

President Bob Gordon called the Dec 20, 2012 Adams County COG meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

The following members were present: **Boroughs:** Arendtsville, Carroll Valley, Fairfield, Gettysburg, York Springs; **School Districts:** Conewago Valley, Gettysburg; **Townships:** Cumberland, Franklin, Germany, Hamilton, Hamiltonban, Highland, Huntington, Menallen, Mt. Joy, Mt. Pleasant, Oxford, Reading, Straban and Tyrone; **County:** Adams.

Others present were: Jessica Haines, Gettysburg Times; Amy Stansbury, Hanover Evening Sun Coleen Reamer, Adams County Assoc. of Township Officials; Judy Chambers, Penn State Extension; Chris Kimple (Rep Moul's office); Scott Pitzer (Senator Alloway); Jared Cottrill (Rep Tallman), Andrew Merkel, Adams County Office of Planning and Development, Larry Martick, Adams County Conservation District, John Eline, Adams County Office of Emergency Services

MEETING MINUTES: A MOTION WAS MADE BY PREHN (ARENDSVILLE) AND SECONDED BY FRIDENVALDS (HUNTINGDON) TO ADOPT THE NOVEMBER 15, 2012 MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

TREASURERS REPORT: Bob Gordon read the November Treasurer's report as submitted by Treasurer Caroline Dean, which showed a balance as of 11/30/2012 of \$5,202.33.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Ben Thomas, representing the Franklin County Emergency Services Alliance, gave a presentation on proposed legislation that would support volunteer fire and rescue services.. He noted the challenges that volunteer companies face today in recruiting and sustaining volunteers. He asked the COG to join the Franklin County Emergency Services Alliance and to support their efforts through the COG Legislative Committee. The Franklin COG has taken similar action to join with the Adams County Volunteer Emergency Services Association (ACVESA).
- Election of Officers for 2013: Brad Hunt, Chair of the Nominating Committee, (GETTYSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT) presented a slate of officers: Bob Gordon President (HAMILTONBAN), Sharon Hamm, Vice-President (STRABAN), Sandi Vazquez, Secretary (BIGLERVILLE) and Emma Seibert, Treasurer (YORK SPRINGS). There were no nominations from the floor. **MOTION FRIDENVALDS (HUNTINGDON), SECOND HARRIS (CARROLL VALLEY) TO CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS. MOTIONS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. MOTION HUNT (GETTYSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT) SECOND FRIDENVALDS (HUNTINGDON) TO APPROVE THE SLATE OF OFFICERS AS PRESENTED FOR 2013. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- 2013 Budget: Presented by Bob Gordon on behalf of COG Finance Committee. Total budget is \$3,400. **MOTION BUTTERFIELD (GETTYSBURG), SECOND PREHN (ARENDSVILLE) TO ADOPT THE 2013 BUDGET AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- Amendment to By-laws: Barb Underwood (CUMBERLAND) presented proposed amendments to the by-laws of the COG as follows:
 - Amend Section 5-A to remove the requirement that COG officers shall be elected "with each office from a different Member"
 - Create Appendix 1, Standing Committee Responsibilities, describing the responsibilities of the Nominating, Bylaws, Finance and Management Committees

MOTION HUNT (GETTYSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT) SECOND SEIBERT (TYRONE) TO REJECT PROPOSED CHANGES TO SECTION 5-A, AND TO APPROVE APPENDIX 1 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

OLD BUSINESS

- Franklin County Fire Emergency Services Alliance: **MOTION LIVINGSTON (HAMILTON), SECOND SWAILES (YORK SPRINGS) AUTHORIZING THE COG LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE TO WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FRANKLIN COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES ALLIANCE TO DEVELOP AND ADVOCATE FOR LEGISLATION IN SUPPORT OF VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- Adams County Connected: Judy Chambers (Penn State Extension) reported that the Adams County Connected website should be running by January and plans are underway to survey large data users to understand the economic development needs and challenges associated with internet connectivity. Other activities include an 'introduction to the internet' event to be held at HACC in March, and a small-business outreach project identifying public wi-fi locations.
- Emergency Services Funding – Sharon Hamm (STRABAN) reported that consultant John Senft coming to January 24 COG meeting to report on status of the study. Jack Ketterman (GERMANY) noted that workers compensation issues are becoming a bigger problem between municipalities and fire companies. Bob Gordon said the legislative committee is also working on this issue. Sharon Hamm suggested that the COG have a program in the coming year on worker's compensation issues.
- County GIS system: The presentation on the County's changes to the GIS system has been moved to the February COG meeting.
- Joint Purchasing: Ron Harris (CARROLL VALLEY) presented the recommendation of the Joint Purchasing Committee that COG members participate in PENNBID, the state-authorized electronic bidding system. The Committee's research indicates significant savings in bid awards using this technology. They will send information about PENNBID to every COG member in January.
- Public Works Committee: will be meeting in January.

