

**MINUTES UPPER DAUPHIN COG**

Thursday, April 20, 2017  
Hosted by Lykens Borough

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Dauphin Council of Governments was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Christopher Blose. The following persons were in attendance:

Christopher Blose	Halifax Borough
Alan Loesch	Jefferson Township
Robyn Loesch	Jefferson Township
Keith Crum	Jefferson Township
Jeanette Crabb	Lykens Borough
Trish Barder	Lykens Borough
Carole Wertz	Lykens Borough
Albert Morgan	Lykens Township
Tom Billow	Mifflin Township
Chris Dietz	Millersburg Borough
Ron Koppenhaver	Rush Township
Glen Miller	Wayne Township
Donna Miller	Wayne Township
Kendall Reber	Pottsville-guest
Drew Wolfe	Pottsville-guest
Bruce Beardsley	COSTARS, Bureau of Procurement

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

**MINUTES** Carol Wertz made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 16, 2017 meeting (March meeting canceled due to storm). Seconded by Trish Barder. All in favor.

**TREASURERS REPORT**

Checking Account	March	\$3,993.89
Dues 2017		+520.52
Selective Insurance		<u>-1332.00</u>
Balance April 20, 2017		3182.41

Bills to be paid at the April meeting

Robyn Loesch – March& April	398.00
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**CORRESPONDENCE**

- PACOG sent information for membership. After a general discussion, it was decided not to join because of the cost.
- Keep PA Beautiful has a grant program to provide security cameras to prevent illegal dumping.
- TCRP has their draft Comprehensive Plan available for review and comment. The link is on the COG website.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Matt Stonerod talked about the upcoming Elizabethtown Borough Bicentennial to be held August 12-19<sup>th</sup>. There will be a parade on the 19<sup>th</sup> that will be a three to four hour event. The parade detour will close parts of Rt 209. Other activities include a weeklong carnival at the park and a Lee Greenwood concert. Someone will be coming to COG with more details.

**GUEST SPEAKER** Bruce Beardsley, COSTARS Marketing Manager, gave a presentation about the COSTARS purchasing program. Using the COSTARS program allows you to purchase directly from the approved vendors and not have to go out to bid. There are two kinds of state approved vendor contracts: COSTARS and State-wide. The State-wide contract may or may not sell directly to municipalities, this is noted on the contract webpage. State contracts are fixed price and not negotiable and are usually the lowest available prices. However, COSTAR contracts are a bit negotiable. Pick several COSTAR vendors and negotiate your best price for your specific item. The 2017 PA Procurement Expo & Forum to be held on Sept. 6 and 7, 2017 at the Harrisburg Farm Show Complex and will feature many COSTARS vendors. There will be seminars and training for municipal purchasing. He also reviewed the aggregate purchase process. These material purchases are different than other material contracts. For aggregates, you must complete a mini-bid and request a price from all COSTAR vendors for that specific material that are in your County. Currently, there is no statewide COSTARS contract for in-place paving. Some small pre-fab construction projects may also be available. Chris Dietz asked if they have ever looked at a municipality's annual spending and see how much might have been saved if everything had been purchased through COSTARS.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- There was no new information on the Dirt and Gravel Road program.
- Most of the COG flagger cards expire this June. Alan Loesch is going to the Train-the Trainer course. Justin Hoover is also a certified trainer, but Alan would be available to hold training during the week. Chris Dietz made a motion, seconded by Glen Miller to reimburse Jefferson Township for the cost of the train-the - trainer course. All were in favor. Alan will set up some training courses as soon as possible. Also, Corey at Halifax Township may also be a trainer.

**PROJECTS** – Gratz Borough hosted The April local area recycling

**NEW BUSINESS** – Chris Dietz made a motion to have COG send a letter of support to preserve Community Development Block Grants, motion seconded by Alan Loesch. All were in favor.

It was asked if all the municipalities could provide COG with their emergency (after hour) contact information.

Travis Enders had contacted Chris Dietz about updating the COG website.

**PROBLEMS OF MUNICIPALITIES** –Tom Billow asked if anyone had heard about any reimbursement for the March snowstorm “Stella’ that dropped heavy snow in our area. Chris Blose answered that Dauphin and Schuylkill Counties were not included in the declared emergency area and there will not be any storm costs recovery from PEMA or FEMA.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting will be on May 18<sup>th</sup> and will be hosted by Mifflin Township.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Tom Billow made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Albert Morgan. Meeting adjourned at 8:45.