRGINIA:

At a regular session of the County Commission, held for the County of Mercer, at the Courthouse thereof, on Tuesday, May 12, 2020,

Present (by phone):	Gene Buckner,	President
Present (by phone):	Greg Puckett,	Commissioner
Present:	Bill Archer,	Commissioner

RE: OATH – MERCER COUNTY FIRE SERVICE BOARD

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Bill Archer, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Appointment and Oath of Office for Kathy Short to serve as board member for the Mercer County Fire Service Board.

RE: RESOLUTION HONORING NORMAN IRA PLATNICK, PH.D.

This day on motion of Bill Archer, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to accept the Resolution Honoring Norman Ira Platnick, Ph.D. "The Real Spider-Man"

RESOLUTION HONORING NORMAN IRA PLATNICK, PH.D.
"THE REAL SPIDER-MAN"

Whereas, Norman Ira Platnick, Ph.D., a Mercer County child prodigy, who distinguished himself as a biological systematist, arachnologist and the world's foremost authority on spiders, died on April 8, 2020, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania as a result of complications from a fall in his home. He was 68; and,

Whereas, Dr. Platnick was the son of Ida and Phillip Platnick. His father was First Vice President of Platnick Brothers Inc., a metal recycling business located in Bluefield, Va. Dr. Platnick attended public schools in the Bluefields through seventh grade and entered Concord (now) University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1967 at the age of 16. During his senior year at CU, he was collecting millipedes for a class on arthropods, but experienced better luck collecting spiders. After studying one specimen three hours to determine its genus, he found he enjoyed the study of spiders; and,

Whereas, after earning his undergraduate degree from Concord, Dr. Platnick entered Michigan State University where he earned a Master of Science degree in biology at age 18. He then attended Harvard University where he earned his Ph.D., in 1973 at age 21, and later that same year, joined the American Museum of Natural History in New York City; and

Whereas, soon after joining the American Museum of Natural History, Dr. Platnick had an impact on the field of cladistics, a field that categorizes species along the lines of shared characteristics to build evolutionary trees. Colleagues at the Museum have employed Dr. Platnick's methodology to promote greater understanding of the evolution of other species; and

Whereas, during the course of his life, Dr. Platnick published six books along with 330 scientific papers. As a result of the popularity of the "Spider-Man" comic books and movies, the Museum of Natural History frequently promoted Dr. Platnick's work. Tobey Maguire and Andrew Garfield – the stars of two of the Spider-Man movies visited the Museum and media covering the events identified Dr. Platnick as "The Real Spider-Man:" and

Whereas, during the course of his career, Dr. Platnick was recognized as a world leader in spider taxonomy, and Dr. Quentin D. Wheeler characterized Dr. Platnick as: "The best arachnologist of his generation." Dr. Platnick has had four genera of spiders named for him as well as 48 species of spiders, other arachnids and a millipede, according to information in a "New York Times," article concerning Dr. Platnick's death;

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Mercer County Commission recognizes the life's work of Dr. Norman Ira Platnick for advancing not only the world's understanding of spiders, but also his development of methodology that expands mankind's understanding of evolutionary traits in all species.

Dated this 12th day of May, 2020.

MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION:

/s/ Gene Buckner
Gene Buckner, President

/s/ Greg Puckett
Greg Puckett, Commissioner

/s/ Bill Archer
Bill Archer, Commissioner

RE: DRAWDOWN – CUMBERLAND INDUSTRIAL PARK BROADBAND EXPANSION PROJECT

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Bill Archer, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to accept Drawdown #1 in the amount of $11,000 for the Cumberland Industrial Park Broadband Expansion Project.

RE: GRANT – 2020 HAVA CARES ACT

This day on motion of Bill Archer, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to accept the 2020 HAVA CARES Act grant application request in the amount of $22,726. This is for reimbursement of absentee ballot request postcards.

RE: ESTATE – AYDEN JAYCE KNIGHT – DECEASED

BEFORE THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF MERCER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

IN RE: AYDEN JAYCE KNIGHT, DECEASED.

