

President Coleen Reamer called the February 23, 2017 Adams County COG meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

The following members were present: **Boroughs:** Arendtsville, Biglerville, Fairfield, Gettysburg, and Littlestown. **Townships:** Conewago, Franklin, Germany, Hamilton, Hamiltonban, Highland, Huntington, Liberty, and Straban. **School Districts:** Bermudian Springs, Conewago Valley, Fairfield Area, Gettysburg Area, Littlestown Area, and Upper Adams.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SMITH (FAIRFIELD) AND SECONDED BY MOSER (LITTLESTOWN) TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 26, 2017 MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

TREASURERS REPORT: Pat Smith presented the Treasurer's report which showed an ending balance of \$7,880.91. A correction to Check no. 165, amount is correct, named changed to Gettysburg Times.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY GORDON (HAMILTONBAN) AND SECONDED BY LIVINGSTON (HAMILTON) TO APPROVE THE TREASURERS REPORT TO AUDIT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

NEW BUSINESS: President Reamer introduced our speaker, Dr. Russell Greenholt, Supt. Of the Conewago Valley School District, who spoke on the "Economic Impact of Charter Schools on Public School Budgets". Adams County School Districts paid \$7 Million in Charter School tuition last year. Dr. Greenholt said "it may be free to the student but the taxpayers are paying for it." The idea behind Charter Schools is that they would provide a choice that would improve learning.

They should be held to the same level of transparency as public schools. Rules and mandates that apply to public education do not apply to charter schools. Charter schools pay twice as much for administration, receive \$ 110,000,000 for Special Education and spend \$342 Million on television advertising. The system needs reformed but Harrisburg is not interested. There should be a cap on what school districts pay. All local school districts offer their own Cyber Schools at a fraction of the cost of Charter Cyber Schools. Charter School performance profile is lower than public schools.

BY-LAWS: The By-Laws Committee will meet- topics to be worked on include training and education.

WEBSITE: our website needs updated and formatted- it is a priority.

OLD BUSINESS:

PAGE 2

ADAMS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: Commissioner Phiel is absent. He is taking care of business at the Human Relations Building.

Commissioner Jim Martin reported the furniture is arriving and that Children and Youth Office will be moving in. Computer services will be better protected in the new building.

Commissioner Marty Qually reported that they will be having evening Community Forums. As County Offices move into the new building, space is becoming available in other County properties that are being vacated including space in the courthouse. He also pointed out that this is the year of the Municipality- economic development is a priority.

ADAMS COUNTY PLANNING: Sheri Clayton- Williams reported that the Planning office will be reaching out to municipal committees to empathize the economic development aspect of comp plans.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE: Lt. James Graham reported Heroin is getting into schools at a younger age. Narcan (Naloxone) saves lives but it would be better to save lives without drugs. Retail theft continues to be a problem. Municipalities need to warn citizens especially older ones about on-line scams. They cost people money with almost no chance of recovery. Use newsletters to alert your residents.

Judy Chambers, Penn State extension offered comment about the Drug Task Force. Next meeting is Tuesday, 11:45 at HAAC. Remove drugs, use Drug Take-Back Containers to get rid of old prescription drugs. Work with people who have opioids. We don't have drug treatment facilities in Adams County. To solve the problem, you need to be able to do a "warm hand-off" for treatment. We also need to collect data to understand what is happening here. Note on demographics- segment of population with greatest risk of dying from drug overdose- white males age 25-40, regardless of economic status or race.

ADAMS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIAL: No Report

BOROUGH ASSOCIATION: Next meeting March 20, 2017 at 6:15 p.m.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS: Brad Hunt- The Senate Bill that would eliminate property taxes is a bad deal for Adams County, would cause our people to spend more.

ACTCC- No report

ACEDC- No report

PENN STATE- Judy Chambers gave her report above.

AC COLLABORATION: No report

ADAMS COUNTY CONNECTED: Marty Qually requested that this item be removed from the agenda. There has been some progress with Verizon and Smart Cities-trash cans that tell you they are full and water meters that read themselves.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Bob Gordon reported that the Committee has been meeting at senator Alloway's office. Will be offering a list of legislative priorities to the membership and a report on issues. Rep. Tallman has provided a list of 16 bills which he will be introducing.

EMERGENCY SERVICES: No report.

FIRE STUDY SUBCOMMITTEE: Chair Coleen reported that the committee met with Commissioner Phiel and he is willing to meet with the Chiefs to Facilitate training. The Committee had two meetings scheduled with representatives of the Fire Commissioners Office concerning certification of our "training center to better serve our volunteers. Both were canceled but we are on for another.

President Coleen also reported on the "Adams County State of the Waters" conference on March 15, 2017 at the Ag Center. She had handouts available.

Next meeting of the COG is March 23, 2017.

A MOTION TO ADJORN BY ARENDT (CONEWAGO) SECONDED BY QUALLY (COUNTY). MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLEY.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. by President Reamer

Respectfully submitted,

Gus Fridenvalds