

Investing in *Our* Future



Lackawanna  
County

Commissioners

Patrick M. O'Malley • Jerry Notarianni • Laureen A. Cummings

## Budget Message – Commissioner Laureen A. Cummings

Fiscal responsibility continues to be my top priority. Cutting costs, eliminating wasteful spending, doing more with less, and getting the best value for every taxpayer dollar are the elements that I have advocated for both our current operating environment and inclusion in the County's 2018 budget.

I have logged many hours in the preparation of the County's 2018 fiscal plan. I've attended a number of budget hearings with staff and participated in deliberations with my colleagues and our Revenue & Finance Department. This document is the outcome of the 2018 budget process. I want to thank everyone for all of their efforts.

I am still reviewing it and meeting with specific departments, especially in regard to overtime expenditures that I believe can be significantly reduced, to generate further savings for the County. This is one of the goals that I want to achieve, and I believe that it can be accomplished. I encourage the general public to review the union contracts that I have requested to be posted on our website and to offer your constructive comments and insights.

I encourage everyone to review the budget, participate in our hearings and make suggestions that may be of assistance to us. We have the opportunity to do so until it is voted on for approval and implementation.

This is your budget, funded by your tax dollars. We are your stewards. Please take the time to look, digest and offer any constructive advice.

Thank you for your support.

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*This Budget Message is respectfully submitted this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2017 pursuant to Section 1.12-1203 of the Lackawanna County Home Rule Charter.*

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