



CapCOG Board of Delegates Monday, July 21, 2025 - 7:00 PM

DELEGATES IN ATTENDANCE: 18

Camp Hill Borough - Mercedes Evans Conewago Township - Mimi Legro East Pennsboro Township, Terry Watts Hampden Township, Al Bienstock Highspire Borough, Mark Stonbraker Hummelstown Borough –Dee Vangravee and Jamie Brubaker Lemoyne Borough – Sue Yenchko Londonderry Township – Anna Dale	Lower Allen Township – Jen Caron Marysville Borough, Brian Webster Middle Paxton Township, Wilbur Evans North Middleton Township, James Hare Royalton Borough, Terry Watts Silver Spring Township, Harry Kotzmoyer	Susquehanna Township, Sean Sanderson Swatara Township, Tom Connolly Upper Allen Township, Ken Martin Wormleysburg Borough, Mike Rudy and Sue Stuart
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MUNICIPALITIES NOT IN ATTENDANCE: 25

Annville Township Carlisle Borough Carroll Township Dauphin Borough Derry Township Dillsburg Borough East Hanover Township Fairview Township Goldsboro Borough	Harrisburg CityLower Paxton Township Lower Swatara Township Mechanicsburg Borough Middletown Borough Monaghan Township Monroe Township New Cumberland Borough Newberry Township	Paxtang Borough Penbrook Borough Shiremanstown Borough South Hanover Township South Middleton Township Steelton Borough West Hanover Township
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NON-VOTING IN ATTENDANCE:

- Cumberland County, Gary Eichelberger and Kelly Neiderer - York County, James Runshaw	<u>CapCOG STAFF</u> Gary Myers, Executive Director Rhonda Campbell, Program Director
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The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by President, Ken Martin.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Martin.

Roundtable Introductions were made.

Presentation

Sean Sanderson – Berkheimer Companies, Taxation Collection & Workflow Document

- Sanderson is a Susquehanna Township Commissioner and is also a Sewer Authority Board member.
- Berkheimer has been in business for 90 years
- 550 Employees – 50 employees handle customer service and phone calls only.
- Companies work in and around local government.
- Largest independent 3rd party tax collection agencies in PA. Serve 32 of the 69 tax collection districts and provide access through 14 local offices.
- 2024 - \$2.98 B in collections. Berkheimer settles to the penny (not rounded dollar).
- If you have a fee or a tax, Berkheimer collects it. Doesn't matter how many accounts you have. Collect delinquent and current.
- Credittech – specialize in delinquent taxes. Sister company. Persistent money (trash, water, sewer, electricity)
 - 10-12 people in office; focus is to help people become current in their payments.
 - Account holder pays for the collection; not the municipality.
- Berkone – Workflow Documentation. All your back file documents (conversion of boxed, filing cabinets, etc.). PA Historical has list of how long you have to keep. Most financial records are kept 5-7 years. We can scan everything; turns into a PDF; key word searchable.
- The only thing more important than getting your money is getting it faster.
- Clients typically see tax revenue growth of approximately 7% year over year for the first 2-3 years after becoming a Berkheimer client.
- Mercedes Evans – How would municipal tax revenue growth due to lack of areas of building. Sanderson – It's a rate of collection answer; we are more accurate in terms of collecting which boosts revenue.
- We recover 97% of delinquent taxes.
- Sue Yenchko - Where are different functions located? Sanderson - Main offices are in Bangor and Bethlehem PA. Very secure facilities. Berkheimer takes security and protecting information seriously. There are smaller offices throughout PA.
- Evans – Are you using AI for automation? Sanderson – Applying primarily in customer service. Berkheimer focuses a lot of energy on technology. Deployed internally to help serve the customer.
- Sean Sanderson: ssanderson@hab-inc.com 717-576-4815

Consent Agenda

- March 2025 Minutes were presented.
- July 2025 Treasurers' Report was presented.
- Motion to approve consent agenda was made by Sue Stuart. Seconded by Wilbur Evans. Unanimously approved.

Executive Directors Report

Borough's Roundtable – June 18, 2025

- Hosted by Penbrook & Paxtang Boroughs
- Four Attendees: Middletown, Paxtang, Penbrook, and Steelton
- Topics discussed:
 - Staffing
 - Sharing resources
 - Electric services/costs
 - TMI restart
 - Polic/Fire

StormFest – Camp Hill Borough- July 23, 2025

- 12 COG members participating.
- Evans – About 3 years ago, Sara Gibson, Camp Hill's manager got a grant to do stormwater education.
- Gibson came up with the StormFest event.
- Scavenger hunt for kids.
- At the Borough building 2145 Walnut Street, Camp Hill.