O-R-D-E-R

On the 12th day of May, 2020, before the Mercer County Commission, came the matter of the Estate of Ayden Jayce Knight, deceased, upon petition of Timothy J. Manchin, Attorney for said estate, requesting that the current Administratrix, Alana Simpson, be removed, and Lane O. Austin, Attorney, be appointed as Administrator of said estate, as this would be beneficial to the estate in conducting litigation for a wrongful death lawsuit.

After a discussion and review of this matter by the Commission, upon proper motion and second, and it appearing proper to do so, the Commission **ORDERS** that Lane O. Austin, Attorney, be appointed as Administrator, of the estate of Ayden Jayce Knight, deceased, and personal representative be removed. Bond in the amount of $1,000.00 is to remain.

All of which was accordingly **ADJUDGED** and **ORDERED.** The Clerk of this Commission is **DIRECTED** to take whatever actions he deems necessary to effectuate this Order**.**

Dated this the 12th day of May, 2020.

ENTER:

/s/A. Gene Buckner
A. GENE BUCKNER, PRESIDENT
MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION

ATTEST:

/s/Verlin T. Moye
VERLIN T. MOYE, CLERK
MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION

RE: ESTATE – MATHEW A. TABOR – DECEASED

BEFORE THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF MERCER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

IN RE: MATHEW A. TABOR, DECEASED.

O-R-D-E-R

On the 12th day of May, 2020, before the Mercer County Commission, came the matter of the Estate of Matthew A. Tabor, deceased, upon motion of Wayne S. Stonestreet, Fiduciary Commissioner, requesting that the estate be reopened for the purpose of income tax refunds payable to said estate.

After discussion and review of this matter by the Commission, upon proper motion and second, and it appearing proper to do so, the Commission **ORDERS** that the estate of Matthew A. Tabor, deceased, shall be reopened, and that Diana D. Tabor be allowed to serve as Administratrix, with bond in the amount of $675,320.68 to remain until the closure of the estate.

All of which was accordingly **ADJUDGED** and **ORDERED.** The Clerk of this Commission is **DIRECTED** to take whatever actions he deems necessary to effectuate this Order**.**

Dated this the 12th day of May, 2020.

ENTER:

/s/A. Gene Buckner_____
A. GENE BUCKNER, PRESIDENT
MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION

ATTEST:

/s/Verlin T. Moye_____
VERLIN T. MOYE, CLERK
MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION

RE: ESTATE – PHYLLIS E. GRAVELY – DECEASED

BEFORE THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF MERCER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

IN RE: PHYLLIS E. GRAVELY, DECEASED.

O-R-D-E-R

On the 12th day of May, 2020, before the Mercer County Commission, came the matter of the Estate of Phyllis E. Gravely, deceased, upon motion of Henry Thomas and Amanda Williams, requesting that the personal representative, Angela Marie Lambert, be removed, and Amanda Williams be appointed as Administratrix of said estate.

After a discussion and review of this matter by the Commission, upon proper motion and second, and it appearing proper to do so, the Commission **ORDERS** that the matter of the estate of Phyllis E. Gravely, deceased, be tabled until the next County Commission meeting tentatively scheduled for June 10, 2020.

All of which was accordingly **ADJUDGED** and **ORDERED.** The Clerk of this Commission is **DIRECTED** to take whatever actions he deems necessary to effectuate this Order**.**

Dated this the 12th day of May, 2020.

ENTER:

/s/A. Gene Buckner
A. GENE BUCKNER, PRESIDENT
MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION

ATTEST:

/s/Verlin T. Moye
VERLIN T. MOYE, CLERK
MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION

RE: ESTATE – MARY M. TINDER – DECEASED

BEFORE THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF MERCER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

IN RE: MARY M. TINDER, DECEASED.

O-R-D-E-R

On the 12th day of May, 2020, before the Mercer County Commission, came the matter of the Estate of Mary M. Tinder, deceased, upon request of Charles W. Pace, Fiduciary Commissioner, requesting that the Sheriff of Mercer County, T. A. Bailey, be appointed Administrator CTA DBN of said estate, and that the Executor, James F. Bailey, II, be removed for failure to complete his duties as Executor of said estate.

