

Adams County Council of Governments
May 28, 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:

Arendtsville Borough
Biglerville Borough
Carroll Valley Borough
Cumberland Township
East Berlin Borough
Franklin Township
Freedom 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
Tyrone Township
Bermudian Springs School District
Conewago Valley School District
Fairfield Area School District
Gettysburg Area School District
Littlestown Area School District

Absent:

Abbottstown Borough
Bendersville Borough
Berwick Township
Bonneauville Borough
Butler Township
Conewago Township
Fairfield Borough
Latimore Township

Liberty Township
McSherrystown Borough
Menallen Township
New Oxford Borough
Reading Township
Union Township
York Springs Borough
Bermudian Springs School District

Others in attendance:

George Weikert, Adams County Commissioners
Judy Chambers, Penn State Extension

Committee reports

By-Laws – George Weikert, Barb Underwood and Judy Chambers met with County Solicitor John Hartzell to discuss specifics of forming the COG. Hartzell provided a revised set of bylaws which incorporates the intergovernmental agreement which each COG member needs to adopt. The bylaws have been reviewed by both Hartzell and Township Association Solicitor Walter Davis. Weikert asked all present to have review the proposed bylaws and agreement and provide comments no later than June 15, so that a final draft of the bylaws can be ready for the June 25 COG meeting.

Ordinance and Resolution Committee – Mark Sewell reported that the Fairfield Area School District Solicitor has reviewed the school district resolution, and that Fairfield School District has already adopted it. The resolution has been sent to the other school districts.

The draft ordinance has been reviewed by Township Association Solicitor Walter Davis and is ready for adoption. Both the resolution and the ordinance incorporate the bylaws and agreement by reference.

Nominating Committee – Bill Chantelau presented a slate of interim officers:

- President: Barb Underwood, Cumberland Township

- Vice President: Dave Wheeler, Littlestown Borough
- Treasurer: Lori Duncan, Conewago valley School District
- Secretary: vacant

On a motion by Paul Kellet, Freedom Township and seconded by Brad Hunt, Gettysburg Area School District, those present voted unanimously to accept the slate of interim officers, to be ratified by the COG upon its formation in August.

Chantelau urged those present to consider volunteering to fill the office of secretary, and to contact him before the next meeting if willing to do so.

Ron Harris, Carroll Valley Borough, questioned whether there should be a set rotation of officers among the different types of COG members (borough, township, school district) incorporated into the bylaws. After some discussion, those present chose not to do so at this time out of a concern that it could be restrictive. The bylaws can be amended by the COG at any time, with amendments presented at one meeting and voted on at the following meeting.

Barb Underwood took the chair as interim president. She noted that Sharon Hamm, Straban Township, had found records of a Gettysburg COG formed in 1973.

Timeline for adoption actions – Underwood distributed a handout showing the actions each potential member must take in order to join the COG. The joint legal ad for the ordinance will be authorized at the June 25 COG meeting, but the exact cost of the ad will not be known until then. It was noted that a municipality may advertise on its own if it does not wish to participate in the joint ad.

Bid Procedures – Underwood and Judy Chambers (Penn State Extension) distributed a handout on proposed bidding procedures to be used for COG projects. John Hartzell will look at all the municipal codes and come up with an advertising protocol that satisfies them. Flo Ford, Cumberland Township, Dave Hazlett, Carroll Valley Borough and Brad Hunt, Gettysburg Area School District, will send citations from applicable portions of their respective municipal codes to Hartzell.

Other business

COSTARS: John Lawver (Gettysburg Borough) suggested that the COG may be able to join COSTARS, the state joint purchasing program. He will look into this.

EIT Meeting: George Weikert reported that since the state has not yet provided the weighted votes required for the first EIT meeting under Act 32, the Commissioners have postponed the informational meeting and will reschedule it for July. After some discussion it was agreed that information and coordination for Act 32 should come from the County Commissioners and not through the COG.

Potential COG Projects

Push-to-talk phones: Representatives from Verizon and Nextel gave brief presentations on their products. They both have state-negotiated contracts and are unable to provide special pricing for the COG.

Surplus Equipment Auction: Dave Hazlett, Carroll Valley Borough and Howie Kessel, Fairfield Area School District agreed to work on this. Judy Chambers, Penn State Extension, offered to arrange a meeting with the Franklin County COG member who runs their surplus auction.

Public Comment

None.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday June 25, 8:30 a.m., Gettysburg Area School District Administration Building, 900 Biglerville Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

Minutes submitted by Judy Chambers, Penn State Extension

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Minutes submitted by Judy Chambers, Penn State Extension

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