

MINUTES UPPER DAUPHIN COG

Thursday, March 19, 2015
at Halifax Township

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Dauphin Council of Governments was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Ron Hepner with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The following persons were in attendance:

Robin Snyder	Berrysburg Borough
Dwight Davis	Gratz Borough
Wendy Wentzel	Halifax Township
Ken Bechtel	Halifax Township
Alan Loesch	Jefferson Township
Robyn Loesch	Jefferson Township
Rich Keeney	Mifflin Township
Trudy Paden	Millersburg Borough
Ron Koppenhaver	Rush Township
Ron Hepner	Upper Paxton Township
Nancy Warfel	Wayne Township
Robb Wentzel	Community Lifeteam
Mike Tobash	State Representative, 125 th District
Sue Helm	State Representative, 104 th District
Skip Memmi	DCED

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

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Rich Keeney made a motion to approve the informal minutes from the February 19, 2015). Seconded by Wendy Wentzel. All in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking Account:

Balance February 19, 2015	\$5,4598.81
Expenditures Feb.	1,530.00
	<hr/>

Balance March 19, 2015	\$4068.81
------------------------	------------------

Bills to be paid at the March 19, 2015 meeting

PSATS	700.00
Ron Hepner	39.60
Halifax Ambulance	150.00
Robyn Loesch – Mar	<u>199.00</u>
	\$1,088.60

Nancy Warfel made a motion, seconded by Ron Koppenhaver to pay the bills. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE - Notice from the County EMA about future road construction closures along the river route. Sue Helm said that specific information will be available in April.

PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

GUEST SPEAKER - Attorney Stanley Laskowski gave a presentation about the role of the municipal solicitor. He is currently with the firm of Caldwell and Kearns, and he represents several municipalities and the Halifax School District. There were a wide variety of questions on topics such as workers compensation costs, personal liability, use of the executive session, ethics, conflict of interest, sunshine law, bids, and abstaining from voting.

NEW BUSINESS

- Representative Sue Helm's office is sponsoring a concealed carry seminar that will be held on March 26th at the Halifax Ambulance and Rescue Building.
- Millersburg Borough asked that a letter be sent to Comcast voicing our concern about the closure of the Millersburg Comcast office; all present were in favor.
- Representatives Sue Helm and Mike Tobash talked about the 2015 State Budget and the impact of pensions.
- Skip Memmi gave a short update about some of the County programs. The Gaming Grants will open a new application window on May 1st. The County's infrastructure bank will providing financing toward Middle Paxton's bridge project. The infrastructure loans ate available to municipalities at around ½ of a percent. The County also has an energy savings project program.

OLD BUSINESS

- The UDITO litigation – Municipal officials should get an update from their solicitor.
- Regional Police. – Skip Memmi said that there has been a meeting of the larger police forces in the lower part of the county. This might lead to some minor mergers.

PROJECTS

- Recycling – Ron Hepner said that it was another good month for the electronics recycling, and about forty people dropped off items. Gratz has again volunteered to take over as the host municipality for the April recycling.

PROBLEMS OF LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES - NONE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The April, 2015 meeting will be in Gratz. Mifflin will host the May meeting, June will be at Jefferson, and the September meeting will be at Upper Paxton/Ned Smith Center.

ADJOURNMENT

Ron Hepner made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alan Loesch. Meeting adjourned at 9:10.