**MINUTES UPPER DAUPHIN COG**

Thursday, November 20, 2014
at Rush Township

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Dauphin Council of Governments was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Ron Hepner with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The following persons were in attendance:

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| Ken Bechtel | Halifax Township |
| Trish Barder | Lykens Borough |
| Jeanette Crabb | Lykens Borough |
| Albert Morgan | Lykens Township |
| Ron Hepner | Upper Paxton Township |
| Alan Loesch | Jefferson Township |
| Robyn Loesch | Jefferson Township |
| John Kasputis | Rush Township |
| Ron Koppenhaver | Rush Township |
| Robb Wentzel | Medic 6/ Lifeteam |
| John Logan | Medic 6 |
| Leah Perlman-Storch | Dauphin County Planning Commission |
| Marty Sowers | Light-Heigel |
| Sue Helm | Representative 104th |

There were six municipalities represented, seven are needed for a quorum.
**Quorum not met – no votes will be held**

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**
Checking Account:

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance Sept. 18, 2014 | **$3101.56** |
| Expenditures October | 199.00 |
| Balance November, 2014 | **$2902.56** |

Bills for November 2014 meeting will be held until January Meeting

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|---|---|
| Robyn Loesch – Nov. | $199.00 |

**CORRESPONDENCE - NONE**

**PUBLIC COMMENT -** It was noted that the House Bills discussed last month, dealing with proposed changes to Executive Sessions and Municipal Agendas, are both dead until the next legislative session.
John Logan reported that Community Life Team is doing well, and a good working relationship continues with the local BLS services (Halifax, Williamstown, and Millersburg). The 2015 memberships have been mailed out. Another Greater-Harrisburg area ambulance service, Holy Spirit, is now part of the Geisinger System.

**GUEST SPEAKER -** Leah Perlman-Storch, Dauphin County Planning Commission, gave an update about some of the TCRP commission activities. The Commission is working on a new Regional Transportation Plan. May 7th is the TCRP annual dinner, and the Keynote speaker is Robert Steuteville. In January, TCRP will be sending out a local building permit survey. In March, there will be a three day PMPI zoning course held in Swatara. This past year, TCRP has reviewed 124 sub-division plans. A lot of these plans are in Dauphin County. Local problems with the new mini-cell towers have become an issue for some municipalities. These small "repeater" towers are about the height of a telephone pole and have a refrigerator sized box at the base. Phone companies are

placing these in the right of ways of other utilities. Zoning can control or limit their placement. TCRP is looking into protective options for local municipalities that do not have their own zoning.

George Connor, Deputy Director DCED, gave an update about the new County Community Rating System program. This PEMA sponsored program is giving the County free technical assistance. The program will look a local floodplain management and mitigation programs, and municipalities that have effective programs may merit a decrease in flood insurance premiums. Municipalities that are interested in the program must sign a letter of intent.

Sue Helm commented that the prevailing wage reform bill did not pass the House this session, despite having another six sponsors. Hopefully, progress can be made on this issue in the next session.

Marty Sowers was asked if contractors can be held liable for not obtaining UCC or local permits. He answered, that only the property owner can be held responsible. After a general discussion, it was suggested that the municipalities put a notice on their websites stating that most pools require a UCC permit.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- The UDITO litigation – no update.
- County EIT program is doing well. A recent audit and financial report showed that everything is still on target.
- Regional Police. –they recently had their second meeting, but we do not have an update.

**PROJECTS**

Recycling – Ron Hepner, said that the County bought our local recycling program a used forklift from Coleman's ($3,500). COG will send out a letter to the participating municipalities asking them to help offset the labor costs for the area-wide recycling events.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- COG dues will remain the same for 2015.

**PROBLEMS OF LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES -** Ron Hepner talked about puppy mills. Local zoning can regulate the size of the operation, and possibly the location. Zoning cannot ban this type of operation.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The January 15, 2015 meeting will be hosted by Halifax Township.