Proclamation April 2023 "Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month" County of Blair

WHEREAS, the month of April 2023 recognized as "Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month", and the initiative sponsored by Pennsylvania 811, a utility notification information center with over 50 years of continuous service to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania 811 received over 1 million excavation notifications in 2022, and transmitted approximately 6.8 million notifications to their member facility owners and operators allowing essential utility and construction crews to provide vital underground services and repair of critical infrastructure to communities throughout Pennsylvania, and

WHEREAS, when contacting 811, at least three business days before digging, a homeowner or a contractor is connected to a unique service that notifies the appropriate underground utility operators in the municipality in which the work will be performed, and

WHEREAS, by notifying 811 of their intent to dig, the homeowner or contractor is knowingly helping to protect the underground utilities, themselves, the work crew, and their neighbors from any unsafe digging practices within their community, and

WHEREAS, upon receiving the notification from Pennsylvania 811, the facility owners and operators disperse to the said work site to mark the approximate location of their underground utility lines with flags, paint, or both, to establish an eighteen-inch tolerance zone of the outside wall or edge of their line or facility, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Blair County Board of Commissioners, in support of the Pennsylvania Underground Utility Line Protection Law, PA Act 287 of 1974, as amended, do hereby proclaim April 2023 as "Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month", and encourage all Pennsylvanians to visit the Pennsylvania 811 website at www.palcall.org for information about digging safely.

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