

Adam County Council of Government

Meeting Minutes November 21, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Ferd Prehn called the meeting to order at 8:30 am

Ferd commented he is glad to be back.

Members Present: Abbottstown, Arendtsville, Biglerville, Carroll Valley, East Berlin, Fairfield, Berwick, Butler, Conewago, Cumberland, Franklin, Germany, Hamiltonban, Highland, Mt Joy, Straban, Gettysburg Schools, Littlestown Schools, and County of Adams

Others Present: Andrew Merkel (ACOPD), Bev Frey (Sen. Mastriano), Cathy Wallen (Rep. Ecker), and Lt. Nickey (PSP)

On a motion made by Gormont, Mt. Joy, 2nd by Ketterman, Germany, the minutes from the October 2019 meeting are approved. Motion carried.

On a motion made by Bolton, Abbottstown, 2nd by Gordon, Hamiltonban, the Treasurer's Report is approved. Motion carried.

Speaker: Francine Stephen (no show)

New Business:

Nominations from the Nominating Committee (Barb Underwood and Jack Ketterman) are as follows: President, Dave Laughman (Arendtsville), Vice President, George Mauser (Straban), Treasurer, Pat Smith (Fairfield) and Secretary, Danielle Helwig (Butler). Nominations will be opened again before voting at the December meeting.

Pat Smith presented the 2020 proposed Budget. The Budget will be adopted at the December meeting.

The 2020 Meeting dates will be voted on at the December meeting. Ferd chose April as the Legislative Forum and asked the committee if it would be scheduled as an evening meeting. This will be discussed at the next Legislative Committee meeting to be held December 17.

Resolutions:

On a motion made by Gordon (Hamiltonban), 2nd by Hunt (Gettysburg School District) Resolution 2019-4 , Cyber Charter Schools is adopted. Motion carried. Brad Hunt commented regarding the cost to the tax payers to provide this education. Chris Bigger agreed.

On a motion made by Gordon (Hamiltonban), 2nd by Harris (Carroll Valley) Resolution 2019-5 Local Radar is adopted. Motion carried. The Radar Bill is out of Committee with a possible amendment. Cathy Wallen stated that the Senate Bill is what is being voted on in Mid- December. Ron Harris stated that out of 13 departments only 4 will use radar.

On a motion made by Gordon (Hamiltonban), 2nd by Martin (Commissioner) Resolution 2019-6 Prevailing Wage is adopted. Motion carried. No comments

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Coleen Reamer is concerned that the resolutions are being sent to all interested parties. Bob Gordon has confirmed. Brad Hunt added a few school associations and Bob Gordon will send Mr. Hunt the signed resolutions to pass along to those groups. Botlon commented that the Boroughs Association also voted and will forward those to Bob.

ACC:

Jim Martin mentioned that a new County Manager has been hired. Steve N? is from Franklin County. Elections went well with few issues. There is new legislation that absentee ballots will be accepted until 8 P.M. on election night. All absentee ballots will be counted at the election's office. The 2019 elections have been certified but it has not been published. They want to be paid. Comments from the groups all agreed that it should be published for free. Gormont commented on the long lines. Martin assured the group they are looking into this and things can be done. Andy (ACOPD) stated that they could assist if districts would want to split.

Randy Phiel commented on the hiring of the new County Manager, the firing range is open and being utilized. The pavilion is about complete. \$200,000 in Community donations for this project.

Legislators:

Cathy Wallen (Rep. Ecker) mentioned that an Anti-Bullying bill has been introduced.

Bev Frey (Sen Mastriano) mentioned SB 179 regarding Day Light Savings time, SB 316 Training for new Supervisors before reorganization meeting, SB 146 online training for Fire Fighters, SB 417 amending State Election Code., and Minimum wage, 9.50 per hour. The next tella (?) Town Hall meeting is December 5 at 6 p.m.

ACOPD:

Andy mentioned that the archives management is to be held at the Ag Center on December 4. They will be discussing new requirements for submission of plans to help streamline the process. Please RSVP. He also mentioned that Carly Marshall will be leaving next month.

PSP:

Lt. Nickey mentioned the holidays are very busy, especially Thanksgiving. In the last 2 years they have increased DUI enforcement which has seen a decrease in accidents and deaths. They are moving forward with the Land Development Plan for the new station.

Twp Association:

Gormont mention that the Annual Dinner, held last week, was well attended. We need people to step up and volunteer for committees. Ferd mentioned the Jr. Council Person Program. Maybe we can get some of our students involved. Scotty will be presenting this info to the Boroughs Association and he will forward info to Ferd. Barb Underwood mentioned to check with HACC.

Borough Association:

Ron Harris mentioned that only 8 municipalities have responded to the email of education suggestions. Please respond with the numbers of the trainings your municipality would be interested in.

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ACTCC:

Next meeting will be in February

School Districts:

Chris Biggers mentioned Future Ready indexes have been released. Career Readiness, Standardized Testing and On Track Measures. Sub shortages are a problem. The change in the Pension System is also hurting the recruitment of Teachers.

Brad Hunt mentioned that positive changes in the Tech Prep Program are coming in the future.

Legislative Committee:

Bob Gordon reminded us to discuss the Right to Know resolution and the Fire Service resolution with your boards.

General Comments:

Scotty Bolton mentioned that community media is receiving new donations from new municipalities and thanks everyone.

Jim Martin will discuss further how to resolve the long line issue during elections. The 2020 budget has been adopted. The legal costs and IT costs continue to increase. Pat Smith asked about the process for the write in's and if it will be faster. Martin commented they will be looking into this.

Randy Phiel commented that pole workers are an aging demographics. He feels that not having to count the write in's is a great relief to them. There has been no tax increase and the County is in a fiscally healthy position.

John Gormont requested that we all contact the Times to ask that they publish the election results. Feels there should be no cost to the County for this. Ann Geiger commented that the paper is a tough business. Randy mentioned that he will contact the paper.

Bob Gordon mentioned the Times is doing something new... "Public Notice Brief"

Ferd will contact Alex about coverage for our meetings. Scott Bolton mentioned that Jim Hale requests we send snip its of our meetings to him if they are not in attendance.

With no further business a motion was made by Gormont 2nd by Phiel to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Helwig, Butler Township

Secretary

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