

MINUTES

Thursday, June 21, 2007
Halifax 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:

Alan Loesch	Jefferson Township
Ray Kissinger	Gratz Borough
Bonnie Lidle	Halifax Borough
Norma Shearer	Halifax Township
Linda Rupp	Halifax Township
Flo Mallonee	Halifax Township
Carl Slough	Lykens Borough
Albert Morgan	Lykens Township
Paul Reitz	Mifflin Township
Jim Bullock	Millersburg Borough
Judy Snyder	Upper Paxton Township
Jim Watson	Washington Township
Shirley Radel	Wayne Township
Gary Miller	Wayne Township
Rob Wentzel	Medic 6
Linda Bechtel	Secretary-Treasurer

There were eleven municipalities present, ten are needed for a quorum.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the May 17 meeting were approved as read on a motion by Mr. Alan Loesch, seconded by Mrs. Judy Snyder. (Unan.) It was also noted that meeting minutes are posted on the COG website www.udcog.org.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking Account:

Balance May 17	\$4,607.13
Receipts	239.88
Expenditures	322.54
Balance June 21	<u>\$4,524.47</u>

Money Market CD:

Balance May 17	\$5,183.71
Interest	16.75
Balance June 21	<u>\$5,200.46</u>

The Treasurer reported that dues had been received from Lykens Borough. We now have received dues from all municipalities in the Upper Dauphin County area. This is the first time that all 21 municipalities have participated.

PROJECTS

PENN-DOT Mandated Sign Upgrades

Mr. Dale Shoop, Roadmaster for Halifax Township, who is spearheading this project, did not attend because he is recovering from surgery. He has completed and distributed the forms for municipalities to list the type and quantity of signs they will need. Municipalities are urged to have these forms completed and returned to Dale before the September 20 meeting.

UCC Appeals Board

Colton was not present. He is getting the By-laws and resolution together for the Appeals Board. Norma said she would contact him to see where he is on this project.

Windmills

Upper Paxton Township has just adopted a resolution regarding windmills. They will supply a copy to COG members for their information.

Recycling

Upper Dauphin County is still interested in having an area wide clean up day in spring 2008. The county has agreed to help coordinate this event.

Resolution – Meeting Quorum

The resolution to change the number of members present for a quorum from one half to one third has now been approved by every municipality except Halifax Borough.

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, Elizabethville Borough, Halifax Borough, Millersburg Borough, Williamstown Borough, Jefferson Township, Lykens Township and Rush Township.

Act 537

It was agreed we should invite the guest speaker we had in January 2007 from DEP, Tim Wagner, to attend another COG meeting and update us on information and answer questions regarding Act 537.

Medic 6

Rob Wentzel then gave an update on Medic 6. They are attending individual municipal meetings and also providing municipalities with audited financial information for Medic 6. They are also providing information to be included in municipal newsletters and local paper reporting on the calls and also the value of membership. The letter to be sent on behalf of the COG supporting the \$180,000 Grant application submitted by Medic 6 under the Fema Vehicle Acquisition Program was then approved on a motion by Mr. Jim Watson, seconded by Mr. Ray Kissinger. (Unan.) Copies of the letter will also be sent to Arlen Specter, Robert Casey, Jr. and Tim Holden.

Gypsy Moth Spraying

The Gypsy Moth problem in upper Dauphin County was then discussed. It was agreed that we should form a committee of concerned land owners to spearhead this project. It is too late to spray this year, but we need to be working on the problem so we have things in place and spraying can proceed in 2008. Jim Watson was going to check with some land owners to see if they would be willing to help. Flo Mallonee volunteered to help.

Pa Energy Consortium

Jim Bullock is looking into this project.

Upper Dauphin Income Tax Office

Judy Snyder, who is spearheading this project, then reported that letters had been sent out to all the municipalities and school districts that use the Upper Dauphin Income Tax Office to collect their earned income tax, asking them to review their collections for the years 2002 to 2006 and provide a summary of the receipts to the COG, so they could review it and see if there is a trend. We had a good response and Judy distributed copies of a spreadsheet she had prepared with the information. This will be updated as any new information is received and it will be posted on our COG website.

Judy also suggested that municipalities obtain a list from the school districts of all residents over eighteen that pay per capita taxes and compare that to the people they are receiving earned income tax for to see if there are individuals listed that they are not receiving their EIC tax back at their resident municipality. Letters will be sent out to municipalities suggesting that they do this check.

COG is trying to obtain copies of the By-Laws for the Upper Dauphin Income Tax Office and they would like to have everyone attend their annual Board meeting. No one has been advised yet when that meeting will be held. We would like to have all our information gathered so we can ask questions at that meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

President Loesch then reminded the group that the Secretary-Treasurer, Linda Bechtel, will be retiring at the end of 2007 and asked if anyone knew of someone who was interested in replacing her. He reported that his wife, Robyn, would be interested in the position.

Mr. Jim Bullock then announced that the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity was looking at starting a project that would provide grants to qualifying homeowners for repairs. He asked that any municipalities that would like to participate in this project, who have homeowners that might be interested, should send a letter to Central Susquehanna Habitat for Humanity, 636 Center Street, Millersburg, PA 17061.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next COG meeting will be September 20 in the Halifax Borough Municipal Building. COG will not meet in July and August.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Jim Watson, seconded by Mr. Ray Kissinger.