

President Bob Gordon called the May 23, 2013 Adams County COG meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

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

Others present were: Andrew Robinson, Gettysburg Times Judy Chambers, Penn State Extension; Scott Pitzer (Senator Alloway); Larry Martick, Adams County Conservation District; Chris Kimple (Representative Moul), Scott Keller.

Legislative Guests: Adams County Commissioner Randy Phiel, Jim Martin and Marty Qually.

**MEETING MINUTES: A MOTION WAS MADE BY RAYMOND (EAST BERLIN BOROUGH) AND SECONDED BY PHIEL (ADAMS COUNTY) TO ADOPT THE APRIL 25, 2013 MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Emma Seibert presented the April Treasurer's report which showed a balance as of 5/14/2013 of \$7,226.99. She noted that all COG members have paid their dues for this year.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA):** President Gordon commented that an addition has been made to the agenda for Larry Martick; Adams County Conservation District will provide some information to our members and guests.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Special signed copies of the Fire Study that was undertaken by the ACCOG and ACVESA were distributed to the County Commissioners in appreciation of their substantial support of this endeavor.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- COG Committees – Bob Gordon said the committee lists are now posted on the COG website. Sharon Hamm (STRABAN) is the webmaster and any changes can be reported to her or Bob.
- Adams County Collaboration – Overview of the Fire Study is being worked on.
- Adams County Connected – Judy Chambers (PENN STATE) explained that the Chamber of Commerce is assisting with the large data user survey. On July 11, 2013 another information session will be held at HACC by their group. Chambers explained that they are including schools in their information gathering of what is necessary in the county. In June, a focus group of school supervisors and college administrators will meet. Hamm (STRABAN) announced that upcoming PennDot software for HOPs will demonstrate the need for faster internet services in our county. She agreed with the group's inclusion of the educational community is very important.
- Legislative – Bob Gordon (HAMILTONBAN) reported that the committee has 10 members. The Legislative Forum will be held immediately following this meeting. COG members will be holding Q&A session with Senator Alloway, Representative Tallman and Chris Kimple, an administrative official from Representative Moul's office since he is unable to attend this meeting.
- Public Works – Emma Seibert (TYRONE) announced that the next meeting on May 28 at 9 a.m. at Tyrone Township. The Public Works Committee will have a BYOB breakfast meeting on

October 2, 2013 with a presentation on dealing with difficult people from Judy Chambers. They continue to network with Adams County Connected and Joint Purchasing committees.

- Emergency Services – Sharon Hamm (STRABAN) explained that their committee is getting some assistance from finance administrators to provide a template to assist Fire Company's that would be available for use with financial reporting standards. Since the Fire Services Study has been released she has been discussing it with various people and getting an idea of what questions may be asked on the study. She hopes to develop a Q&A fact sheet as a follow up on the study.
- Joint Purchasing – will meet after the Public Works Committee to further evaluate the joint purchasing program and make improvements, as necessary.

## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

- Adams County Commissioners:
  - Randy Phiel announced the next Commissioner's Forum on June 19 at SAVES at 6:30 p.m. and the discussion will review the fire study and the county radio project. The previous forum is available through the Community Media web site that discussed the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The Primary Election day was a light turn out but all went well with a few machine malfunctions. The final outcomes will be ready during the last week of May. Phiel reported that the negative impact of the Reassessment is going away and building permits are increasing in the county.
  - Marty Qually thanked the municipal officials for their service to their communities. The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary discussions have included the broadband needs. This work will include everyone.
  - Jim Martin reminded everyone of these items: (1) of the importance of elections (2) the need to stay aware of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (3) to be prepared on any type of threat (he pointed out there was a bomb threat at the court house yesterday). President Gordon thanked Commissioner Martin for his presentation at the Spring Township Conference.
- Penn State Extension – Judy Chambers had nothing to report at this time.
- ACBA – Ron Harris (CARROLL VALLEY) announced that their next meeting will be held in September since they have a summer break.
- ACATO – Coleen Reamer (HAMILTONBAN) thanked Commissioner Martin and Judy Chambers for their presentations at the township conference. The following dates were announced: (1) July 31<sup>st</sup> the Secretary and Administrators Round Table will be held. The speakers will be: Melissa Morgan (PSATS) and Judy Chambers (PENNSYLVANIA). (2) October 9, 2013 an all day training session at the Emergency Services building. This is open to all municipalities and schools. More information to follow.
- School Districts - Brad Hunt (GETTYSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT) and Jason Peart (BERMUDIAN SCHOOL DISTRICT) gave updates on budgets, retirement and concerns of homeless children in the county. President Gordon reiterated the Adams County COG distinction of having public schools as part of the membership of the COG. Legislative issues are of concern to schools and municipalities, he noted.
- York Adams Tax Bureau Committee - Dave Wheeler (LITTLESTOWN) announced the next meeting of the ACTCC is June 5, 2013 at the Emergency Services building. They will be discussing by-laws and new committee members. The Joint TCC meeting and subsequent YATB meeting will be held on July 29, 2013 at the Emergency Services building at 5:30 p.m.
- Adams County Conservation District – Larry Martick discussed the Act 167 Stormwater Planning in the county and asked for feedback from the municipalities because they would be interested in making improvements, as necessary. The Adams County Conservation District is requesting support from all municipalities and the COG regarding the zeroed out line item for conservation districts in the budget proposed by Governor Corbett for FY2013/14. An email was sent to all

municipalities providing the same request. The conservation district is set up by the county and this state budget decision would make a larger burden on the county tax payers.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY HARRIS (CARROLL VALLEY BOROUGH) AND SECONDED BY RAYMOND (EAST BERLIN BOROUGH) TO JOIN IN THE SUPPORT OF THE ADAMS COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT FROM THE ADAMS COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS WHICH WOULD INCLUDE A LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT, PER THEIR REQUEST, TO ASK FOR RESTORATION OF THE LINE ITEM FOR THE CONSERVATION DISTRICT FROM THE STATE BUDGET FOR FY13/14. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Chris Kimple, from Representative Moul's office, suggested that all correspondence be sent to the legislative offices prior to the House going back in session on June 3.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Perry Shearer (ABBOTTSTOWN) announced that discussions were held at the PSAB Conference on Act 46 (Cancer Presumption Act) and it was suggested that municipalities should consider purchasing Worker's Compensation Insurance together as a COG. Concerns of equal treatment on Mods was discussed and Brad Hunt (GETTYSBURG SCHOOL) suggested that this hurdle can be overcome by developing a pool and could lower the overall premium.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:39 A.M. By President Gordon

***Next meeting – June 27 at 8:30 am at Adams County Emergency Management Building, 230 Greenmyer Lane, Gettysburg.***

Signed,

Sandra L. Vazquez  
Secretary