



Adam County Council of Government

Meeting Minutes July 25, 2019

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

Members Present: Arendtsville, Biglerville, Carroll Valley, Fairfield, Littlestown, Butler, Conewago, Cumberland, Franklin, Germany, Hamilton, Hamiltonban, Highland, Liberty, McSherrystown, Mt. Joy, Straban, Gettysburg School District and County of Adams

Others Present: Cathy Wallen (Rep. Ecker), Chad Reichard (Cong. Joyce), Bev Frey (Sen. Mastriano), Sen Doug Mastriano, Sherri Clayton Williams (ACOPD), Andrew Merkel (ACOPD), LT. Nickey (PSP), and Vanessa Pellechio (Gettysburg Times)

On a motion made by Gormont, Mt. Joy, 2nd by Mauser, Straban, the minutes from the June 2019 meeting are approved. Motion carried.

On a motion made by Gordon, Hamiltonban, 2nd by Gormont, Mt. Joy, the Treasurer's Report is approved. Motion carried.

PSP – Lt. Nickey: The location for the new station is currently in negotiation and at the next meeting the group will be informed of the decision. The PSP have had a very busy week/month as there have been several events and no major incidents. Lt. Nickey was asked why it takes so long for crash reports to be made available to the Townships? He feels this is probably an administration issue and will make some inquiries.

Senator Mastriano has the desire to be available to you as needed. He will be in his Adams County office at least once a week. He has proposed the 1st legislation dealing with property tax changes. This proposal particularly targets the elderly. He has ideas on where to get the revenue if we exempt the elderly from paying property taxes.

Speaker: ACOPD – Andy Merkel and Sherri Clayton Williams: Spoke about the PA infrastructure and the impacts that the Pa Transportation Funding will have on our area. There will be funding shifts that will focus more on interstates. This will impact the amount of money that Adams County receives because there are no interstates in the County.

Commissioners: Randy Phiel: Commented on the changes and moves happening within the courthouse. Finance and the Controller's office have moved from the second floor to the historic courthouse. The Solicitors office has moved to the second floor. The Public Defender's office will be moving to the historic courthouse.

The Mercy House project is moving forward and the County has received grant money to fund the project. **Jim Martin:** Thanked Andy for the presentation. Mr. Martin is standing behind the Prison Administration and feels they are being targeted because of the high turnover rate. The county as a whole has a 23% turnover rate.

Legislative Representatives: Cathy Wallen, Representative Ecker: mentions that session is over and the Rep. is meeting with constituents and working to get the Survivor House back in operation with a goal of October 1st. **Chad Reichard, Congressman Joyce:** Mentioned the Mueller hearing and that Congress should focus on more important issues such as the USMCA. (US, Mexico and Canada Agreement) dealing with NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement), promoting agribusiness and small business. Chad also mentioned the issues regarding a change to

“Providing a forum by which governmental entities of Adams County may meet to discuss issues of mutual interest, and to coordinate joint activities between members”

minimum wage raising it to \$15.00 per hour. The result will put upward pressure on everyone's wages. It would have substantial impacts on municipalities. **Bev Frey, Sen. Mastriano:** Jan through July many bills that hopefully will get passed. Opioid Crisis is a major one. Looking forward to getting back into session.

Borough Association – Ron Harris: Cong. Joyce will be the speaker at the September meeting.

ACTCC – Ron Harris: Monday July 29th meeting at YATB in York. Shout out to Bev for the help providing information to him for his meetings and for allowing them to meet at the Senators office for the meetings.

AC Collaboration: Ron Harris: Working on the training programs and feels that the list will be ready for the September meeting.

Boroughs Association - Scott Bolton: Legislative actions report coming soon

Township Officials: John Gormont: July 31 at EMA the Secretaries will meet for the annual luncheon.

Gettysburg Schools – Brad Hunt: Schools will be opening soon.

Legislative Committee – Bob Gordon: Commented that he has served as chairman for 7 years for the Legislative Committee. We provide a list of Legislative priorities and hold a legislative forum yearly. Thanked Sen. Mastriano for allowing the committee to meet at the Gettysburg Office and thanks Bev for her outstanding help. Bob appreciates the support that we get from our local legislators. A draft will be prepared for the actions taken so far this year on our priorities. Mr. Gordon discussed some of the highlights of these priorities dealing with prevailing wage, local police radar bill, right to know law, and UCC inspectors. He also mentions that our favorite Times Reporter, Vanessa Pellechio will be leaving the Times to pursue a new adventure. We wish her the best!!! Happy to see McSherrystown is present.

EMS – Barb Underwood: They survived without major incidents this last month as it was very busy. Randy Phiel mentioned the transition not easy but the consolidation with ARMS is going well.

Colleen Reamer mentioned that EVERYBODY is invited to attend the 10th Anniversary Celebration to be held at next month's meeting.

Ferd Prehn is still going to address those municipalities that are not currently members.

Dave Bolton commented on Community media and that franchise checks have been issued and would like the municipalities to consider donations.

With no further business a motion to adjourn at 9:50 a.m. was made by Gormont, Mt. Joy and 2nd by Mauser, Strahan. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Helwig, Butler Township

Secretary

