**Western Cumberland Council of Governments**

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Minutes of February 11, 2019**

**West Pennsboro Township Building**

Larry Barrick called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS

SPEAKERS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of January 14, 2019 were approved on a Sangialosi/Myers motion.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

The January 31, 2019 bank balances were as follows: Checking $24,878.52, Savings $8,258.71 and Regional Code MMA $417,603.72. West Pennsboro Township earned $30,025.95 for UCC building permit administration in January, the WCCOG earned $7,506.48 for the same period. The February Bill List of $85,290.65 was authorized on a Sangialosi/Myers motion which carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

Mike Fry distributed legislative updates. He highlighted the increased bidding thresholds effective January 1, 2019. He also mentioned Governor Tom Wolf’s 2019 budget proposal for a new way to pay state police and how it could have a greater impact on local government budgets. The idea includes a sliding scale in which municipalities with fewer than 2,000 residents would pay $8 per person and those with more than 20,000 residents would pay $166 per person.

COUNTY & STATE REPORTS

Torren Ecker from the 193rd district introduced himself to the members. He mentioned that budget talks are already taking place. There will be no tax increase. Important items that were discussed were state police funding, increasing minimum wage, and more money for education. He will be hosting an open house at the North Newton Township office on Thursday, February 28th from 4 PM to 6 PM and at South Middleton Township office on Thursday, March 7th from 4 PM to 6 PM.

Kirk Stoner mentioned the planning department outreach meeting for the western region will held on Wednesday, February 27th at North Newton Township beginning at 11:30AM.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Marcus McKnight presented a draft resolution to limit the citizen’s comments to five minutes. Larry Barrick would like to see the additional time granted with permission be limited to three minutes. Ron Tritt suggested that the topic of the citizen’s comments be non-repetitive. Marcus will make the adjustments to the resolution and Karen will email the revised resolution to the members. The resolution adoption was tabled until next month.

MUNICIPAL REPORTS

**Big Spring School District** – Vonda Kelso said the District continues to work on the 2019-2020 budget. The school board reorganized. Bill Swanson was appointed president and Todd Deihl was appointed the vice president. John Wardle is the new member replacing Wilber Wolf. The bids for the summer renovations to the various schools will be opened on Friday, February 15th at 2PM.

**Cooke Township** - Pat Sangialosi reported the Township has been patching potholes and taking down trees on various roads. They are in the process of installing propane heat in the garage.

**Dickinson Township** – Larry Barrick mentioned that the Township’s road crew remodeled and painted the office. They have been patching pot holes. The BOS has completed the SALDO update and will be forwarding it to the planning commission. The Township plans to apply for a 2020 low volume road grant for Alexander Spring Road.

**Lower Frankford Township** – Dave Bachman said that the Township continues to order and receive loads of salt without any difficulties. The comprehensive zoning ordinance re-write is complete. The hope is to adopt the ordinance in April or May.

**Mount Holly Borough** – Katie Daniels reported via email that the Borough advertised and is accepting public opinion tonight on a new Dangerous Buildings and Structures Ordinance, discussing the draft Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance put forth by our Planning Commission, and discussing a new ordinance: Establishment of Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Code. In addition, the Borough has received and approved the design for our North Baltimore Avenue Crosswalk project (ADA crosswalk designs at the intersections of Baltimore and Chestnut and Baltimore and Butler). The next step is to advertise for bidding on the construction phase. They will be selecting two Keep Mt. Holly Springs Beautiful cleanup days this year -- one this spring and one in the fall. This effort is in coordination with the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful yearly program. Also, our Parks and Recreation Committee held a strategic planning meeting and has new programs lined up for 2019, including two bus trips offered and run by a local, family-owned business.

**Newburg Borough** – Sara Rhine mentioned that the Borough is planning to adopt an ordinance regarding sidewalk snow removal. She asked the members to share their ordinances.

**Newville Borough** – Mike Fry mentioned that the Borough is doing some flood mitigation work around the park. They suffered $65,000 in flood damage last year from all of the heavy rains in the summer. The rebuilt cab is done. It looks brand new and only cost $4,000.

**Penn Township** – Ron Tritt reported that the Township purchased a shoulder machine with an adjustable width of 16” to 26” to mount to the road grader. They also purchased an 8’ by 16’ till trailer to haul their roller to road projects. The road crew has been removing trees on Smith Road which remains closed due to storm water issues. The Township started the paperwork for a 2020 low volume road grant for Beetom Hollow Road.

**West Pennsboro Township** – Wayne Myers said the Township road crew has been trimming and cleaning up trees along the roadways. They are also preforming maintenance on the mowers. And like everyone else, they are salting and plowing the roads as necessary. The Township plans to apply for a 2020 low volume road grant for Green Hill Road.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Karen Heishman mentioned that the balance in the regular checking account is getting rather high and the account doesn’t earn any interest. She suggested moving some of the funds to the regular savings account that is interest bearing. Mike Fry made a motion to leave a $5,000 balance in the regular checking account and move the remainder to the regular savings account, second by Pat Sangialosi and approved with an all-in-favor vote.

Larry Barrick said that he felt the WCCOG should develop a snow policy. He wants to avoid having a meeting without a quorum. Peter Conlow leaves for the meetings at 10:30AM so the decision to cancel should be made prior to that time. Larry, Mike, and Karen will work on a policy to present at the March meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 p.m. on a Sangialosi/Myers motion.

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

February 11, 2019

WCCOG Attendance Record:

Pat Sangialosi, Cooke Township

Larry Barrick, Dickinson Township

David Bachman, Lower Frankford Township

Sara Rhine, Newburg Borough

Mike Fry, Newville Borough

Ron Tritt, Penn Township

Wayne Myers, West Pennsboro Township

Torren Ecker, 193rd District

Derek Snyder, 193rd District

Vonda Kelso, Big Spring School District

Kirk Stoner, Cumberland County Planning Department

Peter Conlow, MDIA

Marcus McKnight, WCCOG Solicitor

Karen M. Heishman, WCCOG Administrator