

SEPTEMBER 28, 2017 COG MINUTES

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President Reamer called the September 28, 2017 Adams County COG meeting to order at 8:30am.

The following members were present: **Boroughs:** Arendtsville, Biglerville, Fairfield, Gettysburg, Littlestown. **Townships:** Berwick, Butler, Conewago, Franklin, Germany, Hamilton, Hamiltonban, Highland, Huntington, Straban. **School Districts:** Conewago Valley, Gettysburg.

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 24, 2017 MINUTES WAS MADE BY MAUSER (STRABAN) AND SECONDED BY COCKLEY (BERWICK). MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Deposits- \$3000.00 from Adams County, \$1,500 from Adams Electric Coop.

Checks to E-End E-cycling, Hockley O'Donnell and Salzman Hughes, leaves balance of \$2,536.27.

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT TO AUDIT WAS MADE BY KETTERMAN (GERMANY) AND SECONDED BY ARNDT (CONEWAGO). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

NEW BUSINESS: President Reamer introduced Kevin Moul, Director of Adams Regional Emergency Medical Services (AREMS) and Eric Zaney, Director of Operations. Since Wellspan withdrew from providing Advanced Life Support Services the void in the County has been filled by AREMS which is a regional model for providing this service and an independent service which has a different model.

Information about how this service provided is important to every municipality that has the responsibility to provide such service. This month we hear from AREMS, next month from Biglerville which has a different model.

Director Moul reported that AREMS runs about 5,000 calls a year. They have three units, one in Gettysburg, one in New Oxford and a daylight unit in Bonnevill. He reported that they are financially sound and tax free. They have four funding streams that support them:

1. Billing for their services, they bill your insurance.
2. Ambulance club, subscription generate Approx. \$100,000.00
3. Grant-they apply for grants.
4. General Donations, they do get donations.

They have paid off their start-up loans, they have a new ambulance on order and gave raises.

Their service area is the lower half of Adams County. There are 7 Ambulance Companies in the County. However, their paramedics have been in every municipality in the County. Cardiac problems are the most common call and their cardiac capabilities are number 1. Hanover hospital is Cardiac capable for invasive procedures, Gettysburg is not, they have to transfer to York. They are recognized as experts in pediatric services. Because of the long transport times it is difficult to attain high standards but they are recognized with a Bronze Plus Award which is a great accomplishment.

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Ambulance bills run from \$700 to \$1,400 per trip. Insurance pays 80%. 20% is billed to the patient. If you have club membership, it will pay the 20% or supplemental insurance will cover it, if you have it. If not, the patient pays. Some insurance companies pay the patient for the ambulance ride and the patient doesn't pay the provider. Medicare and Medicaid still pay the same rates they paid in the 90's which does not come close to covering costs. Medicare pays the same for a simple call as for a complicated cardiac call. Some parts of the County generate 35 calls per day while others only ten. If an ambulance is out it will take longer for the second due to arrive. Emergencies almost demand that we promote CPR training to help people while they wait. Last year AREMS billed \$3 million, and received \$1.2 million in reimbursement. Nov. 1 of this year the Bonneville ambulance will go to 24 hours day service. Problems for Ambulance companies are repeat calls, problems for patients are high deductibles and high copays.

If there were more cooperation between companies joint billing and reciprocity with memberships might be possible. Commissioner Phiel commented that there needs to be cooperation and regionalization of services to strengthen struggling companies.

Nominating Committee, Chairman Barb Underwood is not present but we need a slate of officers, we will have a report in October of who is on the committee.

Sherri Clayton asked for the proper committee to work on a Check list for Subdivisions that are submitted to County Planning. The Collaboration Committee is the proper forum and will schedule a meeting.

Last item is the E-Cycling. The event was very successful and one smooth operation. Credit goes to Bicky and Cindy from the Planning Office who set up. Advertised and took reservations. We had Fraternity members from the College, we had fire Police who volunteered, we prisoners we Warren Bladen's teenage sons Marty pedaled his bike, his wife cooked. People brought their stuff and it took only 6 minutes from check in till they made the loop and left. We recycled 23,000 lbs of TV's and CRTs, 5,000 lbs of Computers and 1900 lbs of household electronics, that is 31,000 lbs saved from landfills, over two tractor trailers worth. That is a great accomplishment.

We would like to schedule another event for next year but we are out of money. Our plan is to apply for grants but ask that municipalities put this in their budgets for next year, we will take whatever you give but if you are able we would love to see between \$300-\$500 per municipality. We will accept donations from Service Clubs and businesses. If you do budget funds, please let the COG executive Committee know so we have an idea of where we stand.

OLD BUSINESS:

ADAMS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: Commissioner Phiel reported that he has said enough.

Commissioner Qually reported that he is the Membership chair for the new Adams Economic Alliance, and there is a need to increase membership and support this effort. Letters are going out, budget \$200 for dues and join up.

ADAMS COUNTY PLANNING OFFICE: Director Sherri Clayton- Williams reported that the office is working on developing a checklist for completeness on plans submitted for review.

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The County Conservation Office is now a part of the Planning Office. Sherri also reported on the retirement of the County grant writer which leaves a void. The Planning Office is continuing meeting with municipalities around the County about economic development.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE: No report.

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION: Bob Gordon reported that the Association will have its Annual Convention at the Saves Fire Hall on November 8, 2017. All Township Officials should attend, it is the 100th Anniversary of the organization.

BOROUGH ASSOCIATION: No report.

ACTCC: No report

SCHOOL DISTRICTS: Brad Hunt reported that five School Districts in the County have Vocational Ed and are trying to develop vocational programs but need local input.

Lori Duncan reported that Conewago Valley is partnering with local industries to discover what needs are there and how to meet those needs.

A.E.A.: Bob Gordon reported that membership letters have been sent to every municipality and the dues for a municipality are \$200.00, an individual membership is \$100.00.

AC Collaboration: Gus gave his report, Commissioner Qually responded that we want to explore other cooperative efforts and will be meeting with Bicky to discuss.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Bob Gordon reported that our November meeting will be our Legislative review.

PUBLIC WORKS: No report.

Emergency Services: You heard the program.

LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES: No report.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Bob Gordon called attention to the fact that we are in budget season and reminded us to remember the COG dues in our budgets, as well as the A.E. A. He reminded us about the Office of Ageing and remember the Fire and Ambulance Companies that need our support, look at the Fire Tax.

AMOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY ARNDT (CONEWAGO) AND SECONDED BY Cockley (Berwick).

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Presiident Reamer adjourned the meeting at 9:55 am.