Program Director's Report

Auction – July 16, 2025

- CV9 Academy – Good Hope Road – Excellent location
- 15 Members (12 last year)
- Total Sales \$151,489.75 (\$124,919 last year)
- COG Revenue before expenses: \$21,678.85
 - Hampden Forklift and Operator
 - Last year's final profit was \$17,216.

Training Update

- Two trainings this week: 7/22 – Work Zone Safety (RETTEW) and 7/23 – MS4 Tools and Techniques (HRG)
- 10 training programs have been held since March.
- Continue to provide us with your ideas for trainings and suggestions to improve attendance.
- Current profit to date for training in 2025 is \$2750.00

Picnic and Golf Tournament – September 15

- 16 Sponsors (last year 17). One additional sponsor possible.
- Sponsorship income: \$16,500 (last year \$15,925) – CapCOG Record again.
- Finalizing details with Golf Course and Caddyshack.
- Might see a slight increase in pricing (last year \$42 golf; lunch \$9; meal \$35).
 - Waiting to hear from Armitage regarding Golf fees.
 - Lunch increased to \$15.54 so we'd have to charge \$16. Changed to ham and turkey sandwiches vs. hot dogs.
 - Dinner will likely remain the same or within a few dollars.
- Flyers will go out the second week of August.

OLD Business - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

COUNTY REPORTS

Cumberland County - Gary Eichelberger & Kelly Neiderer

Eichelberger

- Congratulations on the CapCOG Auction.
- PS Department received recognition from US Army (partner with them a lot). War College and Barracks are like its own municipality. They nominated our PS Department; only nominate a few each year worldwide.
- Middle of mosquito season; west Nile disease; doing education efforts. Go to County's website for more information.
- Report from Economic Development Corporation – more active outreach to municipalities. 20 years ago the EDC was established. Goal is to reinvigorate the tax base of the county.

Neiderer

- Watching state budget and not hearing encouraging feedback. Public Safety is the single largest deficit part of our budget (\$3m short). Watching uniform 911 also.
- Selected a vendor on our strategic planning process. Important for future but also information we can use immediately as well. Public Engagement component to the process as well. We are working more closely with the courts; they were not included in prior strategic plans. Significant cost driver for us and we can't control (e.g., # of judges).
- Close to releasing a lands partnership plan update. Many have worked with Kirk Stoner and his team. Part of the plan has a grant component to help with trails parks greenways. Many municipalities have applied for grants through that. Probably released by end of July. Will come to commissioners for final approval.
- Continuing to dig through our facilities study on behalf of county trying to map immediate steps and planning for the future.

Dauphin County –Anna Dale

- Decision on prison healthcare – choosing from five vendors. All costs are multi-million dollar increases.
- TMI reopening as Crane Clean Energy Center. Lots of jobs when reopening. More money coming into Londonderry Township.
- Great American Outdoors show \$80M revenue, \$2.4M in taxes generated.
- Reeses processing plant (fully integrated manufacturing facility in Hershey).
- 911 took in record number of calls 420,000.

York County – James Crenshaw

- York County dedicated our Semiquincentennial Bell. Third one in the state presented by PA 250. In Springettesbury Township at Camp Security. Last known undeveloped revolutionary war POW camp. Owned by Springettesbury Township.
- Purchased through donors and other funds – Six additional bells which will be placed throughout the county.
- Anyone doing 250 celebration/events. Explore York has a great website to share information.
- 2027 Articles of Confederation Anniversary (signed in York) celebrations.
- Moving forward on our community outreach; trying to put our government back into the face of the populace; street fairs; community fairs. Get county government back out in front of the people. Most people deal with municipalities, but we want them to know what we offer.
- Inducted 299 people into our 50-years of voting hall of fame – general elections.
- Fairview Township – new park is very close to completion. 250-acres; just waiting for final payment from Feds. Next step is master planning. Late 2026 is the target to open to the public. Will have a naming competition.
- Capacity charges for electricity are rising substantially. Even with bulk energy purchasing.

Legislative Update – No Report

PACOG - Gary Myers

- 1st Annual meeting in six years – 9/30-10/1/25 in State College.

Public Safety Committee – Ken Martin

- Recruitment goal was met – we have 203. Goal was 200.
- SAFER Grant ends November 2025.
- Hiccup with fire fighter physicals due to UPMC sale. Looking for another provider. Will likely be working with Concentra.
- By the fall we will decide whether to reapply for next round of funding. This will come before the Board of Delegates for consideration/approval.
- For those of you who have not submitted or are not participating, please reach out and take advantage of the SAFER Grant.

UCC Board of Appeals – Terry Watts

- No new appeals.

Good of the Order

- Nothing for the good of the order.

A motion to adjourn was made by Terry Watts. Brian Webster seconded.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM.