CapCOG Board of Delegates

Hampden Township Building, Room 202

Monday, November 18, 2019 - 7:00 PM

M I N U T E S

**DELEGATES IN ATTENDANCE:**

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| Dauphin Borough, Trudy Koppenhaver  Dillsburg Borough, Matt Fawber  East Pennsboro Township, John  Kuntzleman  Fairview Township, Mario Pirritano  Hampden Township, Nate Silcox  Harrisburg City, Hillary Greene  Highspire Borough, Terry Watts  Lemoyne Borough, Sue Yenchko | Londonderry Township, Anna Dale  Lower Paxton Township, Gary Crissman Middle Paxton Township, Jim Fisher  Monaghan Township, Vicki Aycock  Monroe Township, Carl Kuhl  New Cumberland Borough, Rob Kline  North Middleton Township, Harry Kelso  Royalton Borough, Terry Watts | Silver Spring Township, Harry Kotzmoyer  South Hanover Township, Stephen Cordaro  Upper Allen Township, Ken Martin  Wormleysburg Borough, Margie Stuski |

**MUNICIPALITIES NOT IN ATTENDANCE:**

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| Annville Township  Camp Hill Borough  Carlisle Borough  Carroll Township  Conewago Township  Derry Township  East Hanover Township  Goldsboro Borough | Hummelstown Borough  Lower Allen Township  Lower Swatara Township  Marysville Borough  Mechanicsburg Borough  Middletown Borough  Paxtang Borough  Penbrook Borough | Shiremanstown Borough  South Middleton Township  Steelton Borough  Susquehanna Township  Swatara Township  West Hanover Township |

**NON-VOTING IN ATTENDANCE:**

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| Representative Tom Mehaffie, 106th Legislative District  Jim Hertzler, County Commissioner | CapCOG STAFF  Gary Myers, Executive Director  Rhonda Campbell, Administrative Assistant |

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Anna Dale.

The Pledge of Allegiance led by Harry Kelso.

Roundtable introductions were made.

**Consent Agenda**

October 2019 minutes were reviewed and approved. Motion by Bob Charles. Seconded by Terry Watts. Unanimously approved.

October 2019 Treasurer's Report was reviewed and approved. Motion by Charles. Seconded by Jim Fisher. Unanimously approved.

**Executive Director's Report**

* Managers' Meeting was held on November 13, 2019 at Lemoyne Borough. PA Labor Law - Mike Miller of Eckert Seamans was the presenter. Excellent turnout with 22 managers in attendance. A lot of questions and discussion followed the presentation. We've invited Miller to join us for 2020 BOD presentation. We are also working with Miller to develop a training module for municipal managers and supervisors.
* UCC program - 33 municipalities now joined. One pending to join in next few weeks.
* Gary Myers presented the 2020 Budget for ratification. The budget was distributed in October for review and study. John Kuntzelman motioned. Harry Kelso seconded. Ken Martin asked a question about personnel compensation wondering why there was no salary increase for the Executive Director. Myers responded that he didn't want a raise. After first year hired, he said he realized he could do the job for $40,000 not $45,000. He has five or so weeks of vacation a year which is more important to him than a salary increase. He stated that the office runs with more of a partnership now as Executive Director and Assistant working together. Myers shared he is very satisfied and he discussed this with the Executive Committee. Martin stated that the Delegates should recognize that when Gary retires, $40,000 will not be enough to replace his position. The 2020 Budget was unanimously approved.

**2020 Annual Dinner**

* Monday January 20, 2020
* Best Western Premier - Central Hotel and Conference Center. Lower Paxton Township.
* John Baer - Speaker. Recommended by Margie Stuski. Baer has covered PA politics for decades and is a published author.
* Sponsorships - already have about $3,000 in sponsors.

**Salt Ordering**

Salt bid was awarded in October to Eastern Salt for FOB Delivered at $69.90/ton. Riverside Construction Materials was awarded FOB Plant at $52.00/ton. Information was sent to managers and public works individuals and is posted on our website.

**December 2019 Meeting**

Myers asked if the Board of Delegates wishes to meet in December. Stuski motioned to cancel the December 2019 meeting. Fisher seconded. Unanimously approved.

**2020 BOD and Hearing Dates**

A copy of the 2020 Board of Delegates and UCC Hearing dates were provided in tonight's package. There is a typo - the June meeting is June 15, not June 1.

**Cumberland County Report**

Commissioner Hertzler presented his last report to the COG before he retires as Cumberland County Commissioner.

* Last Tuesday attended 3 metropolitan planning organizations meetings in Franklin, Lebanon, and HATS. There is an effort to quick start planning for added safety for I-81 100-mile corridor.
* Latest PennDOT report shows 100-mile corridor would cost $3B to make three lanes and fix all needed items. Numerous reps from PennDOT and FHWA were in attendance.
* Website has been created to highlight the collaborative effort: *I81southcentralpa.com*. Plans for public officials briefing, municipal roundtable, and public meetings and special events are planned.
* The 100-mile stretch impacts 1 million local residents; 21 municipalities, 36 interchanges, 177 bridges, 104,000 vehicles a day - 36% of which are tractor trailer traffic. The first section opened in 1961; 12% of the nations GDP travels along I-81.

Anna Dale recognized Commissioner Hertzler with a plaque for his service to CapCOG. Proclamation 2019-1 from CAPCOG, recognizes Commissioner Hertzler as CapCOG's first ever Delegate Emeritus. Hertzler thanked CapCOG. He was appointed to West Shore COG in 1992; probably attended about 300 meetings. Only had 13 municipalities at that time. Perry Albert was a terrific Director and expanded COG to one of largest in PA. Hertzler shared that he believes the COG is so important because it gives us the opportunity to work together on issues of mutual interest and identify efficiencies we can share. We have 2500 municipalities but Jefferson's idea was that the government closest to the people governs best. Local governments are so important and what you do together at COG brings it all together. Hertzler also shared that the volunteer firefighter issue is a tough nut to crack but I'm confident if we continue to work together we will address these big issues.

**Presentation - Representative Mehaffie**

Representative Mehaffie thanked the COG for having him at the meeting.

* Mehaffie was a township commissioner for seven years at Lower Swatara Township. Nate Silcox and I have been working on radar bill. Local government is my passion. Managed township for a little while in Lower Swatara.
* Long night tonight at the Capital- intense, a lot of amendments on bills dealing with state pensions. Trying to merge PSERS and SERS now but don't have any real numbers at this time.
* We dealt with nuclear power bill to save TMI - HB 11 did not get addressed unfortunately and now Londonderry Township is going to lose a lot of revenue as will the county. And, employees will be losing their jobs.
* Health-related issues is a new area for him. Nutritionists HB1802 hearing in December, scope of practice on dietitians and nutritionists; they are licensed but have never had scope of practice. Benecon does a great job of working with employees to get them healthy.
* HB1900 behavior analysts. This has a lot to do with intellectual disabilities -autistic children. A lot of East Shore kids attend VISTA school for autistic children. Behavior analysts are doing more than just working with children with learning disabilities. Dealing with heroin, PTSD, obesity, etc. 500 people came out to support it. It will help with insurance (30 other states have licensure of behavior analysts). After treatment, people go back to old behaviors; we want to break the cycle.
* HB1686 - Radar bill. Mimics the bill that passed the senate. Bill came out of transportation today (Rothman's bill out of Cumberland Co). It isn't a money maker like people say. It is a way to ensure police have the ability to enforce speed limits.
* Pretty productive year with budget. Education increases - felt budget was pretty fair.

Mehaffie opened the floor to questions.

