

President Gus Fridenvalds called the July 23, 2015 Adams County COG meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

The following members were present: **Boroughs:** Abbottstown, Biglerville, Carroll Valley, East Berlin, Fairfield, and Gettysburg. **Townships:** Conewago, Cumberland, Franklin, Germany, Hamilton, Hamiltonban, Highland, Huntington, Reading and Straban. **Schools:** None. **Adams County.**

Others present were: Matthew Nickey, PA State Police; Sherri Clayton, Adams County Office of Planning and Development; Kaycee Kemper, ACEDC; Judy Chambers, Penn State Extension office; Scot Pitzer, Senator Alloway' s office; Vanessa Pellechio, Gettysburg Times.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LIVINGSTON (HAMILTON TOWNSHIP) AND SECONDED BY BART (READING TOWNSHIP) TO APPROVE THE JUNE 25, 2015 MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

TREASURERS REPORT: Pat Smith (Fairfield Borough) announced that the Treasurer's report which showed a balance as of 7/17/15 of \$9,877.29 was provided to the membership. Smith reported that a check in the amount of \$100 was spent on the ACEDC training event to be held at the Round Barn, as voted on the previous month.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LIVINGSTON (HAMILTON TOWNSHIP) AND SECONDED BY SMITH, CARROLL (FAIRFIELD BOROUGH) TO APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

NEW BUSINESS: President Fridenvalds introduced the speaker, Sgt. Matthew Nickey from the PA State Police of the Gettysburg Barracks Troop H. Nickey provided an overview of the following topics: 1. Staffing at the barracks, 2. PSP work with municipalities 3. PSP goals on enforcement 4. Heroin epidemic in Adams County. Nickey provided information on "Drug Take Back" dates, locations and their importance to avoid drug abuse. Many questions from the members were answered by Nickey. President Fridenvalds thanked Nickey and invited him back at any time.

Bob Gordon introduce the new Township Manager for Conewago Township, Barbara Krebs. President Fridenvalds welcomed Barbara to the COG.

OLD BUSINESS:

AC. Collaboration Committee. President Fridenvalds announced that a meeting was held for this committee. The Committee discussed the possibility of purchasing power with a joint effort with the county or schools.

Adams County Connected. Barb Underwood (CUMBERLAND TOWNSHIP) reported that the Wi-Fi project around the Gettysburg square was successful. President Fridenvalds and Paul Bart (Reading Township) discussed the lack of connectivity from Verizon. Bart felt that the legislature should be involved with Verizon's lack of service for our county.

Legislative Committee: Chairman Paul Bart (READING TOWNSHIP) reported that the COG list of legislative priorities has been distributed to the members and placed on the COG website and suggested that the same be sent to as a Letter to the Editor. The committee was asked to have the COG make a request of Senator Alloway's office and our county commissioners to assist with the following items: 1) funding of safety equipment that is mandated by the state for fire companies (2) provide additional training for fire company volunteers (beyond what HACC provides). (3) Township highway employees required to pick up electronics trash along the township highways. President Fridenvalds reported that Coleen Reamer (Hamiltonban Township) has asked about Jr. Firefighters training and this is a real need in the county, also. He agreed that the fire companies need assistance with training and if the COG can assist in any way he would like that to happen.

Adams County Joint Purchasing/Public Works: President Fridenvalds suggested that a joint purchasing might result in cost savings for municipalities. It has been discussed if we can piggyback on county purchasing or the school purchasing programs. We need volunteers for this group so that more work can be done in that area. If interested please contact President Fridenvalds.

Emergency Services: Commissioner Randy Phiel reported that there was a successful startup for Adams Regional EMS (AREMS) was held on July 28 and Underwood (CUMBERLAND TOWNSHIP) reported that they have a Director working out of Gettysburg and a Manager working out of New Oxford. Phiel is serving on the Board of Directors and they are open for any other municipalities interested in joining to contact their office.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

- Commissioner Randy Phiel announced that the Radio project will be completed by the end of the year. The training for end users is being announced through emails from the EMS department. The old radio system and the new one will be run at the same time during their start-up phase. Also, Phiel announced an award will be given to the county for the best newsletter in the state called "TGIF" and will be awarded at the CCAP Convention. The Commissioners are still working on the Human Services building. Commissioner Martin announced the South Mountain Fair beginning on August 18th and that the county prison has received state approval. Martin continued that he attended a transportation seminar that regarded consolidation of transportation needs.
- Penn State Extension: Judy Chambers reported the Avian Flu concerns for backyard chickens. She asked for members to check their website at psu.edu for more information.
- Township Officials Association: Bob Gordon (HAMILTONBAN TOWNSHIP) announced the Secretary Roundtable will be held on Wednesday, July 29. RSVP should be sent to Diane Groft at Mt. Pleasant Township at mptsecretary@comcast.net

- Borough's Association/ACTCC: Mayor Ron Harris (CARROLL VALLEY BOROUGH) announced the next borough's association date is September 21, 2015. The next YATB meeting is a joint meeting and they will hold the ACTCC meeting prior to the joint meeting. This is to be held on July 27, 2015 at 5:30 at the Adams County Emergency Services building. Emails have been sent out to be sure that quorum will be met for both of these important meetings. Harris asked for follow-up to the Fire Tax Study on how many municipalities have enacted the tax and what the effect on resources to the fire departments has been since the enactment.
- Adams County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC) Kaycee Kemper announced their upcoming training event by a panel of experts to provide local governments information about tools and programs available to assist with Economic Development including LERTA, TIF PILOT, etc. to be held at the Round Barn in Cashtown on August 24, 2015 at 5 pm. This event is free by invitation only to municipal and local school staff. ACEDC continues to work with Adams County Planning office on more planning events.
- Craig Rockey (HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP) discussed the need for the COG to assist in getting more fire company training for their volunteers. President Fridenvalds stated that if the COG can create a forum for discussion than that can be done.
- President Fridenvalds announced that the PACOG newsletter was sent via email to the members.

PRESIDENT FRIDENVALDS ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 9:56 A.M.

Signed,

Sandra L. Vazquez
Secretary