BARRETT TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS
MINUTES OF THE REORGANIZATION MEETING OF JANUARY 5, 2026

The Reorganization Meeting of the Barrett Township Board of Supervisors was held Monday, January 5, 2026, at the Barrett Township Administrative and Recreational Building on Route 390 in Cresco, PA. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Township Solicitor Todd Weitzmann.

Present: Grant Hilfiger, Pam Gardsy Patti O'Keefe, Darryl Speicher, Solicitor Todd Weitzmann, Nichole Irvin and the public.

Solicitor Todd Weitzmann opened the floor to nominations for Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. Patti O'Keefe made a motion to nominate Grant Hilfiger. The motion was seconded by Pam Gardsy. As there were no other nominations for Chairman, the motion was carried, and all Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger opened the floor to nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. Grant Hilfiger made a motion to nominate Patti O'Keefe as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher. As there were no other nominations for the office of Vice-Chairman, the motion carried, and all Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger opened the floor to nominations for Secretary. Grant Hilfiger made a motion to nominate Darryl Speicher as Secretary of the Board of Supervisors. The motion was seconded by Pam Gardsy. As there were no other nominations for the office of Secretary, the motion carried, and all Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger opened the floor to nominations for Assistant Secretary. Grant Hilfiger made a motion to nominate Pam Gardsy as Assistant Secretary of the Board of Supervisors. The motion was seconded by Patti O'Keefe. As there were no other nominations for the office of Assistant Secretary, the motion carried, and all Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to re-appoint Pam Gardsy as the Administrative and Operations Director at a recommended rate of $ 37.13 per hour. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. Pam Gardsy abstained due to a conflict of interest. All other Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to appoint Darryl Speicher to take over as Assistant Treasurer in the event that injury, serious illness, or death; prevents the Treasurer from performing his/her duties. The motion was seconded by Patti O'Keefe and carried. Darryl Speicher abstained due to a conflict of interest. All other Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to appoint, Maintenance Superintendent, Jim Seese. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to appoint Assistant Maintenance Superintendent, Shane Schratt. The motion was seconded by Pam Gardsy and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to reappoint Patti O'Keefe as Chief Administrative Officer of the Non-Uniform Pension Plan, which is administered by Equitable and Conrad Siegel. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to reappoint Deanna Schmoyer as Township Engineer at a rate of $105.00 per hour. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to reappoint Hanover Engineering as Alternate Township Engineer as per the 2026 fee schedule. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to appoint Claudia Shoesmith-Fox as Bookkeeper at a rate of $ 1025.00/month, with additional work billed at $ 60.00/hr. The motion was seconded by Pam Gardsy and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to appoint Zach Karasek – Ott Engineering, as Township Sewage Enforcement Officer. The motion was seconded by Pam Gardsy and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to reappoint Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer (when the Sewage Enforcement Officer has a conflict of interest or is absent) – **Steve Gitch at a part time rate of $ 28.66 per hour, and $ 35.00 for inspections and mileage for vehicle use at the Internal Revenue mileage rate**.
Additionally, Pam Gardsy made a motion to appoint Jeryl Reinhart to fill the appointment of Alternate SEO based off her 30-year tenure as full time SEO with Barrett prior to her retirement. Patti O'Keefe stated that in the past, the alternate SEO, Steve Gitch was not utilized and agreed with Pam that Jeryl is familiar with properties in Barrett Township should the need arise to utilize an alternate SEO. Patti O'Keefe made a second to appoint Jeryl Reinhart. Darryl Speicher made a second to reappoint Steve Gitch. There was discussion, and Solicitor Todd Weitzmann recommended leaving the position vacant if there was no urgent need to fill. The board agreed.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to reappoint Nichole Irvin as Township Zoning Officer at the rate of $22.66 per hour and mileage for vehicle use that is set at the Internal Revenue Service mileage rate. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to appoint an alternate Zoning Officer when the Zoning Officer has a conflict of interest or is absent. Grant stated that the position was usually filled by Rich Furs with Lehigh Valley Codes. However, they are moving on from Barrett Township. The future BCO may likely fill this vacancy. For now, the position will remain vacant. Upon discussion, Grant Hilfiger made a new motion to defer the motion for alternate for further action. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to defer appointment of the Building Code Enforcement Officer vacancy for future action. The motion was seconded by Pam Gardsy and carried. All Supervisors vote aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to reappoint Nichole Irvin as the Recording Secretary to the Barrett Township Supervisors and Planning Commission at the normal hourly rate. The motion was seconded by Patti O'Keefe and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Pam Gardsy made a motion to appoint Grant Hilfiger as the Right to Know Officer. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. Grant Hilfiger abstained due to conflict of interest All other Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to appoint Nichole Irvin as Assistant Right to Know Officer. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All other Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to acknowledge and discuss the position of Grant Writer at a recommended rate of $ 10,000/year and take no action at this time. Grant Hilfiger stated that he feels there needs to be a position description, set expectations for the job, and a clear line of time division of other titles and/or supervisor duties. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. Pam Gardsy abstained due to conflict of interest. All other Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to appoint Don Slater as the Township Emergency Management Coordinator. The motion was seconded by Patti O'Keefe and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to appoint Andrew Price as the Township Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to reappoint Andrew D. Price to the Vacancy Board. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