After a discussion and review of this matter by the Commission, upon proper motion and second, and it appearing proper to do so, the Commission **ORDERS** that the Sheriff of Mercer County, T. A. Bailey, shall qualify as Administrator CTA DBN over the estate of Mary M. Tinder, deceased, without bond per provisions of said will.

All of which was accordingly **ADJUDGED** and **ORDERED.** The Clerk of this Commission is **DIRECTED** to take whatever actions he deems necessary to effectuate this Order**.**

Dated this the 12th day of May, 2020.

ENTER:

/s/A. Gene Buckner
A. GENE BUCKNER, PRESIDENT
MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION

ATTEST:

/s/Verlin T. Moye
VERLIN T. MOYE, CLERK
MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION

RE: PROPOSAL – PROTECTIVE SHIELDS IN COUNTY OFFICES

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Bill Archer, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to extend contract with Eastern Door & Glass to install protective shields in county offices with funding up to $25,000.

RE: PROPOSALS – COURTHOUSE BOILER UPGRADES

This day on motion of Bill Archer, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to table the proposals on courthouse boiler upgrades.

RE: PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS – JUNE 2020 COMMISSION MEETING

This day a public announcement was made that the Commission Meeting scheduled for June 9, 2020 has been changed to June 10, 2020 due to Election Day.

This day came Brandon Hicks, by representative, and moved the Commission to correct the Land Books for 2020, touching the assessment thereon against the said Brandon Hicks, on Lot 8 (2.33 Acs) Clark Estates II Plat 8075, Plymouth District, County of Mercer, State of West Virginia. Prosecuting Attorney waiving notice thereto.

After hearing all the evidence in the case and it appearing to the Commission that the property assessed for $75,660 class 3 – should be assessed for $75,660 class 2. It is therefore ordered that Brandon Hicks be exonerated from the payment of taxes, or if the taxes have been paid, shall be refunded by the Sheriff of Mercer County on such erroneous assessment.

Amount of Exoneration $564.01

This day came Barbara Reichard, by representative, and moved the Commission to correct the Land Books for 2019, touching the assessment thereon against the said Barbara Reichard, on Lot 22 Pt 24 Main & Block Storage & owner lives Pt upstairs, Bramwell District, County of Mercer, State of West Virginia. Prosecuting Attorney waiving notice thereto.

After hearing all the evidence in the case and it appearing to the Commission that the property assessed for $121,440 class 4 – should be assessed for $121,440 class 2. It is therefore ordered that Barbara Reichard be exonerated from the payment of taxes, or if the taxes have been paid, shall be refunded by the Sheriff of Mercer County on such erroneous assessment.

Amount of Exoneration $1,674.90

PETITION FOR CANCELLATION OF ERRONEOUS CHARGES
DATE 5/5/2020

Tax Year 2019
Plymouth District

TICKET #	NAME	REASON		AMOUNT
911615	Long Shot Inc.	Out of business 7/1/2018.	$	12,357.98

This day the following accounts were presented against the County of Mercer, and the Commission having examined each and all of them, doth allow payment from the different accounts, check numbers listed below:

GENERAL COUNTY	- Check #72924-73001	
COAL SEVERANCE	- Check #3959-3971	
JUSTICE FINES	- Check #5348	
HOME CONFINEMENT	- Check #2467-2468	
HOTEL MOTEL	- Check #4037-4054	
COURTHOUSE EQUIPMENT	- Check #794-796	
COURTHOUSE ANNEX	- Check #1641-1645	
VIDEO LOTTERY	- Check #1395-1401	
MCDRC FEES	- Check #5221-5231	
ASSESSOR REAPPRAISAL	- Check #6354-6370	Void# 6361
FINANCIAL STABILIZATION	- Check #1038	
DRUG FORFEITURE	- Check #236	
SHERIFF DRUG FUND	- Check #1090	
DEPUTY SHERIFF RETIREMENT	- Check #280	

It is ordered that this Commission be and is hereby adjourned until Tuesday, June 10, 2020.

_____PRESIDENT