

Adam County Council of Government
Meeting Minutes February 28, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Prehn at 8:30 am

Members Present: Abbottstown, Arendtsville, Biglerville, Fairfield, Littlestown, Butler, Conewago, Cumberland, Franklin, Freedom, Germany, Hamilton, Hamiltonban, Mt. Joy, Oxford, Straban, Gettysburg School District, Littlestown School District, Upper Adams School District and County of Adams.

Others Present: Matthew Nickey (PS), Coleen Reamer (COG Comcast Comm), Cathy Wallen (Rep. Ecker) Bev Frey (Sen Alloway), Andrew Merkel (ACOPD), and Sherri Clayton-Williams (ACOPD)

On a motion made by G. Mauser, Straban, 2nd by D. Bolton, Abbottstown, the minutes from the January 2019 meeting are approved. Motion carried.

The Treasurer presented the Treasurers report and commented on some updates. Dues received from Freedom Township, UASD, York Springs Borough and Germany Township. Dues will be paid to the PA Council of Governments.

On a motion made by B. Gordon, Hamiltonban, 2nd by J. Ketterman, Germany the treasures report is approved. Motion carried.

Speaker: Eileen Grenell spoke to the group about the Drug Take Back Program. We currently have 11 medicine return boxes throughout the county and hoping to provide more. DEA sets the date & time for the Drug Take Back Day. Medicine boxes are free in Adams County and there are 3 different sizes. Needles must follow FDA regulations. The County is pursuing a special machine to take and grind up needles. Opioid use in the County is down. Paul Kellet also commented on the downward trends.

New Business:

Ferd Prehn reminded the group that COG committees are appointed by the President and the Board. Some are not active committees and are only to gather information. The president appoints the chairman. Anyone is permitted to attend committee meetings but as an observer only.

Old Business:

Randy Phiel:

The soil quality meeting was held at EMS with over 100 attendees. The group learned about new practices for soil quality. Changes have been made to Survivors with new members stepping up to be on the Board. Hopeful they will flourish now. The Mercy House project is moving along. The elevator shaft has been

approved by the Borough. The Commissioners are meeting with the Legislators. New Legislation will impact the MHMR program.

Jim Martin:

Commented on the Soil Meeting. The Office of the Aging is financially run well. The Tax notices will be mailed March 1. The 3rd Floor of the Courthouse has been renovated. The District Attorney and the Victim Witness offices have been relocated to this floor. Gave Kudos to Eileen for the Drug Take Back Program. Commented on his opposition to legalization of Marijuana.

ACOPD

Sherri Clayton-Williams thanked all that participated in the WIIP stakeholder meetings and will continue to update us. Park and Recreation Green Space Program grants are still available. Working on a training schedule for municipalities. Andy spoke about the letters recently mailed regarding Bridges. He commented that just because you may have received a letter does not mean the bridge will go on the TIP.

PSP

LT. Nickey thanked Eileen for the work on substance abuse. Budget meetings are continuing with discussion on how to pay for the PSP. Increasing efforts to promote PSP employment. Made an arrest in the Mt. Joy Township robbery.

Township Officials Association

John Gormont: Next month the Association is sponsoring Flagger Training. \$20.00 if you are not a member. Held at EMS March 28, 8 am.

Boroughs Association

Dave Bolton: Ron & Dave spoke to Ex. Board of the TOA looking into sponsorship for the flagger training.

School Districts

Brad Hunt thanked all who provided feedback etc. for the YATB to collect taxes for 5 years.

Littlestown School District announced that they are moving forward with adding programs for the Tech Prep. Mentioned Safe to Say Program. There is a Cyber School Act out there. There are 2/3 less teacher certificates being handed out. Working on teacher recruitment with Math teachers being hard to get.

Brad Hunt mentioned that a big issue with the cyber schools is financial.

Upper Adams School District is still negotiating the closure of Bendersville Elementary and renovating Arendtsville Elementary.

AC Collaboration

Marty Qually has stepped down as chairman. Ron Harris is the new chairman. Bob Gordon: WiiP Report, Bridge inspection program project dead, not enough interest.

Legislative Committee

Bob Gordon is happy to see the Legislators attend our COG meetings. Hoping to have a list of new priorities for the 19-20 sessions. Interest in Volunteer fire companies and RTK law. Some members are receiving requests for home addresses. Bob will send priorities out to Danielle and she will send out to the group for review. This will be voted on at the March meeting. April is the Legislative forum. Ferd stated that Casey and Joyce have not responded yet. Chad Reichard stated that someone from the office will be in attendance.

Exploratory Committee:

Rescheduled the Comcast meeting until March 13. Looking into information to help us with future negotiations. They are not negotiating for COG. Brad Hunt stated that in Potter County TriCounty REC is starting to install high speed on lines for every single customer. Feels this should be addressed in our area.

Emergency Services:

March 3 Fairfield will be absorbed into the Adams Regional. They are primary response to 21 municipalities and secondary to the rest of us. Feel free to contact Barb Underwood for specifics if you are interested.

Legislative Representatives:

Bev Frey announced today is the Senators last day. The office is still open.
Cathy Wallen: Rep Ecker has an open door policy. Check out the website and they will be doing an email blast weekly. Workforce development still a priority.
Chad Reichard: Congressman Joyce: mentioned MS -4 meetings, ACOPD meetings, HR 525, HR 276, S-47 and Boarder Security.

Comments:

Paul Kellett, Freedom, commented on the Governor's Budget with regard to the funding of the PSP. Freedom is no in agreement.

Ferd mentioned the 10 year anniversary next month. Linda Costa and Steve H will be in attendance. Cake and coffee will be served. The April Legislative forum will have finger foods and refreshments.

With no further business a motion to adjourn at 945 a.m. was made by John Gormont and 2nd by Dave Bolton. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Helwig, Butler Township
Secretary