The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 17 OF 2019

WHEREAS, in April of 1993, in response to Act 78 of 1990, Commissioners Bumberger, Sciabia, and Bierly began the concept of a County-wide communications system with the appointment of its first coordinator, Ellwood G. Williams Jr.; and

WHEREAS, in February of 1994, coordinator Williams and the Board of Commissioners appointed officials from the County’s first responder agencies to the Centre County Communications Advisory Committee to allow them to lend their expertise and guidance on the buildout of the new County-wide communications system; and

WHEREAS, in April of 1994, the County hired the initial group of 9-1-1 dispatchers, known in the industry as Public Safety Telecommunicators, to staff the 9-1-1 Center. The group of sixteen received weeks of training and required certifications in preparation to “go-live”; and

WHEREAS, the Centre County Emergency Communications System officially went on the air on June 1, 1994 and handled 83 calls for service that first day. Today, dispatchers handle an average of just under 400 calls per day; and

WHEREAS, currently each of the 23 emergency communications professions must achieve and maintain through hours of continuing education, six separate certifications; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Centre County’s Department of 9-1-1 Emergency Communications is to handle a wide range of call types, emergency and non-emergency, and provide service aimed at maintaining the quality of life for citizens and visitors to Centre County; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby recognize the 25TH Anniversary of the Centre County 91-1 Emergency Communications System.

ADOPTED this 4th day of June 2019.

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Michael Pipe, Chair

Mark Higgins, Vice-Chair

Steven G. Dershem

ATTEST:

Margareta N. Gray, Administrator
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[Signature]
Margaret N. Gray, Administrator