



May 27, 2020
Zoom Meeting
President David Laughman, Presiding

President Laughman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Pledge to the Flag

The following members were present: Arendtsville Borough, Biglerville Borough, Carroll Valley Borough, Fairfield Borough, Gettysburg Borough, York, Springs Borough, Butler Township, Conewago Township, Cumberland Township, Hamiltonban Township, Highland Township, Oxford Township, Straban Township and County of Adams.

Others Present: Alan Kuglar, Ralph Serpe, Alex Hays, Robin Fitzpatrick, Steve Nevada, Rep. Dan Moul, Cathy Wallen (Rep. Ecker) Ferd Prehn, Andy Merkle, Todd Witalik & Sheri Clayton Williams.

Minutes

- A motion was made by Wagner, Biglerville Borough to approve the April 2021 meeting minutes seconded by Qually, Adams County Commissioner. Motion carried

Treasurers Report

- Pat Smith presented the treasures report with an ending balance of \$7494.26. A motion was made by Gordon, Hamiltonban Township and seconded by Wagner, Biglerville Borough to approve the Treasures report. Motion carried.

Speaker: Ralph Surpe, President and CEO of the Adams County Foundation. The Adams County Foundation works with donors and the Board is charged with growing a permanent civic endowment for Adams County. They raise money and attract permanent charitable assets for the community where the money is invested in long term endowments and then each year approximately 5% of the value of that endowment goes out for grants and scholarships among other things throughout the community. They have worked with Commissioner Qually on the Mercy House and are also working on Broadband.

Speaker: Alan Klugar from PA futures: Mr. Klugar is the Principle at PA features, the Pennsylvania statewide civic and government affairs consulting organization. He is working closely with PaCOG and trying to strengthen the organization. The PaCOG has not been well represented in front of the Commonwealth and across the state. They are trying to put together legislation to make or to create statutory authority for the PaCOG so that there is clear authority for municipalities to belong to the COG's. Mr. Kruger would appreciate or would have interest in speaking to our COG group in more detail at a later date.

New Business: None

Legislative committee report:

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Bob Gordon mentioned that at the April meeting the legislative priorities from the COG were approved and they have been forwarded on to the proper persons. the legislative forum is tentatively scheduled for September 23rd in the evening at 6:30 PM location is currently to be determined. The transportation committee did vote on the Local Radar Bill. it is now out of committee and has been moved to the Senate. One piece of Broadband legislation was passed by the Senate. Bill 341 removes regulatory barriers for broadband deployment for landline communication providers and allows the PSC to waive certain regulations that are no longer necessary or in the public interest. The Right to Know has passed in the Senate and is now in the house to be assigned to committee.

Regular Business:

ACC: Commissioner Marty Qually encourages the group to review the Equine study. He mentioned the American Recovery Plan and that with County receiving money and municipals receiving money the possibility of overlapping funds is encouraged to fund projects. Commissioner Qually also mentioned that many of the workers in the tourism business are younger and that they are the largest group of unvaccinated persons and is encouraging our younger workforce to get vaccinated.

Legislative Representatives:

Cathy Wallen, Rep. Torren Ecker: Cathy spoke about the unemployment situation and that the unemployment system is going to be down from May 30th to June 10th for some revamping. There are new benefits that will be available. This should not interfere with people's payments. They have received some complaints about the Adams County CareerLink being closed. the head of the Adams County CareerLink was not aware of some of these complaints and is looking to fix them. the reception area will be open on June 14th and July 8th they will be open fully. Representative Ecker will hold a breakfast in York Springs on June 10th. you must register if you are interested in attending. there will also be a concealed carry presentation on June 17th in Cumberland County which you also must register for also.

Rep Dan Moul: Representative Moul is the Chairman of the Agricultural Committee. Agriculture is one of the biggest industries in Adams County. Mr. Moul spoke on broadband and how some students for example are traveling to McDonald's so that they can get their work done because they do not have Internet service at their home. Had a sit-down meeting yesterday with some folks about broadband and even the best minds in Pennsylvania are struggling to find solutions. Mr. Moul also mentioned that he spoke with Andy Huffman, Dean of Penn University. Penn University is the not only the only Vet School is Pa but is also a research Center. They have developed and patented what's called RNA. RNA decodes viruses. They have worked with the pharmaceutical companies to develop the COVID vaccine. Moul also mentioned that there is a fair amount of fraud with the unemployment compensation. Persons are filing for unemployment under companies that have been closed. If the company does not respond within 4 days, the benefit will be given. The Department of Health is dropping law suits on the business's that did not follow the Governors orders. However, if they sold alcohol, these suits will not be dropped. There are 500 tractor trailer loads of PPE sitting at the farm show

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and according to PEMA, PA is to have two warehouses one in the eastern part of the state and one in the western part of the state to house PPEs for emergency situations and apparently this has never been done. The farm show building is very important to PA and they are saying that upcoming events will happen. Mr. Moul also mentioned that he is very upset about scholarship displacement and is going to or will be looking into this further.

Adams County Planning Office: Sherry Clayton Williams mentioned that the link for the equine study is on the website for anyone who wants to check it out. She is or was having some email issues and the link that was sent out to everyone earlier will be sent out again so you may get it twice. Andy Merkle spoke on the long-range transportation plan and that a survey will be emailed soon. The plan needs to be adopted next year.

Township Officials Association: No Report

Boroughs Association: Mayor Ron Harris mentioned the Zoom meeting for the Adams County Tax Collection Committee June 2 at 6:30 pm. Need to approve budget. The YATB board of directors is July 26.

PSP: No report

Destination Gettysburg: No Report

ACTCC: No Report

School Districts: No Report

AEA: No Report

Committee Reports:

AC Collaboration: No Report

Legislative: See above

Emergency Services: No Report

Quote from David Laughman: “these times are a changing”

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Danielle Helwig



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