The Barrett Township Board of Auditors is listed as follows:
Karen Herring - term expires the first Monday of 2027
Nathan Covington – term expires the first Monday of 2030
Christine Macaluso – term expires the first Monday of 2028

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to reappoint Patti O'Keefe to a 4-year term on the Barrett Township Planning Commission, which will expire December 31, 2030. The motion was seconded by Pam Gardsy and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.
The Barrett Township Planning Commission members are as follows:

Brick Linder	term expires	December 31, 2027
William Pipolo, Jr.	term expires	December 31, 2027
Ralph Megliola	term expires	December 31, 2027

Peter Pipolo - Alternate

Zoning Hearing Board:
Grant Hilfiger made a motion to reappoint Ralph Fish Jr. to a 3-year term on the Barrett Township Zoning Hearing Board, which will expire December 31, 2028. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.
The Barrett Township Zoning members are as follows:

Richard Price, Jr.	term expires	December 31, 2025
Loree Guthrie	term expires	December 31, 2027

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to reappoint Rick Scrudato as an Alternate Zoning Hearing Board member in the event of a conflict of interest of one of the regular members. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to reappoint Charlene Barry as the P.A.R.C. Representative for Barrett Township. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Pam Gardsy made a motion to reappoint the following Environmental Advisory Committee Members for a 3-year term ending January 1, 2027: Patti O'Keefe and Jennifer Mitterder. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. Patti O'Keefe abstained due to a conflict of interest. All other Supervisors voted aye.
The Environmental Advisory Council is as follows:

Darryl Speicher	term expires	January 1, 2029
Sally Duffy	term expires	January 1, 2029
Jennifer Mitterder	term expires	January 1, 2027
Patti O'Keefe	term expires	January 1, 2027
(vacancy)		

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to reappoint the following Members to a 1-Year term ending December 31, 2026, to the U.C.C. Appeals Board:

David Price	Samuel Prynda
Vincent Piacente	Chadd Gray
(vacancy)	

The motion was seconded by Patti O'Keefe and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to reappoint the following Members to a 1-Year term ending December 31, 2026, to the Property Maintenance Appeals Board:

David Price	Samuel Prynda
Vincent Piacente	Chadd Gray
(vacancy)	

The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to reappoint the following Members to a 1-year term ending December 31, 2026, to the Architectural Review Committee:

William Hopkins	Karl Weiler	Brick Linder
Annie Grill	Fran Durst	Jeff Rudder
Ralph Megliola		

The motion was seconded by Pam Gardsy and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to reappoint and appoint the following Members to a 1-year term ending December 31, 2026. to the High Acres Park Committee:

Angela Jones – Price	Dina Rinehart	Kelsie Bartholomew
Lucas Donlan	Blake Reinhart	Harry Ladlee, Jr.
Jaeryl Rinehart		

The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to appoint or reappoint the following Supervisors to responsible for the following departments:
Admin Offices: Darryl Speicher, interim Admin. Supervisor (motion by Grant, 2nd by Patti)
Police Department: Grant Hilfiger (motion by Darryl, 2nd by Patti)
Fire Company: Pam Gardsy (motion by Grant, 2nd by Patti)
Maintenance: Darryl Speicher (motion by Grant, 2nd by Pam)
High Acres Park Committee: Pam Gardsy (motion by Grant, 2nd by Darryl)
COG representative: Patti O'Keefe (motion by Grant, 2nd by Pam)
Library Board: Darryl Speicher (motion by Grant, 2nd by Pam)
EAC: Darryl Speicher and Patti O'Keefe (motion by Grant, 2nd by Pam)
PMR Ambulance Board: Grant Hilfiger (motion by Darryl, 2nd by Patti)
ARC: Grant Hilfiger (motion by Pam, 2nd by Darryl)
PARC: Patti O'Keefe (motion by Grant, 2nd by Pam)

All supervisors voted aye and the motion carried.

