

President Bob Gordon called the July 26, 2012 Adams County COG meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

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

Others present were: Al Penksa, Adams County, Andrew Merkel, Adams County Planning and Development Office; Judy Chambers, Penn State Extension Office; Jess Haines, Gettysburg Times.

Legislative Guests: Adams County Commissioners: Jim Martin, and Randy Phiel; Senator Alloway's Representative: Scot Pitzer; Representative Tallman's Representative: Jared Cottrill.

**MEETING MINUTES: A MOTION WAS MADE BY WHEELER (LITTLESTOWN BOROUGH) AND SECONDED BY UNDERWOOD (CUMBERLAND TOWNSHIP) TO ADOPT THE JUNE 26, 2012 MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**TREASURERS REPORT:** The Treasurer was absent so President Gordon reported that the account balance is \$6,401.64. Also, he received dues from Liberty and Menallen Township.

**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 had 20 responses from municipalities. They are addressing the comments from the County first. They will be meeting with County personnel to get a better understanding of their input. They are open to having more comments come in from the questionnaire that was sent out.

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

Barb Underwood (CUMBERLAND TOWNSHIP) gave a report on the work that the Connecting Committee Underwood reported that the Adams County Task Force is completing their branding package so that the task force can be easily identified. The next meeting is in August.

Sharon Hamm (STRABAN TOWNSHIP) updated the members on the Emergency Services Committee. She provided a handout to the members that gave information on where the committee is on working on the survey that was approved by 29 municipalities. The final information will not be available for this budget season but will be finished in 2013. She asked municipalities to contact fire companies and ask them to work with John Senft who is the contractor for the study. ACVESA is introducing him at their conference in August. Again, DCED has approved the grant and the municipalities are sending in their portion of the study costs. Gordon (HAMILTONBAN TOWNSHIP) underlined the need for communication between the fire departments and the municipalities.

President Gordon announced for the Legislative Committee continues to meet. A legislative contact list has been completed and will be sent out to the members. Ed Troxell, PSAB lobbyist, will be our speaker at the next meeting. He will discuss various subjects of interest to our COG.

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Emma Seibert (TYRONE TOWNSHIP) announced that the Public Works Committee will be meeting September 5, 2012. 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. The cost is one-half price if the registration is in by August 6<sup>th</sup>. Please contact him if more information is needed. A newsletter was sent out to the membership via email.

David Wheeler (LITTLESTOWN BOROUGH) announced the YATB/ACCTC meeting on July 30 which is a joint meeting at the YATB location. This meeting is very important and they ask for all members to send their representatives.

President Gordon announced that our liability insurance has been renewed through Hockley & O'Donnell but with a new carrier, Selective, due to increased price with the previous carrier.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:** Adams County Commissioners Phiel and Martin addressed the members and guests. Phiel thanked the COG members for their involvement with the COG. The Commissioners reported on these items: (1) the commissioners have approved a banner for Adams County that was designed by Bob McIlhenny. (2) August 9<sup>th</sup>, the Commissioner's Community Forum will be held at Buchanan Valley from 6:30 to 8. The subject will be Clean and Green. (3) The radio tower sites for 14 fixed sites and 6 reconstruction sites documents are being worked on and Motorola will begin their work after that is done. (4) The commissioners are asking any municipality that has not sent in a support letter for the Radio grant to directly send it to the Governor's office in Harrisburg at this address – 225 Main Capitol Building, Harrisburg PA 17120. (5) Martin suggested that anyone interested in Gettysburg Basin formation to check with Andrew Merkel at the Adams County Planning office. Chambers explained that the Penn State website has information on Marcellus Shale, also.

**Penn State:** Chambers suggested to the COG members that there is an opportunity for the COG to co-sponsor a PSATS training that could come to the Gettysburg Area. The subject is Communications Best Practices in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The COG investment would be to provide refreshments. Penn State grant funds could reduce the cost from \$50 to \$20 per person with a maximum of 35 persons. This is entry level training.

**SEIBERT (TYRONE TOWNSHIP) MADE A MOTION FOR THE COG TO WORK WITH JUDY CHAMBERS TO BRING THIS TRAINING TO ADAMS COUNTY AND CO-SPONSOR THIS EVENT. UNDERWOOD (CUMBERLAND TOWNSHIP) SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Legislators:** Scott Pitzer, Staff member from Senator Richard Alloway's office, reported on these items. (1)The State passed the budget. There is a possibility that the Human Services cuts may be recouped through Block Grants. (2) Pitzer announced that the pillow tax legislation has been signed by the Governor. (3) The redistricting map is being reviewed by the courts. Adams County is the center of Alloway's district. (4) The prevailing wage bill is in house committee. (5) Alloway voted for the bill for Voter ID. (6) Discussion on transfer of revenues on cigarette taxes from land conservation was struck down and continues to stay in that revenue stream. (7) Pitzer announced that Alloway has been appointed the the Chair of Law and Justice Committee and continues to be Chair of Fish and Game.

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**Boroughs Association:** Harris (CARROLL VALLEY BOROUGH) reported that an informational meeting will be held on August 20, 2012 at the Pike's Restaurant and the subject will be the updates to the Borough Code. The times will be at 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. on the same day.

**Township Officials Association:** President Gordon announced that the Association held a Secretary's Luncheon that was very successful. Nothing further to report.

**Schools:** Tom Fortum (GETTYSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT) had nothing to report..

Mayor Ron Harris (CARROLL VALLEY BOROUGH) announced that the Joint Purchasing Committee provided a "white paper" on the mission, committee focus, membership contact information and recommendations. Underwood (CUMBERLAND TOWNSHIP) suggested that the members consider the "soft costs" of getting bids and the savings in this area when purchasing items on a joint basis. Under recommendations, Harris (CARROLL VALLEY BOROUGH) continued that the COG Member Joint Purchasing Entity might work well with our group and consideration of that method was encouraged. Suggestions and questions were made and Al Penksa (ADAMS COUNTY) offered to see what the county could do to work with the group in joint purchasing. Harris (CARROLL VALLEY BOROUGH) will discuss his recommendation further and report back to the members. Harris (CARROLL VALLEY BOROUGH) asked members to contact him with any questions or comments that they have in this regard via email.

**Legislators:** Jared Cottrill, Staff member from Representative Will Tallman's office, reported on these items. (1)He will check on prevailing wage with Tallman. Otherwise, he had no further information on that topic. (2) He announced a Senior Expo to be held on October 12, 2012. (3) A seminar will be held at United Hook and Ladder on Act 2 regarding small games of chance. Flyers will be sent out on this event.

**President Gordon adjourned the meeting at 9:58 a.m.**

***Next meeting – 8/23/12 at 8:30 am at Adams County Emergency Management Building, 230 Greenamyre Lane, Gettysburg.***

Signed,

Sandra L. Vazquez  
Secretary