

**RESOLUTION # 2 of 2022 CLARION COUNTY**

**JANUARY 10, 2022**

A RESOLUTION OF CLARION COUNTY AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE EMERGENCY SUCCESSION OF COUNTY OFFICERS AND THE CONTINUITY OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 779.6 and 779.7 of the Emergency Interim Executive and Judicial Succession Act of 1959 (71 P.S. 779.1 et seq.) All counties of the Commonwealth are authorized to enact resolutions or ordinances to assure the continuity of government through a legally constituted leadership process that will provide for the effective operation of county government during an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Clarion County desires to establish a lawful order of succession to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of County government if one or more Commissioners are absent or unable to exercise his or her powers and duties of office during an emergency that occurs within this County; and

WHEREAS, The Commissioners of Clarion County believe that the public health, safety, and welfare of all the residents of this County will be better served and protected by the adoption of this Resolution.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners of Clarion County, as follows:

Section 1. This Resolution shall take effect whenever any Commissioners of Clarion County are unavailable to exercise the powers and duties of his or her office during the occurrence of any human caused or natural occurring disaster as defined by Section 7102 of the Emergency Management Services Code (35 Pa. C.S. 7101 et seq.) as amended. Unavailable shall mean either that a vacancy in a commissioner's office exists and there is no individual authorized to exercise all the powers and discharge the duties of that office or that the lawful incumbent Commissioner(s) is absent from the County or unable to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of his or her office due to illness, accident, or injury, or some other preventive circumstance.

Section 2. During the occurrence of any human cause or natural occurring disaster in Clarion County and the unavailability of any County Commissioner, the following order of succession shall be exercised to assure the continuity of County Government:

- (1) Commissioner Chairperson
- (2) Commissioner Vice-Chairperson
- (3) Commissioner Secretary
- (4) Chief Clerk

(5) Public Safety Director

Section 3. Each succeeding Acting Commissioner listed above shall, during the occurrence of a disaster, assume and discharge the powers and duties of any unavailable Commissioner or Acting Commissioner, and shall retain those powers and duties until the exercise of the powers and discharge the duties of his or her office or until a vacancy which may exist shall be filled in accordance with the law.

Section 4. The order of succession listed above in Section 2 of this Resolution shall be revised whenever a vacancy occurs, and a new Commissioner is appointed to fill that vacancy. Otherwise, at the first organizational meeting held at the beginning of each new term of office, the elected Commissioners shall adopt a Resolution that contains a renewed order of succession that will provide for the continuity of County government during that term of office.

Section 5. All other county elected officers shall designate, by order of succession, three (3) deputies or emergency interim successors who are legally authorized to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of his or her office whenever the elected officer is unavailable during the occurrence of any human caused or natural occurring disaster. A written list of the designated successors for each officer shall be delivered to the County's Emergency Management Agency for verification purposes.

Section 6. All resolutions or parts of resolutions heretofore enacted, as those resolutions shall be inconsistent with this Resolution, shall be and are expressly repealed and declared to be null and void.

Section 7. This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

DULY ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, CLARION COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, in lawful session duly assembled this 11<sup>th</sup> day of January 2022.

CLARION COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Theodore W. Tharan, Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Wayne R. Brosius, Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
C. Edward Heasley, Commissioner

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jillian M. Fischer, County Administrator