

MINUTES UPPER DAUPHIN COG

Thursday, January 15, 2015
at Halifax 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:

Dwight Davis	Gratz Borough
Ken Bechtel	Halifax Township
Livi Sweigart	Halifax Township
Cory Stazewski	Halifax Township
Wendy Wentzel	Halifax Township
Albert Morgan	Lykens Township
Keith Crum	Jefferson Township
Pam Crum	Jefferson Township
Alan Loesch	Jefferson Township
Robyn Loesch	Jefferson Township
Ron Koppenhaver	Rush Township
Robb Wentzel	Medic 6/ Lifeteam
John Logan	Medic 6
Tom Billow	Mifflin Township
Rich Keeney	Mifflin Township
Ron Hepner	Upper Paxton Township
Donna Sitlinger	Washington Township
Nancy Warfel	Wayne Township
Skip Memmi	DCED

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

ELECTION OF 2015 OFFICERS

Robyn Loesch, Temporary Chair asked for nominations for Chairman.

Tom Billow nominated Ron Hepner for Chairman, seconded by Ken Bechtel. Tom Billow made a motion to close the nominations for Chairman, seconded by Ken Bechtel. All in favor of Ron Hepner as Chairman, Unanimous.

Tom Billow nominated Alan Loesch for Vice-Chairman, seconded by Keith Crum. Ken Bechtel made a motion to close the nominations for Vice-Chairman, seconded by Keith Crum. All in favor of Alan Loesch as Vice-Chairman, Unanimous.

Ron Hepner made a motion, seconded by Pam Crum, to appoint Robyn Loesch as 2015 Secretary/Treasurer. Ken Bechtel made a motion to close the nominations for Secretary/Treasurer, seconded by Keith Crum. All in favor of Robyn Loesch as Secretary Treasurer, Unanimous.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Pam Crum made a motion to approve the informal minutes from the November 20, 2014 meeting (quorum not met but minutes taken). Seconded by Nancy Warfel. All in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The 2014 Audit was conducted by Nancy Warfel and Wendy Wentzel.

Checking Account:

Balance November 20, 2014	\$2902.56
Expenditures Nov. & Dec =NONE, no quorum	0
Dues	2581.18
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Balance January, 2015	\$5483.74

Bills to be paid at the January 15, 2015 meeting

Robyn Loesch –Nov., Dec. & Jan	\$597.00
Cloud 5 Solutions	390.61

CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

NEW BUSINESS

- Cory Stazewski provided information about the CDL Program supervision requirements. By Federal law, everyone needs to have someone trained as a CDL supervisor. He has contacted PSATS and they will provide a training session if we make arrangements to hold a class, PSATS minimum cost is \$700 per class. Halifax volunteered their building to hold the class. COG will contact other municipalities and private businesses to see if there is local interest. It was also suggested that we see if there is a need for the CDL administrative class too. Tom Billow made a motion, seconded by Ken Bechtel to have COG organize and pay the initial \$700/ class, if there is enough local interest. All in favor.
- There was a shot discussion about possible future guest speakers.
- John Logan said that the recent membership drive is going well. If any of us hear that a local area did not get the membership mailing, please contact him.
- Skip Memmi gave updates on several County programs. The next round of Gaming Grant proposals will be presented to the Commissioners in February. In March, the awards will be announced. The ESCO energy program can provide consultants to evaluate capital improvements. These improvements are then paid back with the savings from energy costs.

GUEST SPEAKER - Bruce Beardsley, PA COSTARS Marketing Manager, gave a presentation about the COSTARS program. Municipalities have item cost thresholds where they must either formally bid or go out for three quotes. Using the COSTARS program lets you bypass these thresholds, as the state has already put these items out for competitive bids. COSTARS offers a vast range of items such as office supplies, road salt, vehicles, appliances, and power equipment. In fiscal year 2013 to 2014, almost 1 billion dollars was spent through COSTARS, with a savings of 200 million. COSTARS has a new improved website and publishes a quarterly newsletter. There is a resource training module available on the members website. COSTARS is available to municipal and some non-profit organizations. Aggregates (stone and anti-skid) are the only commodity that requires a mini-bid. If you are picking up the material from the quarry yourself, you can simply use the pick-up prices (listed at COSTARS). Then you can also consider your individual pick-up transportation cost when selecting a vendor. However, if you are having the material delivered, you must do a mini-bid. You must request a quote from all of the COSTAR aggregate vendors in your area (listed at COSTARS). You cannot send the bid to vendors not on this list. You must choose the low bid. Keith Crum asked if COSTARS had any contacts for paving services. Bruce Beardsley said that very few COSTAR contracts include labor, except lawn maintenance, pest control, IT services. However it is possible to buy the bituminous materials through COSTARS.

OLD BUSINESS

The UDITO litigation – some of the municipalities have received an update from their solicitors. The review of the finances has found negative account balances.

Regional Police. – No update yet. Several municipalities were contacted to take a survey about the prospect of a regional police force.

PROJECTS

Recycling – Ron Hepner said that the program is still going well/ Gratz has again volunteered to take over as the host municipality for the April recycling.

PROBLEMS OF LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES - Ron Hepner said that Upper Paxton Township had recently passed an ordinance about dog kennels that will hopefully prevent problems with large dog breeding operations. This information will be forwarded to the COG secretaries.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The February 19, 2015 meeting will be hosted by Washington Township; and Gerald Feaser, Dauphin County Bureau of Elections will be the guest speaker. To accommodate the March guest speaker, the March meeting will be again be in Halifax Township. Mifflin will host the May meeting, June will be at Jefferson, and the September meeting will be at Upper Paxton/Ned Smith Center.

ADJOURNMENT

Ron Hepner made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alan Loesch. Meeting adjourned at 8:40.