

President Bob Gordon called the August 23, 2012 Adams County COG meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

The following members were present: **Boroughs:** Abbottstown, Biglerville, Carroll Valley, East Berlin, Fairfield, Gettysburg, York Springs; **School Districts:** Conewago Valley, Fairfield, Gettysburg, Littlestown **Townships:** Conewago, Germany, Hamiltonban, Liberty, Mt. Joy, Oxford, Reading, Straban and Tyrone. **County:** Adams County

Others present were: Nick Colonna, Adams County Planning and Development Office; Sgt. William McAreavy, Pennsylvania State Police – Gettysburg Barracks.

Legislative Guests: Adams County Commissioners: Jim Martin, and Marty Qually; Senator Alloway's spokesperson: Scot Pitzer; Representative Will Tallman; Representative Dan Moul's spokesperson: Chris Kimple.

**MEETING MINUTES: A MOTION WAS MADE BY SHEARER (ABBOTTSTOWN BOROUGH) AND SECONDED BY SWALES (YORK SPRINGS BOROUGH) TO ADOPT THE JULY 23, 2012 MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**TREASURERS REPORT:** The Treasurer was absent so President Gordon reported that the account balance is \$6,101.64. Also, all membership dues have been paid. The checks written were for Insurance expense, Solicitor and Legislative forum refreshments. The report was accepted, as read.

**LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION:** Representative Tallman was present to provide information to the members on his work in the legislature. Tallman left the meeting after his presentation.

**NEW BUSINESS:** President Gordon announced that our speaker, Ed Troxell PSAB lobbyist, was unable to attend the meeting today due to unforeseen circumstances..

Sgt. William McAreavy, Commander from the State Police Barricks in Gettysburg was introduced by President Gordon. McAreavy provided his background information to the members and provided his work slogan for providing assistance of Enforcement, Education and Engineering. He reported that problems require one or all of these. A Q&A session followed his comments. President Gordon thanked McAreavy for coming to the meeting and he left the meeting at that time.

**OLD BUSINESS:** President Gordon called on the various committee chairs to give reports and they are as follows:

Sharon Hamm (STRABAN TOWNSHIP) reported that the A C Collaboration Committee has had a meeting that resulted in good communication between the committee and the county. More to follow...

President Gordon reported that the Chair for the By-Laws Committee was absent. Nothing to report.

President Gordon reported that Barb Underwood (CUMBERLAND TOWNSHIP) was absent due to previous commitment. She provided a written report on the work that the Connecting Committee has been working on. Underwood reported that the branding logo and website were completed. Marty Qually (ADAMS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS) provided more information that they plan a larger meeting so that priorities may be set up so that the county can have a better infrastructure.

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Sharon Hamm (STRABAN TOWNSHIP) updated the members on the Emergency Services Committee. She reported that our contractor, our DCED representative and herself attended the ACVESA conference in August. The Planning Department has worked vigorously on providing information to the contractor. Qually (ADAMS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS) asked Hamm (STRABAN TOWNSHIP) to provide to the county any information that may assist them for budgeting purposes regarding the radio system.

President Gordon announced to the members that John Eline (ADAMS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT) will be speaking at the next meeting regarding the radio system update.

President Gordon announced the Legislative Committee continues to meet. A legislative contact list has been completed and was sent out to the members. He looks to include some grass roots lobbying for the group in the future. More to follow...

Mayor Ron Harris (CARROLL VALLEY BOROUGH) provided a report on the results of the "white paper" questions from the Joint Purchasing Committee. Since they received some positive responses they will be moving forward with Joint Purchasing and also extend the time to December 5, 2012 for any other municipalities that may want to be included. Subsequently, draft rules of engagement will be sent out to those interested in joint purchasing. Also, Harris thanked the boroughs that attended their training on the Borough Code this week.

President Gordon reiterated the need for volunteers on the committees. The Executive Committee will be meeting to discuss Nominations, Finance and By-laws Committees.

Emma Seibert (TYRONE TOWNSHIP) announced that the Public Works Committee will be meeting September 5, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. at the Tyrone Township building. She asked for additional municipality membership to serve on the committee such as public works employees.

President Gordon announced the PA COG Conference being held on September 7 and 8<sup>th</sup> at the Wyndom Hotel in Gettysburg and the South Mountain Fair which is this week.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:** Adams County Commissioners Martin and Qually addressed the members and guests. The Commissioners reported on these items: (1) the Pillow Tax and the approved Ordinance for Adams County. Qually gave an overview of the breakdown of dollars to the qualified municipalities that are included in the tax. (2) The Clean and Green discussion. President Gordon thanked the commissioners for their discussion on the subject. Qually asked municipalities or individuals who have questions on these kinds of subjects to direct them to the commissioners and not to the staff. (3) The radio grant support letters may be sent to the commissioners. (4) On the legislative side, Qually suggested that the Common Level Ratio be changed from calculated for the county to be calculated per school district in order to provide more equality.

**Penn State:** President Gordon announced for Chambers (who was absent) that there is training for the municipalities. Copies of the brochure were available at the meeting and were sent out via email.

**Legislators:** Chris Kimple, member from Representative Dan Moul's office reported on these items. (1) Children's Trust Fund under the Children's and Youth Committee (2) Job Creation Hearings in Harrisburg (3) Clean Coal Policy (4) Foster Care System review (5) Landowner Liability bill (6) Surplus auction.

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Scott Pitzer, Staff member from Senator Richard Alloway's office, reported on these items. (1) Several bills under review are Ag Security, Hunting and Farm Vehicles. (2) The new chair position will include the oversight of State Police. (3) Prevailing wage bill is in house committee but will not be voted on this year so it will have to start over again next year.

**Boroughs Association:** Harris (CARROLL VALLEY BOROUGH) reported on their next meeting will be held on September 17, 2012 at the Pike's Restaurant and the speaker will be Commissioner Randy Phiel.

**Township Officials Association:** President Gordon announced that the Association members are working on the Annual Conference to be held on November 14, 2012 at the Bendersville Fire Hall. More information to follow...

**Schools:** Nothing to report..

**YATB/ACTCC:** President Gordon announced that the next meeting is September 5, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Emergency Services building. The YATB/ACTCC held their joint meeting and voted that the Gettysburg office will have a new location, as was reported previously.

Bart (READING TOWNSHIP) requested that the COG consider a new committee regarding Labor Relations. Discussion. Hamm (STRABAN TOWNSHIP) suggested that the Executive Committee discuss it and get back to him.

**President Gordon adjourned the meeting at 9:53 a.m.**

***Next meeting – 9/27/12 at 8:30 am at Adams County Emergency Management Building, 230 Greenamyer Lane, Gettysburg.***

Signed,

Sandra L. Vazquez  
Secretary