

President Bob Gordon called the April 25, 2013 Adams County COG meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

The following members were present: **Boroughs:** Abbottstown, Arendtsville, Carroll Valley, East Berlin, Fairfield, York Springs; **School Districts:** none; **Townships:** Cumberland, Franklin, Germany, Hamiltonban, Highland, Huntington, Liberty, Mt. Joy, Mt. Pleasant, Oxford, Reading, Straban and Tyrone; **County:** Adams.

Others present were: Jared Hedes, Gettysburg Times Judy Chambers, Penn State Extension; Scott Pitzer (Senator Alloway); Jared Cottrill (Rep Tallman); Andrew Merkel and Ellen Dayhoff, Adams County Office of Planning and Development; Larry Martick and Matt Stough, Adams County Conservation District; Bill Hanne, Adams County Water Resources Advisory Committee; Barry Cockley, Berwick Township.

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

**MEETING MINUTES: A MOTION WAS MADE BY SWAILES (YORK SPRINGS BOROUGH) AND SECONDED BY PREHN (ARENDSVILLE) TO ADOPT THE MARCH 28, 2013 MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Emma Seibert presented the March Treasurer's report which showed a balance as of 3/31/2013 of \$6840.01. She noted that 29 COG members have paid their dues for this year, and 3 remain unpaid. She will be contacting those members to follow up.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Matt Stough, Adams County Conservation District, gave a presentation on how the District is addressing West Nile Virus and mosquito control. He explained the conditions and methods when they spray and the measures they take to protect the community. He encouraged COG members to work with residents to eliminate attractive breeding sites for mosquitoes such as barrels, tires, flower pots and other open containers that can collect water. Matt also urged municipalities to incorporate provisions of State code into local ordinances, in order to be able to address breeding sites through code enforcement if necessary.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- COG Committees – Bob Gordon said the committee lists are now posted on the COG website, and he needs to be advised of the chair of each committee.
- Adams County Collaboration – will meet next week.
- Adams County Connected – Barb Underwood thanked municipalities for help with large data user survey, which is still available on the website [www.adamscountyconnected.org](http://www.adamscountyconnected.org). The Broadband Task Force has been successful in getting internet service providers to the table for discussions. Adams County Connected will host a Chamber mixer in July, and has plans for an event this fall on marketing for businesses.
- Legislative – Bob Gordon reported that the committee has grown to 10 members and in the future will include staff from our state senator and representatives. They will be meeting in Senator Alloway's Gettysburg Office. Al Ferranto and Ben Thomas, Cumberland Township, are working on fire company issues in coordination with the Franklin County Emergency Services Alliance.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Legislative Forum Thursday May 23 at 10 a.m. after the COG meeting. COG members are encouraged to submit questions in advance for the legislators to address, and also to bring their fellow elected officials to the meetings.

- Public Works – Emma Seibert noted the next meeting on May 28 at 9 a.m. at Tyrone Township and encouraged COG members to attend. The Public Works Committee will have a breakfast meeting October 2 with a presentation on dealing with difficult people. She asked COG members to make sure their roadmasters and public works supervisors are on the Public Works Committee email list. The Committee is also distributing information about related activities such as the regional chapter of the American Public Works Association. Public Works will be working in coordination with the COG Joint Purchasing Committee.
- Joint Purchasing – will meet after the COG meeting to reorganize the committee.
- Emergency Services – Sharon Hamm announced that the Fire Services Study has been released and every supporting municipality should have received a copy. It is also on the ACCOG website. The study indicates underfunding of emergency services. The Committee will be addressing a standardized chart of accounts that will help municipalities and emergency services compare ‘apples to apples’.
  - Fire Study meeting Monday May 6 at 6:30 pm at the Emergency Services Center to present the results. COG members should encourage their fellow elected officials and fire companies to attend the meeting, where they will be able to address questions directly to the study consultant.
  - **MOTION HAMM (STRABAN) SECOND SEIBERT (TYRONE) THAT THE COG REQUEST ITS SOLICITOR TO ADDRESS PROCEDURES AND PROCESS FOR ENACTING A FIRE TAX AND HOW MUNICIPALITIES CAN COLLABORATE FROM A FINANCIAL STANDPOINT IN ADDRESSING FIRE SERVICES.** Discussion followed concerning the timing of the motion. Several COG members suggested waiting until after the public meeting on May 6 to discuss specific actions. Hamm and Gordon explained the intent of the motion, which is to have more information about how to proceed available at the May 6 meeting. **MOTION DEFEATED.** Gordon suggested that the COG reconsider the question at its next meeting.

