



Adam County Council of Government

Meeting Minutes January 23, 2020

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

**Members Present:** Abbottstown, Arendtsville, Biglerville, Fairfield, Littlestown, McSherrystown, York Springs, Berwick, Butler, Conewago, Cumberland, Germany, Hamiltonban, Highland, Liberty, Mt Joy, Straban, Gettysburg Schools, Littlestown Schools & County of Adams

**Others Present:** Danielle Smith (McSherrystown Resident), Francine Stephens (Census Bureau), Torren Ecker (State Rep), Cathy Wallen (Rep. Ecker), Bev Frey (Sen. Mastriano), Alex Hayes (Gettysburg Times), Jenna Smith (ACOPD), Andrew Merkel (ACOPD), Sherri Clayton-Williams (ACOPD) and Steve Nevada (County Manager)

**On a motion made by Bolton (Abbottstown), 2<sup>nd</sup> by Toddes (Cumberland), the minutes from the December 2019 meeting are approved. Motion carried.**

**On a motion made by Gordon, (Hamiltonban), 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gormont (Mt. Joy), the Treasurer's Report is approved. Motion carried.**

**Speaker: Francine Stephens, Census Bureau**

Ms. Stephens provided a brief discussion on the process for the upcoming census. There are 1679 jobs available at \$16.50 per hour March through July. \$2093.00 will be lost for each person that does not respond to the census. College Students should count where they attend college. Feel free to add the census website and info to your municipality web sites.

**Rep. Torren:** In February the Governor will present his budget address. Revenues are good. Working on Human Trafficking Bills, Route 15 Corridor is one of the worst in the State. Pa is 10<sup>th</sup> on the list for Human Trafficking. Special Announcement from the Speaker of the House. (Retirement maybe?) SR 6 – Fire Fighter Package. RTK was passed.

**New Business:**

Member Introductions: Each attendee introduced themselves and gave a brief comment.

Committees: Next month the group will discuss the Committees. Need volunteers to participate.

Speaker Ideas: Ask the group to think about Speaker ideas for the year and pass them to any of the board members

**Regular Business:**

**ACC:** Marty Qually- Mentioned the new County Manager, Steve Nevada. The official ground breaking for the Mercy House took place during the week. Substance abuse takes a big chunk of the budget.

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**Legislative:** Ms. Frey (Sen. Mastriano) commented the Senate will be in session January 27, 28 & 29. Two Township Hall meetings, Cumberland County Feb 18 and March 3. Focusing on Property Taxes. Budget hearings to begin in February. Sen. Mastriano wants to be very transparent.

**ACOPD:** Sherri Clayton-Williams – Mentioned the Community Development Block Grant program, Municipal Training: January 30 to discuss Farmland Preservation, Clean & Green & Solar. The office provides a lot of technical assistance to municipalities. They have a GIS division & now the Conservation Division is now part of ACOPD.

**PSP:** no report

**Township Officials Assoc:** Mr. Gormont commented that there is not much going on at this time, but that a meeting is coming up to discuss Secretary Luncheon.

**Boroughs Assoc:** Mr. Bolton Commented Feb 14 is the deadline for PSAB Service Awards. Newly Elected Officials training is Jan 24 and Jan 25 in Gettysburg. Discounts to Township attendees and there were 21 out of 27 attending.

**ACTCC:** Mr. Bolton commented for Ron Harris - February 5 is the ACTCC meeting and the YATB meeting is Monday next week. The YATB needs representatives present to make sure they have a quorum.

**School Districts:** Brad Hunt thanked the Road Crews. Chris Bigger talked about the age for mandatory school attendance which went from 8 to 17 now its 6 to 18 for the 20-21 school year. The state now has a system, Safe to Say, that is working out very well.

**AEA:** Mr. Gordon reported that there is a membership meeting Feb 13. Mr. Laughman asked the municipalities to make membership a line item because they are there to work for us.

**AC Collaboration:** Mr. Bolton commented for Ron Harris and mentioned that there is a meeting on Tuesday at 8 a.m. at the Ag Center. Working on the training matrix, please review. Looking at cyber security and working with the County IT department on this. They are looking for members.

**Legislative Committee:** Mr. Gordon mentioned to review the committees list. Mentioned that Brad Hunt was very involved in the COG and he will be missed. The Legislative Forum will be April 23 at 6:30 pm. Legislative Priorities have been sent the Municipalities. Helpers & Heroes legislation listed 15 bills have passed in the House as a result of the SR 6 commission. HB 283(RTK) passed the House and is now in the Senate. State Police Coverage (SB 858) Bill is stuck in committee and rumor has that it won't go anywhere.

**Emergency Services:** Ms. Underwood asked Mr. Gormont to join the committee. Most fire companies have reorganized by now. The Statistics for 2019: AREMS: 7530 calls.

**Public Comment:** Mr. Laughman spoke about Fire Fighters and when you meet new people in community mention the fire department. Mr. Mouzer asked the schools if they make the students aware of the need for fire volunteers. Mr. Bigger stated that Fairfield is starting a program. Mr. Hunt stated they have several programs at the elementary level and perhaps having some program at the secondary level would be good. Mr. Gormont talked about the student volunteers

that end up going to college. Mr. Gordon stated that Adams County had the first ever Jr Fire Fighter academy in the County. Ms. Underwood stated that Gettysburg College has an EMS Club. Students from outside of the area who are

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already trained EMT's and the director of AREMS has recognized this. 54-2 Ambulance is 90% staffed by students of the college. Ms. Smith mentioned that the membership invoices are out. Mr. Bolton mentioned AC Coordination Committee next meeting April 9 and they will discuss Municipal projects. The committee works with local utilities to coordinate projects. Community Media is talking about Rural Broadband. A Proof of Concept is coming soon.

Announcements: Ms. Frey mentioned the Senator is having a breakfast for outgoing and new members of Councils and Supervisors and to look for email.

**With no further business Mr. Bolton moved to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Qually at 10:03 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Helwig, Butler Township

Secretary

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