MINUTES UPPER DAUPHIN COG

Thursday,
June 21, 2012
Jefferson Township Building

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:

Ron Hepner	Upper Paxton Township
Alan Loesch	Jefferson Township
Margaret Peterson	Jefferson Township
Robyn Loesch	Secretary-Treasurer
Michael Ward	Berrysburg Borough
Larry Shade	Gratz Borough
Dwight Davis	Gratz Borough
Herb Engle	Gratz Borough
Harry Shiro	Gratz Borough
Christopher Blose	Halifax Borough
Trish Barder	Lykens Borough
Jeanette Crabb	Lykens Borough
Albert Morgan	Lykens Township
Ronald Kolva	Mifflin Township
Rich Keeney	Mifflin Township
Shirley Radel	Wayne Township
Nancy Warfel	Wayne Township
Gary Miller	Wayne Township
Justin Hoover	Jackson Township
Larry Smeltz	Millersburg Borough
Ann Smeltz	
Steve Boyer	Medic 6
Robb Wentzel	Lifeteam
Sheila Keiter	resident, Jefferson Township
Mike Hubler	Dauphin County Conservation District
Mike Pries	Dauphin County Commissioner
Mike Keiser	District Director, PennDOT Engineering District *8-0*
Keith Kepler	Director, Dauphin County Solid Waste Management & Recycling

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

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Gary Miller made a motion to approve as amended, the minutes of the May 17, 2012 meeting. Seconded by Justin Hoover. All in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking Account:

Balance May 17, 2012April 19, 2012	**$2302.60**
Expenditures May meeting	199.00
Receipts	0
Balance June 21, 2012	**$2103.60**

Money Market CD:

Balance June 21, 2012	**$3122.06**
Interest now paid quarterly (Halifax National Bank)	

Bills to be paid at the June 21, 2012 meeting

Robyn Loesch	$199.00
Robyn Loesch (stamps)	18.00
	$217.00

A motion to pay the bills was made by Harry Shiro, seconded by Albert Morgan. (Unan.)

PUBLIC COMMENT – Robb Wentzel said that Medic 6/Community Lifeteam would like to visit all of the municipalities and give an update. It has been one year since the merger. COG will send Steve Boyer a list of municipal contact information.

GUEST SPEAKERS - Commissioner Mike Pries talked about the Local Share Gaming Grant program. Last year there were seventy-seven applications and about one-half of the applicants received some amount of funding. He reminded the municipalities of the Sept 4th application deadline. Mike also gave an overview of the current debt issues with the Harrisburg incinerator.

Mike Keiser, District Executive PennDOT District 8-0 gave an overview of the districts operations. District 8 encompasses 5000 miles of roads. District 8 is made up of eight Counties. Funding comes through both County budgets and HATS funding for capital projects. District 8 has paving crews in each County as this has been more cost effective than private crews. The annual budget is developed using a five year look–back. This year, due to a very mild winter, some funds were freed up and part of a local project (12 miles on Powells Valley Rd.) was upgraded. Originally, all of these 12 miles was to be seal coated, but 4.6 miles were upgraded to a leveling course. (costs: sealcoat $12,000/mi, leveling $80,000/mi). Funding is a major part of the project decisions, PennDOT revenues have decreased since 2009 with a 50 million decrease for District 8. For every dollar spent by PennDOT, 75% is spent in the private sector for materials and private contractors. After a general discussion, it was agreed that most of the problems/complaints have been cause by lack of communication. Mike agreed to pass the information about future road projects and plans (information from the Legislative briefings) on to COG for distribution to the local municipalities. Updates and information will go a long way to head off complaints and rumors.

Keith Kepler, Director Dauphin County Solid Waste & Recycling has recently taken over for Kelly Wolf. He has already been busy looking to resolve the problem with overflowing bins. He will be changing the routing of the collection trucks to add flexibility and hopefully improve the overflow situation. At the recycling center, they are expanding electronic recycling capacity, as private haulers will soon not be able to take any electronic items. There was a general discussion about local recycling efforts. COG will highlight the County program on its website and distribute County recycling information to the municipalities.

CORRESPONDENCE – Sue Helm called tonight to send her regrets that she could not attend this meeting. The House is in a late night session.

OLD BUSINESS

- EIT – The only new news is that Keystone was told that both Halifax and Upper Dauphin have recently completed a new school census. The school districts have made this information available to Keystone. Hopefully, this census will help reduce PSD code (tax district) errors.

PROJECTS –Radios – no new information,

NEW BUSINESS - NONE

PROBLEMS OF LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES - NONE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting will be September 20, 2012. The May meeting will be held in Lykens Borough.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 on a motion made by Dwight Davis, seconded by Justin Hoover. Unan.