OPEN DISCUSSION

- **Adams County Commissioners:** Jim Martin and Marty Qually attended and conveyed greetings from Randy Phiel who was unable to attend. Commissioners will be meeting tomorrow to adopt the final budget. Jim Martin noted that the budget has been balanced without using any of the county's surplus, and he anticipates the County's bond rating will improve as a result – which can translate into better bond ratings for municipal borrowing as well. Physical office changes are underway at the Courthouse to accommodate Tax Services and at the Ag Center for the Planning Office.

Marty Qually said the economic visioning survey is going out to as many people and businesses as possible, to collect local information. The county is also interviewing consultants to look at the trends within the region and how they can affect Adams County.

- **Marcellus Shale impact fees:** The County will be receiving Marcellus Shale impact fee revenue from the state in different revenue streams for green space, bridges and other potential uses. There were a lot of questions about how much revenue will be received, and whether municipalities will be able to apply to the county for some or all of the revenue streams. This discussion will be continued next month under Old Business.

- **Senator Alloway:** Scott Pitzer spoke briefly about potential legislation this year to implement the transportation and infrastructure study conducted in the last two years, and about potential privatization of the PA Lottery.
- **Representative Tallman:** Jared Cottrill reported that Rep Tallman now has an office in Abbottstown. Rep Tallman plans to introduce a resolution regarding volunteer fire companies and urging the National Fire Protection Association to revisit its standards for volunteer fire companies.
- **Representative Moul:** Chris Kimple noted that the House will be in session on January 1 to swear in legislators. Rep. Moul has shifted to an electronic newsletter which was well-received, but has had requests for a print version, and is considering a once-yearly report in print. He will be introducing legislation that requires changes in departmental regulations that are driven by changes in legislation to be approved by the respective House and Senate Committees, to ensure that the regulations accurately reflect the intent of the legislation. Rep. Moul is also concerned about privatization of the PA Lottery and its impact on senior programs.
- **Extension** – Judy Chambers announced “Toss Your Hat in The Ring” workshop Feb 6, 7-9 pm at the Ag center, in collaboration with Monica Dutko. The goals of the workshop are to encourage citizens to become engaged in local government, and to help them understand local government.
- **ACBA** – Ron Harris (CARROLL VALLEY) announced that the PA State Police will make a presentation at the January 21 ACBA meeting. Community Media is having its annual meeting and open house on Jan 21 and will be inviting municipalities to attend. Ron also asked for a moment of silence for the community of Newtown CT.
- **Township Officials** Coleen reviewed ACATO activities for the year, including training for secretaries and public works, and two conventions. She will have dates for the spring convention soon.
- **School Districts** Brad Hunt (GETTYSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT) reassured COG members that all the county’s school districts are continuously planning and addressing security issues – not just in the wake of tragedies like Newtown, and he acknowledged state and local police for their ongoing assistance.
- **York Adams Tax Bureau Committee** Ron Harris is the incoming President of the Committee. He reminded COG members of the new Adams County location for the York Adams Tax Bureau at 240 West Street, Gettysburg in the West Street Plaza.
- **Radio Project:** John Eline (Adams County Emergency Services) said the radio project team is working on radio towers and locations, and will come to municipal meetings if invited. Otherwise they will be working directly with zoning officers and other municipal staff. He read a list of affected municipalities. Eline also thanked COG members for sending information on costs related to Hurricane Sandy. While Governor Corbett has not declared PA a disaster area at this time, the documentation will be helpful if the situation changes.
- **Other:** Al Ferranto (CUMBERLAND) asked the COG to discuss the need for funding for Critical Water Resource Area plan implementations at a future COG meeting

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 10:00 A.M. (PREHN/FRIDENVALDS)

Next meeting –January 24 at 8:30 am at Adams County Emergency Management Building, 230 Greenamyre Lane, Gettysburg

Signed,
Judy Chambers
Acting Secretary

As amended, ACNB correction for January 21, 2013 meeting date. Amended 1/15/13.