

Adams County Council of Government  
Emergency Services Building  
October 27, 2022  
Meeting Minutes

1. President Bolton called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
2. Pledge
3. Present: Abbottstown, Abbottstown, Bendersville, Biglerville, Carroll Valley, Fairfield, Gettysburg, York Springs, Butler, Conewago, Cumberland, Germany, Hamilton, Mt. Joy, Straban, Bermudian Springs Schools, Gettysburg Schools, Littlestown Schools and County of Adams.

Others Present: Chris Kimple (Rep Moul), Vanessa Sanders (Gettysburg Times), Charlotte Shaffer (Republican Committee), Stacey Rice (@Home Adams County), Judy (Gettysburg Connection), Sherry Clayton Williams (ACOPD), Dennis Hickethier (9-11 Memorial Trail/HABPI) & Rick Baker (Bonneauville Borough)

4. A motion was made by Mauser (Straban) and seconded by Scholle (Mt. Joy) to approve the September Minutes as presented. Motion carried
5. Treasurers report: Smith reported a current balance of \$7552.84. The treasurers report will be submitted for audit.
6. Speaker: Phil Walter, Director of the Adams County IT Department: Mr. Walter updated the group on the progress the department has made over the years. The department spends much of their time on Work Orders, followed by Department Projects, IT Projects and then Organizational Alignment. The County will be moving to a new internet platform, moving from .US to .GOV. There will be a time of redirection. There is no County Business on personal devices. The IT works side by side with Voter Registration with the Election, training poll workers, live streaming the election. No equipment, such as, tabulation machines at the polling places is connected to the internet or networks.

Surprise Speaker: Dennis Hickethier (HABPI) discussing the new 9-11 trail. (National Memorial Trail) 36 miles of Roads in Adams County. The trail will be a 1300-mile multipurpose trail connecting the 3 national 9/11 memorials. The County Planning Office is working with HABPI. Signage will be place in the municipalities that are affected by the trail. Please visit [911trail.org](http://911trail.org) for more information. The hope is for this to be an opportunity to bring people to Gettysburg.

7. New Business:

- David Laughman provided the Municipalities with a list of the priorities for feedback. The Committee will be working on a new list for the upcoming year.
- George Mauser is on the Broadband Task force committee. Their first meeting was on Oct 13. Design 9 is preparing a survey for the County. Marty is requesting municipality help to get the surveys out to the public. Rick Baker and Stacy Rice commented on how to get surveys out to underserved areas. The free public WIFI on the square may be coming to an end.

1. Regular Business:

- a) ACC: Commissioner Phiel presented the results of the 1963 All Star Tournament. Gettysburg prevailed with a 2-0 WIN. November 1 absentee ballots are due. All mail in ballots must be received in the Voter Registration office by 8:00 p.m. on election night. NO POST MARK WILL BE ACCEPTED! They are working on the Budget and should have the preliminary budget by November 16. It is a tight budget but there will be no tax hike. Chief Rick \_\_\_\_\_ will be retiring and he was instrumental in getting the firearms training range. Commissioner Martin explained that a soldier at Fort Indian Township Gap was killed, and the flags are at half-mast. The nonprofit organization 4H has a big impact on the community. They will be having their benefit auction on November 4 at Redding's Auction House. Donations are being accepted. Contact the Extension Office for more information. Becky Hoffacker is retiring from the Office of the Aging and Pat Fitzgerald is the new employee. The school districts may be interested in the **Penns Youth Initiative (Penn's Youth Initiative (PYI) is a nonprofit organization that partners with schools and youth organizations in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to help address the social and emotional challenges that adolescents face on a regular basis.)**. Commissioner Qually mentioned that **Broadband is an allowable expense for the American Recovery Funds. It may be a good idea to have election staff as a speaker at COG. Tax Appeal season is over. The County is hopeful that the Ag Discovery Center will be placed in Adams County.**
- b) Legislative Representatives: Chris Kimple (Rep Moul): Rep. Moul is a member of the Center for Rural Pa, and he will be hosting a two-day meeting in December in Adams County. She noted that Adams County was NO. 1 in Election Accuracy in the State! Check the Unclaimed property site. They are having auctions for unclaimed property and there also be money owed to you. Rep Moul is looking forward to helping us with our legislative priorities.
- c) ACOPD: Sherri Williams mentioned transportation has a significant impact on developments and will be added to the ACTPO reports. There are infrastructure funds for electric vehicles and the no of vehicles has tripled. Act 41 Boundary Amendments: There are many impacts when boundaries are changed. Voting districts, zoning, school districts, census data, tax bills etc. Applications for the County ARF will be close on November 21.

- d) Township Association: No Report
  - e) Boroughs Association: Next meeting Nov. 21
  - f) PSP: No Report.
  - g) Destination Gettysburg: Karl mentioned they are working on the strategic planning for the next 3 years. Tourism in the County is strong. 2021 was a record year. Currently, there is a 7% increase from last year. National reports and travel behavior are still strong. They are working with the new owner of the Boyd's Bear property. New to follow.
  - h) ACTCC: Next meeting November 2. They need 16 for a quorum., please consider attending. The YATB will hold a zoom or in person meeting on Oct 31.
  - i) School Districts: Becci Leathery (Gettysburg Schools) mentioned Gettysburg hired a new Family Navigator who will work closely with the Social Worker. November 11 & 12 the fall play Hamlet Goes Wrong will be on stage. Justin Peart (Bermudian Springs Schools) mentioned the new courtyard at the complex is complete. There will be a ribbon cutting in November. Demolition of the old middle school is ¼ complete. The first marking period is almost complete. Chris Bigger (Littlestown Schools) mentioned that mental health is a hot topic in the schools. Staffing is a big issue and a growing concern.
  - j) AEA: No Report
2. Committee Reports:
- a) AC Collaboration: There will be municipality survey dealing with cyber security, and literacy readiness. Looking for members for the committee. Contact Ron Harris if interested.
  - b) Legislative Report: See above
  - c) EMS: No Report
  - d) PA COG: No Report
  - e) Broad Band Task Force
3. Public Comment: Jessica Baim mentioned the November 9 Township Convention. Judy Butterfield mentioned the Gettysburg Christmas Festival. There will be live reindeer and electric bucking reindeer.
4. Announcements: Looking for nominations for Vice President. David Laughman has been appointed to the Nominations Committee. The budget has a high balance. David Bolton made a motion to propose a Presidents award. No second. Motion tabled.
5. With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Helwig  
Butler Township

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