## OPEN DISCUSSION

- Adams County Commissioners:
  - Randy Phiel announced the next Commissioner’s Forum on Tuesday May 7 at Gettysburg Middle School on the 150<sup>th</sup> activities. There will be information presented concerning a multitude of logistical concerns. Phiel also had an opportunity to meet with State Senators Alloway and Pileggi and expressed concerns about public safety for major 150th events in light of the Boston Marathon bombing, and is hopeful that the Senators will investigate state funding to support additional efforts. The Commissioners also attended a celebration of Ag preservation at Boyer’s Nursery, and two meetings concerning water resources. He commended all of the people involved in water resources discussion.
  - Jim Martin spoke about the impact of ‘bad science’ in discussions such as Marcellus Shale, and commended the Conservation District on its West Nile Virus work which is a reflection of ‘good science’. He emphasized the need for good science when considering issues such as stormwater management and bridge rehabilitation.
  - Marty Qually thanked the municipalities for their responses to his questions concerning local roadwork. He said PennDOT will not be doing roadwork in the county in June and July, and urged municipalities to also defer roadwork during that time due to the 150<sup>th</sup>. He commended the Fire Services Study and talked about the hard choices municipalities will be facing about how they raise and spend public funds. The County is working on Act

13 funds and will be addressing structurally deficient bridges first, based on State priorities.

- Adams County Office of Planning and Development – Andrew Merkel and Ellen Dayhoff reported on Act 13 Marcellus Shale funding. The County received 2011 funds which it will use for bridge improvement (\$143,000) and open space and recreation projects (\$86,033). The 2012 allocation, which will be distributed in July of this year, is anticipated to be at the same or lower levels. In response to the Commissioner's request to prioritize open space and recreation projects, the Planning Office is distributing a survey to every municipality concerning current facilities and future plans.
- Senator Alloway – Scott Pitzer reported on Senator Alloway's 3<sup>rd</sup> annual job fair in Franklin County which included several Adams County employers. The Senator has received requests from a few municipalities to use radar, and he is supporting the legislation. Pitzer urged municipalities to consider Facebook and Twitter accounts, and said that is the main form of communication for the Senator.
- Penn State Extension – Judy Chambers noted that Extension is offering a webinar series on land use and local decision-making. If there is interest in Adams County, she can arrange to have the webinars repeated for us.
- Adams County Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) – Bill Hanne noted that Pennsylvania is one of 2 states without well-drilling regulations, and also has a large number of wells with non-potable water. WRAC is working on a model well-drilling ordinance for municipalities to adopt. Municipalities had the opportunity to comment on the model ordinance last month. WRAC is also working on a way to define the 'sustainable yield' of groundwater within 1 square mile of new water withdrawals, to help municipalities address new development.
- ACBA – Ron Harris. Next meeting is Monday May 20
- ACATO – An electronic newsletter has been distributed to members. The mid-year conference will be May 15 at Emergency Services Center 6:30 p.m.
- Community Media – Ron Harris announced that Community Media will be taping the COG Fire Study meeting, the Commissioner's Forum and also the COG Legislative Forum.
- School Districts none
- York Adams Tax Bureau Committee – next meeting is April 29 at 6:30 p.m.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 10:10 A.M. On a motion and second by locco (Oxford) and Ketterman (Germany).

***Next meeting – May 23 at 8:30 am at Adams County Emergency Management Building, 230 Greenmyer Lane, Gettysburg. Legislative Forum will follow the regular COG meeting at 10 a.m.***

Signed,

Judy Chambers  
Acting Secretary