

MINUTES

Thursday, September 18, 2008

Medic 6 Building

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Dauphin Council of Governments was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by President Alan Loesch with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The following persons were in attendance:

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Ron Hepner | Upper Paxton Township |
| Alan Loesch | Jefferson Township |
| Linda Ruff | Halifax Township |
| Ken Hoover | Halifax Township & Medic 6 |
| Shirley Shoop | Resident, Wayne Township |
| Paul Shoop | Resident, Wayne Township |
| Robyn Loesch | Jefferson Township, Secretary-Treasurer |
| Joe Snyder | Upper Paxton Township |
| Melissa Stahl | Elizabethville Borough |
| Ron Koppenhaver | Rush Township |
| Albert Morgan | Lykens Township |
| Dory Kauffman | Washington Township |
| Shirley Radel | Wayne Township |
| John Shoop | Wayne Township |
| Robb Wentzel | Medic 6 |
| Steve Boyer | Medic 6 |
| Larry Smeltz | Millersburg Borough |
| Mark Long | Gratz Borough |
| Ray Kissinger | Gratz Borough |
| Carl Slough | Lykens Borough Mayor |
| Bill Hoy | Halifax Borough |
| Jim Bullock | Representative Tri-County Planning |
| Kathy Wolfe | Millersburg Planning Commission |
| Lori Yeich | PA Dept. Conservation & Natural Resources |
| Carl Dickson | Dauphin County Parks & Recreation |
| Skip Memmi | Dauphin County - Community & Economic Development |
| Kathy Hetrick | Lykens Valley Rail Trail |
| Pat Tomes | Camp Hill, PA |

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

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the August 21, 2008 meeting were approved as read, on a motion by Shirley Radel, seconded by Carl Slough. (Unan.)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking Account:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Balance August 21, 2008 | \$5583.05 |
| Receipts | -0- |
| Expenditures | \$369.94 |
| Balance September 18, 2008 | <u>\$5213.11</u> |

Money Market CD:

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Balance August 21, 2008 | \$2,919.87 |
| Interest | \$4.96 |
| Balance September 18, 2008 | <u>\$2,924.83</u> |

Bills to be paid at September meeting

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Enders Technology | \$15.00 |
| Robyn Loesch | \$199.00 |
| Caldwell & Kearns | \$120.00 |
| Robyn Loesch – phone reimburse | \$15.30 |
| | <u>\$349.30</u> |

The Treasurer's report and a motion to pay the bills was approved and on a motion by Carl Slough, seconded by Albert Morgan.(Unan.)

CORRESPONDENCE –HATS. Letter from Jackson Township opting out of joining UCC intermunicipal agreement at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Kathy Wolfe of the Millersburg Planning Commission introduced several guests who spoke about Rails to Trails. Carl Dickson from the Dauphin County Dept. of Parks & Recreation spoke about 50% matching funds available through DCNR for Rails to Trails projects. Pat Tomes, project coordinator of Rails to Trails, showed a map of the area project and discussed the local trail project. Pat Tomes discussed visitation statistics for other trail projects and its economic impact. Municipalities maintain ownership of the trail, while maintenance options are partnerships with the Dept of Parks & Recreation and/or collaboration between volunteers and the local municipality. Ken Hoover asked what happens if a municipality along the trail does not want to participate? Pat Tomes replied that no one is forced to participate, the trail is detoured or built in separate sections. A Lebanon Valley Rails to Trails field trip will be held on October 12th. Lori Yeich, PA Dept. Conservation & Natural Resources, talked about potential funding through partnership with the Fish Commission. Steve Boyer, Medic 6, asked about trail accessibility to emergency vehicles, and it was confirmed that these trails are accessible to emergency vehicles.

OLD BUSINESS

Outside Boilers Berrysburg has a pending outside boiler ordinance.

PROJECTS

PENN-DOT Mandated Sign Upgrades

No report. Alan Loesch commented that this project may not be ready in time for consideration in this years' local municipalities annual budgets.

UCC Appeals Board

Alan Loesch said that the final version dated September 16, 2008 has been distributed to all local municipalities. This version corrected several minor typos and the only material change made, on the advice of Atty. Laskowski, was to change the number Board of Appeals members from "five" to "no less than three and no greater than five". The ordinance advertizing requirement for boroughs and townships is at least 7 days and no greater than 60 prior to adoption.

Medic 6

Robb Wentzel reported that the subscription drive has been mailed. He stated that Medic 6 is currently looking for four Board Members; especially looking for applicants with business and/or human resources experience. He said that any legislative action on House Bill 182 will have to happen in the next legislative session. Alan Loesch made a motion of COG support for House Bill 182 (enacting direct insurance payment to EMS provider), seconded by Ray Kissinger.(Unan.)

Upper Dauphin Income Tax Office

Alan Loesch reported that he was contacted by Custer & Faust about overpayment to local municipalities. An email/letter was sent to each municipality on Sept 8th about this issue. Alan also talked to Davis Blaine who recommended that the August distributions be made in full by the Tax Office and any reimbursement waits until the two year audit is finalized. David Blain cautioned that having the Tax Office repay itself for the municipal overpayment from it's Tax Office Administrative Fund, would not be an acceptable accounting practice. There was a general COG consensus to wait for the audit results before deciding, how and when, municipalities repay the overpayment from the Tax Office. Alan was also contacted by a reporter from the Patriot News about the tax office issues, and thought it would be best to limit comments until the audit is final.

Riparian and Stormwater rule changes.

Carl Slough attended the Sept 15 meeting. DEP has not handed down any updated regulations to DCC. The previous idea to form an Authority to deal with post construction stormwater management has been tabled.

Open Records Law

Shirley Radel suggested that COG contact Barry Fox from the Pennsylvania Office of Open Records to give a COG presentation and schedule a workshop in our area.

NEW BUSINESS

Tri County Planning

Jim Bullock the area representative to Tri County Planning, gave an overview of the Commission. There are 31 members and a staff of 17, which provides thirty-seven support services to Tri County municipalities.

Grants

Skip Memmi came to give an update on grants available through the County Local Share Program funded by gaming revenue. The County would consider funding for specific projects, as opposed to funding staff (i.e. a code officer). These are reimbursements and not block grants. East Hannover Township is the top priority for the next three years at 3 million/year. Other prioritization of grants; first – to abutting Penn National municipalities; second - projects with matching municipal funds; third- intermunicipal projects; last - projects of other individual municipalities.

Equipment/paving projects

Ron Hepner said that because of escalating costs, many municipalities are just doing their own scaled down road projects rather than bidding out a larger job. He asked if COG could contact all the municipal roadmasters and compile a list of equipment (paving equipment, rollers, graders, dump truck, sweepers, etc.) that might be potentially available to another municipality for rent/lease/loan. Of course, any arrangements would be made directly between participating municipalities.

PROBLEMS OF LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting will be October 16th. The meeting will be held in the Lykens Township Municipal Building.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 p.m. on a motion by Shirley Radel , seconded by Linda Ruff.