**Western Cumberland Council of Governments**

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Minutes of September 12, 2016**

**West Pennsboro Township Building**

Wayne Myers called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS

Jerry Barrick, West Pennsboro Township Supervisor, addressed the membership as well as MDIA concerning the required documents and fees involved in obtaining a building permit. West Pennsboro Township was required to provide an engineer stamped drawing for the construction of a pavilion and concession stand at the Township Park. He is not very happy and blames MDIA. Peter Conlow, Vice President of MDIA, explained that MDIA does not make the Uniform Construction laws in the state of Pennsylvania; they are just tasked with enforcing them. The Department of Labor and Industry is much more particular with commercial construction. Marcus McKnight mentioned that each Township appoints an inspection service annually at the reorganization meeting; West Pennsboro Township is free to choose a different company. One thing for all members to keep in mind is that MDIA offers discounted rates to the WCCOG compared to what it would charge an individual municipality.

SPEAKERS

Cory Adams, Cumberland County Association of Township Officials President, invited the members to attend the 101st Annual Convention which will be held on Thursday, October 6th beginning at 8AM. Cory encouraged everyone to attend and to consider becoming a CCATO officer for 2017.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of July 11, 2016 were approved on a Martin/Plasterer motion. The motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

The August 31, 2016 bank balances were as follows: Checking $8,443.89, Savings $8,202.82 and Regional Code MMA $152,837.66. West Pennsboro Township earned $2,964.84 for UCC building permit administration in July and August, also the WCCOG earned $741.21 for the same period. The July and August Treasurer’s Report and the August and September Bill List of $76,499.80 were approved and authorized on an Oldt/Fry motion which carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

COUNTY & STATE REPORTS

Dave Parthemore mentioned that Act 60 extends the Volunteer Fire and Emergency Medical Services grant program until June 30, 2020.

Act 85 places a cap on the amount of funding the PA State Police receive from the state Motor License Fund. Beginning in the fiscal year 2017-18 the general fund will begin lowering the amount that is transferred from the fund to the PA State Police until the amount is lowered from $755 million to $500 million.

Guilford Township, Franklin County held an electronics collection in September. North Newton Township was considering having a collection in October however it was concerned that there wasn’t enough time to notify its residents. Dave distributed information about the company E-End located in Frederick, Maryland in case any other municipalities would be interested in the program. There is a cost involved.

Rachel Shambaugh mentioned that there are 13 session days currently scheduled for the House of Representatives and 9 session days currently scheduled for the Senate.

Jeff Kelly reviewed the Cumberland County Packet. He mentioned that the Planning Department is updating the Future Land Use Map. Each municipality will soon be receiving an electronic version of its township map for review. They are requesting that each municipality review the map and provide any comments by October 11, 2016.

The Western Planning Outreach Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 11th at 11:30AM at Southampton Township.

There are plans to form a Cumberland Construction Coordination Council which would consist of municipalities, Penn DOT, Norfolk Southern, utilities, and sewer/water authorities. The goal would be to help coordinate construction projects to ensure safety, mobility, and cost efficiency.

DEP has placed Cumberland County on a drought watch which means they are asking for a voluntary 5% reduction in non-essential water use.

Vector Control continues to trap and test mosquitoes. There have been a few mosquitos in Cumberland County that have tested positive for the West Nile Virus.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Marcus McKnight mentioned that Dickinson Township attended the two UCC Appeals Hearings that were held in July. The manager and zoning officer both expressed concerns about the project. Stipulations were added to the decision because of their concerns. Marcus encouraged municipalities to attend UCC Appeals Hearings that involve their municipality.

MUNICIPAL REPORTS

**Big Spring School District** – Vonda Kelso mentioned that auditors are reviewing the 2015-2016 books. The 2017-2018 budget will soon be started, it will most likely prove to be a challenging one. The stadium project is complete. The new track will start construction in the spring. There are plans to do some renovations at Newville Elementary as well as asbestos abatement.

**Lower Frankford Township** – Karen Heishman said that the Township continues to mow along the township roads and at the township park. They installed a four inch drain pipe on Long Lane Road and Horseshoe Road. Hammaker East seal coated Campground, Opossum Lake, Pinedale, and Wildwood Roads.

**Newville Borough** – Mike Fry mentioned that the Borough received its new gazebo for its park. They are working on two different grants that should result in $70,000 to be utilized for a new traffic light. The Halloween Parade is Monday, October 31st. Construction has begun on the water tank. A hydrant will be added along Route 233.

**North Newton Township** – Dave Parthemore said that the Township’s bridge project on Bullshead Road is now complete. A dry hydrant was installed. Also, the tar and chip projects as well as the mill and pave projects have been complete. The Township roads have been line painted. They need to finish up mowing along the roads. They applied for a feasibility grant.

**Penn Township** – Gary Martin said the Township bid a second time to replace its 50 year old equipment shed. Ag Point’s bid was accepted at a savings of $70,000 over the previous bids. Three Civil War Veterans that are currently buried in a resident’s back yard in the Township are being moved to Fort Indiantown Gap. A burn ban is in place. Smith Road looks very nice. Mabel Stitt, the Township’s tax collector for the last 32 years passed away, the Board has thirty days to find a replacement.

**Shippensburg Borough** – Kevin Plasterer mentioned that the Borough is running smoothly and has nothing major to report.

**Shippensburg Township** – Steve Oldt said the Township received and installed the new playground equipment at the Township Park. The wading pool is closed for the season. Trick or Treat will be held on Monday, October 31st. UGI has begun ripping up Prince and 4th Streets. The Rail Trails have gotten all of its approvals. Construction will start soon at Fort and Earl Streets and continue until next spring. The comfort station at Fort and Earl Streets is also on target to be completed next year.

**West Pennsboro Township** – Wayne Myers reported that the Township completed its tar and chip project and paving projects. The Township roads have been line painted. The fifth pavilion was been completed and is ready for its final inspection. The new concession stand and restrooms are almost finished, and will be tied in to the Township’s existing sewer.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Gary Myers introduced himself as the soon to be executive director of the CapCOG. Ann Simonetti will be retiring at the end of the year. Gary has 42 years of state and municipal government experience, most recently he was the manager of Susquehanna Township. Ann thanked everyone for being so easy to work with over the years, she has enjoyed her time at the CapCOG.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. on an Oldt/Martin motion which passed.

Respectfully submitted by Karen M Heishman, Administrator/Secretary/Treasurer.

September 12, 2016 WCCOG Attendance Record:

Rachel Shambaugh, 199th District

Vonda Kelso, Big Spring School District

Mike Fry, Newville Borough

Dave Parthemore, North Newton Township

Gary Martin, Penn Township

Kevin Plasterer, Shippensburg Borough

Steve Oldt, Shippensburg Township

Dick Adler, West Pennsboro Township

Jerry Barrick, West Pennsboro Township

Wayne Myers, West Pennsboro Township

Peter Conlow, MDIA

Marcus McKnight, WCCOG Solicitor

Jeff Kelly, Cumberland County Planning Commission

Ann Simonetti, CapCOG

Gary Myers, CapCOG

Cory Adams, CCATO

Karen M. Heishman, WCCOG Administrator/Secretary/Treasurer