It shall be noted that prior to voting Darryl Speicher as the interim admin Supervisor. Darryl Speicher made a motion to appoint Patti O'Keefe as the Administrative Office Supervisor. The motion was seconded by Pam Gardsy. Grant Hilfiger began discussion in opposition to the motion made by Darryl. Patti O'Keefe abstained due to conflict of interest. There were many comments made by the public asking for Patti's qualifications. She provided her qualifications relating to teaching, public outreach, and conflict for 40 years. Grant then provided his qualifications, eventually leaning toward a motion in his favor. When the board hit a "deadlock" Grant reverted to a previous suggestion that Darryl brought up which was considering a motion to appoint Darryl Speicher as interim Admin Supervisor until the Board vacancy was filled and a 3-2 vote could be secured. Grant made that motion, and it was seconded by Patti O'Keefe. All supervisors voted aye and the motion carried

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to appoint the following Solicitors for 2026:
Board of Supervisors: Todd Weitzmann, Esq. – Primary – Rate, $1100.00 monthly retainer, $ 205.00/hour
Cramer, Swetz, McManus, Jordan & Saylor, P.C. – Alternate – $260.00/hour
Zoning Hearing Board: James Fareri, Esq. – Primary, Rate - $195.00/hour
Planning Commission: Deborah Huffman, Esq. – Primary, Rate - $205.00/hour
Todd Weitzmann, Esq. – Primary - $205.00/hour
Cramer, Swetz, McManus, Jordan & Saylor, P.C. – Alternate – $260.00/hour
Zoning Officer: Cramer, Swetz, McManus, Jordan & Saylor, P.C. – Alternate – $260.00/hour
UCC Appeal and Property Maintenance: Geoffrey S. Worthington, Esq. - $ 200.00/hour
All supervisors voted aye and the motion carried.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to set the Supervisors' regular meetings to the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. and the 4th Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. The Supervisors Workshop Meeting is set to the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to set the Tax Collector's salary at 4.5 % of all taxes collected. The motion was seconded by Pam GArdsy and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to approve all mileage reimbursements for 2026 shall be paid at the current IRS rate. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion that First Keystone Bank be made depositor for the General Fund, Open Space Fund, Fire Fund, Park and Recreation Fund, Road Machinery Fund, LST and State Fund. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion that ESSA Bank be made depositor for the Library Fund and Ambulance Fund. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to set policy that all bills shall be paid after approval at a public meeting except certain recurring payments such as contracts, payroll, discount bills, insurance and interest payments. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check in case of an item of immediate need to be secured by cash. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to authorize the Treasurer to spend up to $ 1,500.00 per month with the approval of one other Supervisor. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to recommend that the Treasurer's Bond be set at $1,300,000.00. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Pam Gardsy made a motion to authorize the Maintenance Superintendent to spend up to $2,500.00 per month for emergency parts and supplies with the approval of another Supervisor. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to set the following wages for the Maintenance:
Department be approved based up to 2,080 hours:
Maintenance Superintendent - $27.30 per hour
Assistant Maintenance Superintendent – 27.30 per hour
Equipment Operator with CDL – $ 26.02 per hour (Hired before 6/2017)
Equipment Operator with CDL – $ 23.88 per hour (Hired after 6/2017)
Part time maintenance Laborer - $22.44 per hour
Facilities Maintenance - $25.46 per hour
Park/Facilities Maintenance - $16.48 per hour
- Appoint full time Parks/Maintenance position
Administrative Assistant - $ 19.57 per hour
All supervisors voted aye, and the motion carried.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to establish that Township employees will be paid at time and one-half of the hourly rate after 40 hours have actually been worked in accordance with the Fair Labor Standards Act. The motion was seconded by Pam Gardsy and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to establish that paydays shall be on a biweekly schedule, with each pay period ending on Tuesday and paychecks being distributed the next day. The first pay period shall end on Tuesday, January 6, 2026. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion that any advances in pay may be made by motion of the Board of Supervisors in the event of an emergency. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to authorize the Administrative Offices, in accordance with the Municipal Records Manual, to dispose of the following public records: Bank Statements, Vouchers from 2017. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

There were various comments made by the public on short-term rentals, the BCO vacancy, the BOS vacancy, and various other topics.

Grant Hilfiger made a motion to adjourn at 11:00 am. The motion was seconded by Darryl Speicher and carried. All Supervisors voted aye.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nichole Irvin
Recording Secretary