

**MINUTES**

Thursday, March 20, 2008  
Lykens Township Municipal Building

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Dauphin Council of Governments was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Alan Loesch with the pledge of allegiance to the flag. The following persons were in attendance:

Larry Shade	Gratz Borough
Bonnie Lidle	Halifax Borough
Alan Loesch	Jefferson Township
Norma Shearer	Halifax Township
Robyn Loesch	Jefferson Township, Secretary-Treasurer
Gary Ibberson	Millersburg Borough
Joe Snyder	Upper Paxton Township
Albert Morgan	Lykens Township
Ray Deppen	Lykens Township
Clayton Sitlinger	Lykens Township
Melissa Stahl	Elizabethville Borough
James Wilbert	Washington Township
Charles Gallagher	Berrysburg Borough
Dale Shoop	Halifax Township Roadmaster
Robb Wentzel	Medic 6
Todd Laudenslager	Pillow Borough
Dennis Smeltz	Pillow Borough

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

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the February 21, 2008 meeting were approved as read on a motion by Bonnie Lidle seconded by Larry Shade. (Unan.)

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Checking Account:

Balance February 21	\$4,769.40
Receipts	894.12
Expenditures	333.70
Balance March 20	<u>\$5,329.82</u>

Money Market CD:

Balance February 21	\$5,339.19
Interest	17.78
Balance March 20	<u>\$5,356.97</u>

Bills to be paid at March meeting

Enders Technology	\$ 15.00
Robyn Loesch	\$ 199.00
Lykens Township	\$ 15.00
	<u>\$ 229.00</u>

The Treasurer's report was approved and on a motion by Charles Gallagher, seconded by Albert Morgan. (Unan.)

A motion to pay the bills was made by Bonnie Lidle, Seconded by Larry Shade. (Unan.)

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

HATS (Harrisburg Area Transportation Study). Their Technical Committee meeting will be held on April 11 at 9:00 a.m. and the Coordinating Committee meeting will be held April 25 at 9:00 a.m. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Board Room of Capital Area Transit offices, 901 N. Cameron Street, Harrisburg.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None.

## **PROJECTS**

PENN-DOT Mandated Sign Upgrades Dale Shoop reported that he had to recount sign information due to some municipalities having non-standard signs that are no longer available Dale also found that the largest bulk discount was 8%. Dale will check with Colton Weber about the availability of grants for this inter-municipal cooperative effort. Bonnie Lidle felt that without project grant funds, the low 8% group discount made this project not worth the effort. Alan Loesch proposed looking into limiting the scope of this project to just the most common signs stop signs and speed limit signs.

### UCC Appeals Board

Norma Shearer reported that after talking to Mitch Hoffman and contacting the original volunteer UCC Board members they found the following five were willing to sit on the Board; James Facinelli -contractor, Randy Snyder - contractor, Randy Paul - engineer, Ryan Roads - engineer, Gary Grim-architect. Halifax Township went ahead and appointed this UCC Appeals Board and their Township Solicitor, Steve Dzurani (of Attys. Wix, Wenger & Weidner ) is willing to serve as the Attorney for their UCC Appeals Board. Later, this established board would be available to COG municipality participation. Each participating municipality will then have to pass a local resolution, designating this group as their UCC Appeals Board. COG will have to have an inter-municipal agreement drafted by an attorney. Alan Loesch will also contact Jefferson Township's attorney to see if this is a more cost effective way of getting the inter-municipal agreement drafted. Robb Wentzel suggested that Skip Memmi be contacted for any boilerplate for an inter-municipal agreement of this type. Alan Loesch made a motion for COG to pay up to \$600 to prepare this inter-municipal agreement, seconded by Larry Shade. (Unan.)

Norma Shearer reported that Halifax Township set the cost of UCC Board Hearings, which are paid by the appellant, at \$500. There was a general discussion about making sure that the true costs of these appeals are covered by the fee, as these costs include attorney and stenographer fees. Ray Deppen stated that his municipality has had several appeals to their zoning board some were quite costly, and due to this their Township revised their ordinance to have any additional excess costs (beyond the original fee) to be paid by the appellant.

### Recycling

A general discussion was held about COG sponsoring a computer recycling event this spring. It was decided that it would be best to have this first event after other local clean up days and after the county computer recycling event. This event would be available for all COG municipal residents and will be held Saturday June 14, 2008. Dale Shoop and Norma Shearer said that one of the Halifax Township Salt sheds would be available as a drop-off and storage area. Robyn Loesch had contacted Computer Barn for hauling rates, the 24ft. truck is \$200/day ( if two trips are necessary that day - it is the same price). Alan Loesch made a motion to pay for the hauling cost, Halifax Township personnel costs, and the cost of advertising the event in the Upper Dauphin Sentinel; seconded by Albert Morgan. (Unan.)

### Resolution – Amend the Amendments

The resolution to change the number of municipalities required to amend the amendments from 100% to 2/3 majority has been approved by all municipalities except Berrysburg Borough. Charles Gallagher, Berrysburg Borough, came and explained his municipalities position on this amendment. They felt that this amendment could result in COG's authority superseding the municipal authority, and leave the door open to COG imposing fines or restrictions on an individual municipality. Due to Berrysburg Borough's position, the Resolution to Amend the Amendments will not move forward. Charles Gallagher also asked if the current by-laws can be re-codified. Robyn Loesch stated that she had already contacted the Department of Community and Economic Development for how to acknowledge amendments to the original by-laws.

Medic 6

Rob Wentzel reported that to date, five COG municipalities have responded to requests for municipal funding. He stressed the need for this funding due to rising costs of fuel, equipment, personnel and limited (\$.38/1.00) Basic Life Support ambulance fee reimbursement from Medicare/Medicaid.

Upper Dauphin Income Tax Office

Norma Shearer gave an update of her progress on this project. She has contacted an attorney to draft a resolution giving COG the authority to speak for individual municipalities when dealing with the Upper Dauphin Income Tax Office. Alan Loesch will ask Shirley Radel for a copy of the original contract (Feb. 8, 1966) between Wayne Township and the Tax Office, that was brought up at the February COG meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Williamstown Borough asked on their 2008 dues form if COG had any information on effective ways of keeping up with landlord/tenant reporting. Robyn Loesch asked for other COG representatives to find out what their local policies/procedures are and bring this information to the next meeting.

**PROBLEMS OF LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES**

Charles Gallagher discussed problems caused by outside boilers. He asked if anyone had information on local ordinances addressing this growing problem.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting will be April 17. The meeting will be held in the Halifax Township municipal building.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m. on a motion by Larry Shade, seconded by Albert Morgan.