

Adams County Council of Government
July 20, 2023
Meeting Minutes

1. President Scholle called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
2. Pledge to the flag
3. Members Present: Arendtsville, Bendersville, Biglerville, Fairfield, Gettysburg, Littlestown, McSherrystown, Butler, Conewago, Cumberland, Germany, Hamiltonban, Highland, Mt. Joy, Straban, Bermudian Springs, Conewago Valley, Upper Adams and the County of Adams
Others: Vanassa Sanders (Times), Stacey Rice (@home), Catherine Wallen (Rep.Ecker), Tammy Myers (Destination Gettysburg), & Nancy Bull (Cong. Joyce)
4. May Minutes: **A motion was made Arndt (Conewago) and seconded by R. Phiel (Commissioner) to approve the May minutes as presented. Motion carried**
5. Treasurer's Report: No activity, Balance 11298.92. The audit for 2020, 2021, and 2022 was completed by Colleen Reamer and Bob Gordon with no findings. **The treasurer's report was unanimously accepted.**
6. Speaker: NONE
7. New Business: President Scholle was asked to have someone attend the Civic Engagement Day. Please contact him. July 29, 2023. 8-1
8. Regular Business
 - a. Adams County Commissioners: Commissioner Phiel mentioned that they completed a ceremony preserving 1700 acres of Adams County Prime Ag land. Conewago and Union Twps were very involved. Randy Phiel thanked all involved. Conewago provided \$500,000.00 in funding.
Oak Lawn Cemetery: Well Span has entered into a purchase agreement for a portion of the property. Mercy House has reopened and is occupied by the Nicholas House. Adams County has completed Tax Assessment Update: 9 billion dollars of Value consisting of 45,131 taxable parcels. 76,826 on per capita. Fire EMS: Municipalities can provide some relief to volunteer emergency responders.
 - b. Legislative Representatives:
Nancy Bull (Cong. Joyce:) Congressman will be back in Adams County for two weeks in August, please contact Nancy if you need to speak with him. Working through the appropriations committee for a Gettysburg project, more to come. Working to pass the farm bill. Addressing issues on pediatric cancers and broadband.
Catherine Wallen (Rep Ecker): The budget has not been passed but it is in the Senate. Rep Ecker will be attending the South Mountain Fair and the Shippensburg Fair. August 10 is Family Fun Night at the Oakside Park. Senior Fair at the Brethren Home date to be determined. Please call if you need anything.
 - c. ACOPD:
 - d. Township Association: Bob Gordon mentioned they need a vice president and there are many committee vacancies. Secretary luncheon Sept. 27. Annual conference November 15.

- e. Borough's Association: David Laughman mentioned the most recent June meeting they made some bylaw changes, term limits etc.
- f. PSP: No report
- g. Destination Gettysburg: Tammy mentioned the 160th Anniversary and provided statistics on Hotel Occupancy. There was a 2% increase at bike week. 18,000 visitors and generated 15 million dollars. Registered civil war trail signs have been placed at the Lincoln train station and the Shriver House. The Blue Grass festival and Brew fest in August.
- h. ACTCC: No Report
- i. School Districts:
 - Justin Peart, Bermudian Springs mentioned they are waiting on the budget. Waiting to see how the Hold Harmless bill will impact them. August 16 Staff will return, August 22 Students will return. The Locker Room project will be completed for the fall sports.
 - Joseph Albin, Upper Adams mentioned they are also waiting on the budget. They are hiring 15-20 positions. There will be renovations to the North Gym. August 23 the students will return.
 - Matt Muller, Conewago Valley mentioned the Greenhouse project is well underway and the flooring project is wrapping up. Hiring 20-25 positions. Students return August 22. Asked if Adams County had a Save Schools Association.
- j. Stacey Rice (@home): @home is an initiative that works with SCAPP. Stacey mentioned the next coalition meeting is the 24th. Pa Housing Financing Committee will be speaking and focusing on low-income housing. Actively involved with the York Adams Public rabbit transit human services plan. She encourages you to complete any surveys that you may receive. The Grand History Trail committee will be meeting in October. COG members are invited.
- k. AEA: No report

9. Committee Reports

- a. AC Collaboration: Bob Gordon mentioned they are working on cyber security. The next meeting is Tuesday August 22.
- b. Legislative: David Laughman mentioned they are still working on the Forum
- c. Emergency Services: No report
- d. PA COG: No Report
- e. Broad Band Task Force: Marty Qually attended state and national panel discussions. Speaking about Rural Outreach. The population does not have the education yet on the Broad band. George Mauser mentioned that PA will be releasing the draft of the 5-year plan on the 26th. When the Task Force Study comes through it will go to the ACC for review. A briefing will then be made to COG. The current process is around the Pa Infrastructure program and Covid funds. There are 3 organizations looking for a letter of support. The COG is being asked to do a letter of support for Comcast. Municipalities will be asked for a letter of support as well. Grants are not all submitted and they are currently confidential.

A motion was made by Bob Gordon and seconded by Dave Westcott to approve the letter of Support for the Comcast application to the COVID 19 ARPA Capital Projects Fund Infrastructure Program. Motion carried

The next step is to review the plan. A presentation may be ready for September or October. The Goal for the County is to have the entire County have affordable internet access. The state is allocated 1.6 million dollars.

9. Public Comment

Judy Butterfield is hosting the professional recycling conference. The first presentation was by a demolition company. The theme of the conference is repurposing. Next year the conference will be in Bethlehem. Also, there is a large project north of the Square currently moving through the zoning etc. processes.

Bob Gordon thanked Vanessa Sanders for getting our COG information out to the public.

12: Adjourn

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Danielle Helwig
Butler Township Secretary