**Western Cumberland Council of Governments**

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Minutes of December 9, 2019**

**West Pennsboro Township Building**

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

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS

SPEAKERS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of November 11, 2019 were approved on a Martin/Myers motion. Larry Barrick abstained from voting.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

The November 30, 2019 bank balances were as follows: Checking $6,133.09, Savings $30,506.75 and Regional Code MMA $439,204.52. West Pennsboro Township earned $2,803.20 for UCC building permit administration in November, the WCCOG earned $700.80 for the same period. The December Bill List of $38,516.37 was authorized on a Myers/Sangialosi motion which carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

COUNTY & STATE REPORTS

Cumberland County has a new Deputy Chief Clerk, Stacy Snyder. They also have a new Director of Veteran Affairs, Danny Osten.

The seventh courtroom renovations are complete. It will be used starting in January 2020.

For the sixth year in a row, Cumberland County adopted its budget with no tax increase.

Derek Snyder from Torren Ecker’s office reported that Representatives Ecker and Gleim co-hosted a farmer’s breakfast on Friday, November 15th. There is one more week of sessions in 2019. Minimum wage is likely to be a topic that is brought up again. Both Representative Ecker and Gleim are opposed to raising the minimum wage. Larry Barrick mentioned that a $15 minimum wage would negatively affect townships pay scales.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Marcus McKnight reviewed the WCCOG’s snow policy as follows: The WCCOG recognizes the fact that inclement weather and other emergencies can affect the municipalities’ ability to attend the monthly meetings. The meeting will be cancelled by 10AM the day when an emergency occurs. Such emergencies include significant snow or ice, electricity is out, heat in the winter is not available, flooding affects transportation, or the governor declares a weather emergency and asks people to stay off the roads. The president and vice president will make the determination if cancelling the meeting is necessary. Everyone will be notified via email and text message if an appropriate cell phone number is provided to the administrator.

Marcus McKnight also mentioned that Mike Fry’s term on Newville Borough’s council is ending. He thanked Mike for his eight years of service to Newville and the WCCOG.

MUNICIPAL REPORTS

**Cooke Township** - Pat Sangialosi reported the Township passed its 2020 budget. The road crew in conjunction with PennDOT installed a culvert pipe at the intersection of Leaf Road and Route 233. They replaced the hydraulic lines on the spreader. They had eight dead trees cut down around the Township building. The road crew cleaned up the wood and brush. Sealed cracks on Bendersville (including the bridge), Michaux Oaks Road, and Ridge Roads.

**Dickinson Township** – Larry Barrick said that the Township adopted its 2020 budget. The BOS continues to work on the zoning ordinance and SALDO updates. They have had several open meetings and received positive feedback from the residents. Unfortunately, they experienced major storm damage on a brand-new road before they were able to sure up the berms. The road crew is finishing up the 2019 road projects. They filled the salt bins under the 2018-2019 contract.

**Lower Frankford Township** – David Bachman indicated that the Township had adopted the 2020 budget. A tractor trailer damaged the guide rail on one of the Township’s bridges.

**Mount Holly Borough –** Troy Russell mentioned that the Borough’s water authority acquired twenty acres of land in hopes of someday putting a water tower on it. Also, the Borough has assumed ownership of the Mount Tabor Church on Cedar Avenue. The Borough will work closely with the Cumberland County Historical Society and Mount Tabor Preservation Project to preserve the site for the public. He reported that the Borough has applied for some grant monies that they plan to use to purchase a new backhoe.

**Newburg Borough** – Sara Rhine indicated that the Borough passed its 2020 budget. North Newton Township’s road crew has been assisting them with road maintenance and street sign replacement. They are preparing for new council members in 2020.

**Newville Borough** – Mike Fry reported that the Borough will be hosting “Shop with a Cop” again this year. The annual Christmas Parade will be held Friday, December 13th.

**North Newton Township** – Mike Gutshall said the Township’s road crew has put the plows and spreaders on the trucks. They hired a new road crew member, Peter Trimble. A new electric service was installed in the public works building.

**Penn Township** – Gary Martin reported that the Township approved the 2020 budget. Their secretary is retiring March 1st, 2020. They purchased a new truck, so their 2003 truck is up for sale. PennDOT would like the Township to replace the steel bridge on Sheaffer Road, the road crew did some repairs in hopes to add ten years to the life of the bridge. They filled the salt bins under the 2018-2019 contract. The Smuckers warehouse should be getting its certificate of occupancy today. Construction has begun on the warehouse located on the Ices Farm. Someone stole the batteries out of their loader.

**Shippensburg Borough** – Kevin Plasterer mentioned the Borough just finished up leaf cleanup. They sold their old street sweeper to Hampton Township. In 2020 the Borough will be implementing a $15 quarterly storm water fee per resident. Kevin questioned if any municipalities have a Human Relations Commission? He further explained that the Borough is considering adopting a nondiscrimination ordinance to protect its LGBT community. No one else has had this issue to date.

**Shippensburg Township** – Steve Oldt said the Township’s 2020 budget is done. The Hampton Inn plans have been approved. Dunkin Donuts has filed for a Conditional Use Hearing. Starbucks and Dr. Wellman’s are having their ribbon cutting ceremonies today. Two possible locations have been identified for the mini casino. One at the abandoned Lowes store and the other at the Chambersburg Mall.

**West Pennsboro Township** – Wayne Myers reported the 2020 budget was approved. The road crew trimmed trees on Fickes Road in preparation for paving in the spring. The basketball court at the Township park was resurfaced. They filled the salt bins. The road crew has half of the Township trucks ready for winter and are diligently working on the remainder. The warehouse on the Stambaugh property should be completed by the end of the week.

OLD BUSINESS

Larry Barrick agreed with both Jeff Shope, West Pennsboro Township and Mike Gutshall, North Newton Township that Pennsy Supply appeared unwilling to make a small amount of blacktop. Pennsy Supply also appears to be using recycled materials and the blacktop cools off too quickly. Alpha Space did a fine job with the line painting.

Karen filled out a request for the CDL Training workshop to be held from 8AM to Noon at the West Pennsboro Township Municipal Office on Tuesday, January 14th. The WCCOG will pay the entire bill and invoice the municipalities for their participants.

NEW BUSINESS

The 2020 officers were elected as follows: Larry Barrick, President; Mike Gutshall, Vice President; and Karen Heishman, administrator on a Myers/Martin motion.

Karen distributed the 2020 Representative and Contact Information sheets. Karen also handed out the 2020 Road Materials and Line Painting Questionnaire. She would like them back by the January 13th WCCOG meeting, but no later than January 31st please.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. on a Sangialosi/Martin motion.

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

December 9, 2019

WCCOG Attendance Record:

Vince DiFilippo, Cumberland County Commissioner

Derek Snyder, 193rd District

Pat Sangialosi, Cooke Township

Larry Barrick, Dickinson Township

David Bachman, Lower Frankford Township

Troy Russell, Mount Holly Borough

Sara Rhine, Newburg Borough

Mike Fry, Newville Borough

Mike Gutshall, North Newton Township

Gary Martin, Penn Township

Kevin Plasterer, Shippensburg Borough

Steve Oldt, Shippenburg Township

Wayne Myers, West Pennsboro Township

Peter Conlow, MDIA

Marcus McKnight, WCCOG Solicitor

Karen M. Heishman, WCCOG Administrator