

UPPER DAUPHIN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Regional Cooperation and Issues of Municipalities in Upper Dauphin County



MINUTES

Thursday, April 21, 2005
Millersburg Borough Municipal Building

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Dauphin Council of Governments was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Colton Weber with the pledge of allegiance to the flag. The following persons were in attendance:

Colton Weber	Millersburg Borough
Travis Enders	Elizabethville Borough
Larry Shade	Gratz Borough
Ray Kissinger	Gratz Borough
Mark Long	Gratz Borough
Norma Shearer	Halifax Township
Ken Hoover	Halifax Township
Alan Loesch	Jefferson Township
Paul Reitz	Mifflin Township
Sal Zanghi	Millersburg Borough
Kurt Braun	Millersburg Borough
Skip Wingard	Millersburg Borough
Albert Morgan	Lykens Township
Tom Shaffer	Upper Paxton Township
Linda Bechtel	Secretary-Treasurer

A roll call attendance was taken. There were only eight municipalities present and nine were needed for a quorum so no formal action was taken at this meeting.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the March 17 meeting were reviewed. No additions or corrections were noted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking Account:

Balance March 17	\$3,802.79
Receipts	233.64
Expenditures	299.95
Balance April 21	<u>\$ 3,736.48</u>

Money Market CD:

Balance March 17	\$6,785.46
Interest	11.87
Balance April 21	<u>\$6,797.33</u>

The Treasurer reported that 2005 dues had been received from all municipalities except Elizabethville Borough and Rush Township.

Upper Dauphin COG
Minutes – April 21, 2005
Page 2

CORRESPONDENCE

- Brochures were received from PCCA (Pa. Construction Codes Academy) announcing training courses scheduled for May and June.
- The Annual Report for 2004 was received from the Governor's Center for Local Government Services.
- A brochure was received on a seminar being held on "Assets to Opportunities – Cultivating Your Region's Existing Resources" on April 25 and 26 at the Blair County Convention Center in Altoona.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Travis Enders reported that the committee formed to study the financial data of Medic 6 and other emergency medical services had their first meeting. They have requested the financial data and will hold their second meeting on May 5.

President Colton Weber reported that at the PSATS convention in Hershey this past week, it was announced that the PENN-DOT requirements for higher reflectivity in street signs will be enacted. Municipalities will have seven years to replace their signs. COG members discussed the possibility of jointly purchasing signs. The COG sign making machine was also discussed, it is over thirty years old and actually more costly to use this machine when you consider the cost of materials and labor.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Travis Enders then gave a presentation on the new Upper Dauphin Council of Governments website. www.udcog.org. It was agreed to use "Regional cooperation and issues of municipalities in upper Dauphin county" as the description of COG. Mr. Enders and COG members discussed other material they would like on the website such as links to other sites such as the Governor's Center for Local Government Services, PENN-DOT, and Light Heigel, as well as member municipalities. There will also be a forum for municipalities to post questions and information. There will be a section for upcoming events and announcements, a listing and map of COG municipalities and some archive information. Some of the sites will be accessible only to member municipalities and others will be available to the general public. Everyone is urged to get their contact information forms to Travis.

President Weber reported that he also learned at the PSATS convention that municipalities can receive a reduction in their Workmen's Compensation Insurance premiums if they set up a "safety committee" and enact safety guidelines. It was agreed to request that the representative from Labor and Industry who discussed this at the PSATS convention attend our May 19 meeting to explain the requirements and answer questions.

COG members also discussed forming a group to purchase healthcare for employees. In order to assess the feasibility of this, we should know how many municipalities provide healthcare for their employees,

the number of employees covered under the plan, the company they use, their coverage and deductible, and do they provide vision and dental.

Upper Dauphin COG
Minutes – April 21, 2005
Page 3

DISCUSSION

The placement of cell phone towers and zoning were then discussed, as well as the UCC code.

The FEMA Flood Insurance Program was also discussed as well as the requirement for elevation certificates. Municipalities were again reminded that they must have a Hazard Vulnerability Assessment and Mitigation Plan in place to qualify for any federal funding in the event of a disaster.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gratz Borough is holding their Bi-Centennial celebration in 2005. There are events going on all year long with the big celebration to be held July 8, 9, and 10 at the Gratz Fairgrounds.

The May 19 COG meeting will be held in the Gratz Borough Building.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.