

Adams County Council of Governments
April 23, 2009 8:30 a.m.
Gettysburg Area School District Administration Building
Meeting minutes

Welcome

Adams County Commissioner George Weikert welcomed everyone and asked for introductions.

Roll Call of Attendance

Attending:

Abbottstown Borough ✓
Arendtsville Borough ✓
Biglerville Borough ✓
Cumberland Township
Franklin Township
Germany Township
Gettysburg Borough ✓
Hamilton Township
Hamiltonban Township
Highland Township

Huntington Township
Littlestown Borough ✓
Mt. Joy Township
Mt. Pleasant Township
Oxford Township
Straban Township
Bermudian Springs School District
Conewago Valley School District
Fairfield Area School District
Gettysburg Area School District

Absent:

Bendersville Borough ✓
Berwick Township
Bonneauville Borough ✓
Butler Township
Carroll Valley Borough ✓
Conewago Township
East Berlin Borough ✓
Fairfield Borough ✓
Freedom Township
Latimore Township

Liberty Township
McSherrystown Borough ✓
Menallen Township
New Oxford Borough ✓
Reading Township
Tyrone Township
Union Township
York Springs Borough ✓
Bermudian Springs School District
Littlestown Area School District

Others in attendance:

George Weikert, Adams County Commissioners
Judy Chambers, Penn State Extension
Dan Brady, ACVESA

Committee reports

By-Laws Committee – the Committee consists of Steph Eggers - Hamilton Township, Bill McMasters - Oxford Township, Dave Wheeler - Littlestown Borough, Sandy Spence – Franklin Township, and Brad Hunt – Gettysburg Area School District. They presented revisions to the by-laws as draft 2. Highlights are as follows:

- Section 3.c calls for the appointment of one voting member and up to 2 alternates per member
- Section 6.f calls for the use of parliamentary procedure
- Section 4.a allows only one officer of the COG from a member municipality or school district
- Section 6.c changes the number required for a quorum from 50% to 30% of membership

The by-laws as revised will be sent to County Solicitor John Hartzell for review.

Ordinance and Resolution Committee – the Committee consists of Flo Ford – Cumberland Township, Dave Hazlett – Carroll Valley Borough, Mark Sewell – Fairfield Area School District. The documents have been drafted but are still being reviewed by the Committee and should be ready for distribution very soon. The ordinance will be reviewed by Wally Davis, Solicitor to the Adams County Association of Township Officials (and to several municipalities), and the resolution will be reviewed by the Fairfield Area School District Solicitor. The committee anticipates that each municipality may also want review by its own solicitor.

The Committee will investigate the format and cost of a joint legal ad for the ordinance.

Budget and Insurance Committee – the Committee consists of Barb Underwood – Cumberland Township, Sharon Hamm – Straban Township, Tom Ramsey – Germany Township and Bob Gordon – Hamiltonban Township. The projected annual cost for insurance and bond is \$1200. The Committee recommends dues of \$100 per member per year. See attached report from the Budget and Insurance Committee.

Appointment of Nominating Committee – George Weikert asked for volunteers for a nominating committee and appointed Bill Chantelau – Mt. Joy Township, Dave Wheeler – Littlestown Borough and Howie Kessel – Fairfield Area School District. The Committee will present a slate of officers at the May meeting.

Potential COG Project

Push-to-talk phones: Flo Ford – Cumberland Township has scheduled two vendors, Verizon and Nextel, to give brief presentations at the May meeting at 9:30 and 9:45.

Surplus Equipment Auction: George Weikert encouraged the group to start thinking about this project, and whether there is a way to work with the County's online auction.

Dry hydrants: Sharon Hamm – Straban Township suggested the COG could help identify locations for dry hydrants and work with Adams Electric Cooperative which is still providing the equipment at no cost. Dan Brady said he would ask ACVESA to look into the idea.

COG Communications – several members talked about the need for COG members to communicate. It was suggested that a webpage might be added to the county website for the COG, but all agreed that this item should be tabled until the COG is formally established.

Other business

Contact information: Judy Chambers reminded members to provide their email addresses to the COG so they can get all of the information, and to consider providing email addresses for all elected officials, planning commissioners, key staff, etc. The contact is Tina Danos at tdanos@cumberlandtownship.com

Legislative action: Bill Chantelau – Mt. Joy Township told the group that the Acting secretary of DCED spoke at the PSATS convention and is calling for the elimination of local government below the county level. He urged members to contact their legislators to discuss this.

EIT and Act 32: Bill Chantelau – Mt. Joy Township said the issue would be discussed at the April 29 Township Association meeting. George Weikert said the County plans to have someone from DCED at the first county-wide meeting to answer questions.

Public Comment

None.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday May 28, 8:30 a.m., Gettysburg Area School District Administration Building, 900 Biglerville Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

Minutes submitted by Judy Chambers, Penn State Extension