

MINUTES UPPER DAUPHIN COG

Thursday, January 17, 2019
Hosted by Halifax Township

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

Christopher Blose	Halifax Borough
Chris Dietz	Millersburg Borough
Alan Loesch	Jefferson Township
Robyn Loesch	Jefferson Township
Ken Bechtel	Halifax Township
Wendy Wentzel	Halifax Township
Robb Wentzel	Halifax Township
Deb Goudy	Elizabethville Borough
Matt Stoneroad	Rep Tobash Office/ Washington Township
Ronald Kolva	Mifflin Township
Ron Hepner	Upper Paxton Township
Keith Kepler	Dauphin County Solid Waste
Jerry Duke	TCRP

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

2018 Audit was conducted before the meeting by Christopher Blose, Chris Dietz, and Deb Goudy. No findings.

GUEST SPEAKER

Jerry Duke, Tri County Regional Planning, gave a presentation about TCRP. Implementation work groups have met to establish goals for the new County Plan. They are asking the municipalities to fill out a short survey to identify local issues. TCRP will be also contacting the municipalities for the annual building reports. Notices will also be sent to the municipal engineer and UCC administrator. TCRP is working with Dauphin County Conservation District and the County Commissioners to look at water quality measures. They hope to look at what may be mandated by EPA and DEP and have some plans before any mandates are applied to our area. They will evaluate any proposed water quality projects. Intermunicipal projects, that affect an entire watershed, or a region, would probably be a priority as well as a better use of funding. Both the watershed improvement credits and cost could be spread over several municipalities. Ken Bechtel commented that farmers are always blamed for sedimentation, even if it is not their fault. Alan Loesch said that COG had previously asked for TCRP to work on public awareness for stormwater issues. Jerry mentioned that some areas have implemented a "rain tax" that takes the amount of impermeable surfaces on a lot. This rain tax is used to fund stormwater improvements.

Keith Kepler, Dauphin County Solid Waste, was sent a letter from COG asking him to reconsider allowing the municipalities to bring electronic recyclables down to the County after their local clean-up days. Keith talked to Commissioner Pries. The County has a 2019 commitment from their current recycling vendor, so the County will continue to accept clean-up day electronic recyclables for the rest of 2019. Keith gave a list of guidelines as to what electronics can be recycled. It should be noted that attached electronics cords should not be cut of. Cutting off these permanent cords will exclude that item from the County recycling center. Keith said that he was willing to have a meeting with the people responsible for the local clean-up days. He stressed that municipalities should call and give the County a heads-up about when and what they are bringing down to the County from these clean-up days.

ELECTION OF 2019 OFFICERS

Alan Loesch made a motion that we keep the 2018 slate of officers. Christopher Blose, President; Chris Dietz, Vice-President; Robyn Loesch, Secretary/Treasurer. Seconded by Ken Bechtel, and all in favor.

MINUTES

Chris Dietz made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 18, 2018 meeting, Seconded by Ron Hepner Barder. All in favor.

TREASURERS REPORT

Balance November 2018	\$2020.54
Sec/Treas. Nov, Dec	-398.00
Interest Nov. Dec	.14
Balance January17, 2019	1,622.68

Bills to be paid at the January 2019 meeting

Robyn Loesch January	199.00
Cloud5	390.61

Ken Bechtel made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report for the January 17, 2019 meeting. Seconded by Ron Kolva. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE – The Pa Dept. of Revenue had sent notice requiring more than ten W-2s be submitted electronically in a specialized format. When contacted, they said that there was a grace period for the 2018 submissions, and they could be sent in in paper form.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE

2019 DUES - Chris Dietz mad a motion to keep the 2019 Dues rate the same as last year. Seconded by Ron Hepner, and all were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS -NONE

PROJECTS –Recycling. Chris Dietz suggested that COG send an article to the Sentinel detailing what electronic items can be brought in for recycling. Ron Hepner asked if COG could reimburse Upper Paxton Township for the new batteries for the recycling forklift. Chris Dietz mad a motion to have COG reimburse UPT the \$131.04 for the batteries. Seconded by Christopher Blose and all were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS – Robb Wentzel said that the Dept. of Revenue released their study of statewide EIT consolidation. The Dauphin County Tax Collection Committee voted not to hire a lobbyist to argue against statewide EIT collection. There was unanimous agreement that COG should send a letter to Representatives Helm and Tobash, reflecting COG’s opposition to statewide EIT collection.

PROBLEMS OF MUNICIPALITIES – Ron Hepner said that even after stream bank emergency repairs are finished, DEP may want the municipality to come up with further permanent repair solutions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting will be at Washington Township on February 21st.

ADJOURNMENT Ron Hepner made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ron Kolva. Meeting adjourned at 8:30.