



CENTRE REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION 2020 - 3

A RESOLUTION OF THE GENERAL FORUM OF THE CENTRE REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO ACT ON ITS BEHALF EXCEPT FOR MATTERS REQUIRING A UNANIMOUS VOTE FROM MARCH 16 TO APRIL 30, 2020 BECAUSE OF A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

PREAMBLE: A pneumonia of unknown cause detected in Wuhan, China was first reported to the World Health Organization (WHO) Country Office in China on December 31, 2019. The outbreak was declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on January 30, 2020. On February 11, 2020, the World Health Organization announced a name for the new coronavirus disease: COVID-19. On March 11, 2020, the outbreak was characterized by WHO as a pandemic. The COVID-19 is currently present and spreading in the United States and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In response, on March 13, 2020, the COG Chair executed a Declaration of Disaster Emergency for the six Centre Region municipalities.

WHEREAS, the CENTRE REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, Centre County, Pennsylvania, is a voluntary association of College, Ferguson, Harris, Halfmoon, and Patton Townships and State College Borough, collectively known as the Centre Region municipalities (MUNICIPALITIES) who joined together in 1969 to establish the Centre Region Council of Governments, Centre County, Pennsylvania; and,

WHEREAS, the Centre Region COG provides a broad range of cooperative public services including Emergency Management Planning and Operations to the 97,000 residents who live in the MUNICIPALITIES; and,

WHEREAS, the Centre Region COG is governed by the General Forum comprised of the 32 township/borough elected officials from the MUNICIPALITIES; and,

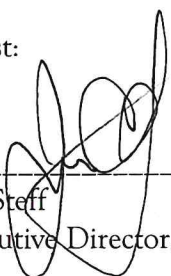
WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus is present and spreading in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. And, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency have recommended social distancing and canceling in-person meetings of 50 or more individuals as to prevent sick people from coming in close contact with healthy people to reduce opportunities for disease transmission.

WHEREAS, to accomplish this end the General Forum desires to transfer some of its decision making for the Centre Region Council of Governments to the Executive Committee for a period of time beginning on March 17, 2020, and ending April 30, 2020, to avoid large meetings. Decisions that require a unanimous vote of the General Forum as identified in the COG Articles of Agreement shall during this period remain with the General Forum.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HERE RESOLVED: that the Centre Region Council of Governments General Forum hereby authorizes the Executive Committee to act on its behalf except for decisions involving a unanimous vote of the General Forum for the period of time beginning March 17, 2020, and ending Thursday, April 30, 2020. The General Forum unanimously endorses that this resolution may be extended beyond April 30, 2020, as the Executive Committee deems necessary.


RESOLVED, this sixteenth day of March 2020, meeting in special session.

Attest:



Jim Steff
Executive Director, Centre Region COG

By:



Elliot Abrams
Vice Chair, Centre Region COG