* Martin asked what is hold up with radar? Mehaffie responded that a couple of people don't understand local government. Parameters in Scarvella bill are really good. He just introduced one in house to have a companion bill in house. 1 or 2 people can hold a bill up. 203 in house - 1 person can hold something up.
* Silcox thanked Mehaffie for help with radar legislation. Up to two sessions ago, not vote in senate. Now 3 consecutive terms it's been voted on. Hopefully this time the house will vote on it. Rothman bill is better than it was at last session. Latest iteration is only full-time police departments. Last time it was full time and accredited. Many municipalities don't have full-time departments. Bill allows 10 MPH over the speed limit. He believes they will be able to get something in place. This is a safety issue. Not a speed trap issue. Not a money issue. Challenge when you have state roads and municipal roads, it can be difficult.
* Marie Hoch mentioned that years ago we had DARE and other programs in the school. Teaching children in schools that they don't want to pursue drugs. Mehaffie shared that funding has been diverted to other programs. A lot of the programming came through the police department. Schools are hiring behavioral analysts to help students with learning and things like drugs.
* School safety grants increase this year. But a lot of our local schools didn't get grants this year. Every SD who applied got $25,000 but the big money went to more of the city districts (e.g., Philadelphia).
* Carl Ruhl - MS4 phase 2 through technical toolbox - PA community clean water. 35% reduction in nitrates in Cumberland County. Is state going to step in or are municipalities going to be stuck with it? Mehafffie shared there is no talk about state helping. Hampden introduced fee in 2015. Everyone should have to pay that fee no matter who you are although government entities aren't paying fees. For example, HIA won't pay to Lower Swatara - they are claiming federal entity. They don't have their own MS4 permit. That's where the big problem is. Municipalities don't have any other way around this but to collect a fee. Highspire is charging a fee to do the study for the fee. Not on the environmental committee - will come through Metcallfe's committee. This is only going to get worse.
* Myers shared that we are engaged with several communities with regard to stormwater fees. Yet every municipality that has billed a government entity has gotten a letter saying that they don't have to pay it because it is a tax. The legislature doesn't authorize a tax, it's a fee. Don't be surprised if we approach you to discuss this.
* Mehaffie responded that if it doesn't happen in your backyard, people don't care. When the Chesapeake Bay legislation was enacted during Rendell administration - this is where this started. If they are moving nitrates to higher level -that's coming from DEP; but probably pushed down from EPA. I lobbied against raising ethanol rates; really hard on two stroke engines, lawn mowers, weed whackers, etc. Not cheap. Farmers in west - the only thing they are doing is growing corn. Mississippi river runs through it; if you're a good farmer you rotate crops. They are putting nitrates into the ground because they want corn to grow. Western PA aren't paying anything to the rivers that are running into the Mississippi river. It shouldn't just be about Chesapeake Bay. Nitrates are being introduced into other bodies of water.
* Ruhl asked about the unfunded mandate for voting machines. State is supposed to fund 60% of costs. We fought hard to get part of the money. We got $90 million. If we are putting mandates out, we have to fund them.
* Martin asked about prevailing wage. Nothing happening. Mehaffie said it is not even on the radar. Prevailing wage discussion needs to start raising the amount. No one even talks about it. Fred Keller brought it up; that was his hot topic but it never got anywhere. There has to be some type of trade going on if that's going to transpire.
* PSATC comes in to talk - what's the #1 issue? Public safety pensions.
* 5G bill - Frank Ferry's. HB1400 - codifies what fed government says you can and can't do. Money in large cities but PSATS was all in on the bill. League of Cities, PSATC and PSAB were not for the bill. Some talk about that moving. Mini towers. Small cell legislation.

**Dauphin County Report**

No report.

**York Report**

Myers shared report.

* 2020 preliminary budget contains no tax hike.
* Former York City Police Chief Troy Bankert was named interim 911 director today.  He will not seek the position permanently.

**Committee Reports**

Silcox - Legislative: Silcox will scan legislative report and we'll send out.

PACOG- Kuntzelman - no meeting for several months. Myers thanked Kuntzelman for all his service to the COG.

UCC - No report.

Public Safety

* Myers is meeting with two grant writers to discuss the Federal Safer grant for recruitment and retention.
* He encouraged delegates to talk with your local fire chiefs to make sure there is buy in. We will need our fire companies on board if we are to be successful.

**Executive Session** - Gary and Rhonda were asked to leave.

A motion was made by Kuntzelman and seconded by Watts to award both employees $1000 bonuses for the year. Unanimously approved.

Motion to adjourn. Charles. Martin seconded. Unanimously approved.