

MINUTES UPPER DAUPHIN COG

Thursday, May 19, 2022
Hosted by Upper Paxton Township

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Dauphin Council of Governments was called to order at 700 p.m. by Sec/Treas Robyn Loesch. The following persons were in attendance:

Alan Bowman	Millersburg Borough
Alan Loesch	Jefferson Township
Robyn Loesch	Jefferson Township
Deb Everly	TCRP, & Jefferson Township
Ken Bechtel	Halifax Township
Carole Wertz	Lykens Borough
Jeanette Crabb	Lykens Borough
Trish Barder	Lykens Borough
John Orr	Upper Paxton Township
Bob Stoner	Upper Paxton Township
Glenn Stonerroad	Washington Township
Jane Lahr	Wayne Township
Steve Deck	TCRP
Marty Sowers	Light-Heigel

There were seven municipalities represented, seven are needed for a quorum.

ELECTION OF 2022 OFFICERS

Alan Loesch made a motion to elect Chris Dietz as President and seconded by Jane Lahr. Ken Bechtel made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by Bob Stoner. All in favor.

There was no candidate for Vice-President.

Bob Stoner made a motion to re-appoint Robyn Loesch as Secretary Treasures. Seconded by Jane Lahr. Bob Stoner made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by Ken Bechtel. All in favor.

MINUTES

Ken Bechtel made a motion to accept the minutes of the last pre-Covid minutes for February 2020. Seconded by Alan Loesch. All in favor.

TREASURERS REPORT

Balance May 19, 2022 \$ 2,821.88

When COG did not meet over the past eighteen months, the only bills paid were for our website and insurance. The cash reserve was spent down.

CORRESPONDENCE

The County sent a letter that the County Township Association (DCATO) was trying to regroup and restart. Bob Stoner had attended the meeting There was no DCATO convention last year, and the previous year had more vendors than participants. The County will be conducting a survey to help come up with ideas and improvements,

PUBLIC COMMENTS NONE

GUEST SPEAKERS

Jerry Duke – Discussed TCRP has worked with many of the local municipalities on their land development plans, zoning and some ordinances. Upper Paxton Township recently developed a solar ordinance. Washington

Township re-did their zoning, and Millersburg has a plan for downtown zoning. He discussed the new model toolkit that is featured on the TCRP website. It is a library of planning resources. Right now there are four main topics in the toolkit (Environmental, Subdivision, Transportation and Zoning), but he is now working with Deb Everly and a new topic of forestry ordinances is being discussed. Solar farms have become a hot topic in our area. There is some concern in the rural areas about the loss of agricultural land. This area is desirable because it is near a metro area and transmission lines and has flat land. Marty Sowers said that sometimes there is some agricultural usage between rows of solar panels.

Marty Sowers, Light Heigel – There is now a full time person at their Halifax office, and another person will be starting soon. He talked about the solar meetings that he has attended. There have been heated meetings about solar farms. Jerry Duke mentioned that Penn State has a lot of solar information for people thinking about getting into solar. They have model agreements that help the homeowner make a good choice. Currently in PA you cannot sell excess electricity to neighbors, it must be sold back to the utilities.

OLD BUSINESS – Alan Loesch made a motion to appoint Dave Barder to the COG UCC Board of Appeals, Seconded by Ken Bechtel and all were in favor. We are still trying to contact some of the remaining original members.
Our recycling program is still working.

NEW BUSINESS – COG will be looking into changing the frequency of meetings and is considering meeting quarterly.

PROBLEMS OF MUNICIPALITIES – NONE.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting will be in Jefferson Township..

ADJOURNMENT. Alan Loesch made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Glen Stonerod. Meeting adjourned at 8:20.