**Western Cumberland Council of Governments**

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Minutes of March 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 February 11, 2019 were approved on a Sangialosi/Myers motion.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

The February 28, 2019 bank balances were as follows: Checking $4,392.78, Savings $35,473.49 and Regional Code MMA $508,465.18. West Pennsboro Township earned $1,560.60 for UCC building permit administration in February, the WCCOG earned $390.15 for the same period. The March Bill List of $47,248.48 was authorized on a Myers/Sangialosi motion which carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

Mike Fry distributed legislative updates. He highlighted the new Penn DOT policy on traffic signal maintenance services must be advertised and procured competitively in accordance with the applicable municipal code and not as no-bid items.

State Senator Judy Ward and Representative Barbara Gleim will be joining forces to provide better constituent services to the residents of Western Cumberland County. On the first Tuesday of each month, Kathleen Gunnell will be at the Newville Borough Office from 10AM to 3PM.

COUNTY & STATE REPORTS

Brian Oches from the 199th inquired about the members’ comments concerning the proposed per capita fee to gain additional funds for the state police. This issue would cause a huge budget strain for most municipalities. Many expressed concerns about the additional funds just being used for increasing the police presence in both Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. The State Police are already receiving funds from the motor vehicle licensing fund when realistically that money should be used for transportation projects.

Derek Snyder from the 193rd district mentioned that Torren Ecker wrote a letter to Stansfield, Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, asking him to look into other ways to obtain additional funding for the State Police. He also expressed how this state police fee would negatively impact his municipalities.

Kirk Stoner announced that FEMA will be releasing new flood insurance rate maps and associated studies on April 26, 2019.

The Cumberland County Conservation District will be having its 42nd seedling sale. Order forms are due by Friday, April 5th and delivery will be on Thursday, April 25th and Friday, April 26th.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Marcus McKnight presented a revised citizen comments resolution to limit the comment period to five minutes and an additional three minutes with board approval. Kevin Plasterer made a motion to adopt the resolution, second by Gary Martin and the motion carried.

MUNICIPAL REPORTS

**Big Spring School District** – Vonda Kelso said the District awarded the summer construction projects totaling $5,456,192. They will also be spending $2,000,000 on technology upgrades. The budget process has begun.

**Cooke Township** - Pat Sangialosi reported the Township has been spreading 50/50 on the roads for snow and ice. They have started working on updating their comprehensive plan.

**Dickinson Township** – Larry Barrick mentioned that the Township’s road crew is working on the vehicles and equipment as well as salting and plowing the roads when necessary. The BOS has completed the Zoning and SALDO update. They have decided to take a year off from road reconstruction projects and have been working with their engineer about some road preservation projects.

**Lower Frankford Township** – Dave Bachman said that the Township took two loads of recycling to Diller’s Transfer Station. They continue to salt and plow the roads as necessary. They are also patching pot holes.

**Mount Holly Borough** – Katie Daniels reported the Borough worked with Vitro (formerly PPG)to improve the signage to keep trucks over 12’ 6” from getting stuck. They also submitted a new suggested truck route to Google Maps. Council has completed updating the SALDO. They are having problems with residents parking on the roads that are scheduled for street sweeping. May 4th will be Keep Mt. Holly Springs Beautiful cleanup day. A dinner/theater bus trip is planned for “Nana does Vegas”.

**Newburg Borough** – Sara Rhine mentioned that the Borough is preparing to go out for bid on two road projects, both of which involve South Water Street. They recently appointed a tax collector. They continue to work on updating their zoning ordinance.

**Newville Borough** – Mike Fry mentioned that the Borough is getting ready for spring. They are repainting some playground equipment. They will be hosting another Fountain Festival in June.

**North Newton Township** – Mike Gutshall said the Township met with Hopewell Township concerning issues on Fairview Road. They continue to be riddled with flooded roadways. Pat Wright from PSATS is coming out to North Newton Hills to see if he is able to offer any suggestions. The residents have been complaining of speeding and would like to see speed limits created.

**Penn Township** – Gary Martin reported that the Township only had to clean up a few downed trees from the wind storm. The springs finally appear to be subsiding. The Township plans to relocate its office and meeting room, but it will remain on the same lot. They plan to begin using munici-log this week. They are considering the purchase of a four-acre lot near the fish hatchery in the hopes of developing a fisherman’s park. But this could prove challenging because the lot is in the flood plain. The metal bridge on Sheaffer Road is having some structural issues. They are hoping to be able to patch it up and not replace it.

**Shippensburg Borough** – Kevin Plasterer mentioned that the Borough will be getting a new street sweeper in July so its old one is for sale. They recently hired a new water foreman, who will be starting on Monday. They are also looking to hire two sanitation drivers and a borough manager. The Borough continues to be inundated with storm water issues caused by the high ground water table. A large pine tree fell over recently in a cemetery and damaged gravesites and tomb stones.

**Southampton Township** – Scott Mack reported that the Township is pursuing E360 for code accessibility. They will be receiving a new front-end loader very soon. They recently hosted a manure management seminar. Since the ground at the one park was frozen the road crew was able to do some excavating to help with water drainage. Last week the Township held a special meeting concerning municipal park plans for a six acre tract of land that they recently purchased.

**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 equipment. And of course, salting and plowing the roads as necessary.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A resident from North Newton Township was reluctant to attend today’s meeting but she wanted to express her concern about the proposed mini casino in Shippensburg Township. Only Shippensburg Township would be receiving financial benefit from the operation, yet the impact will spread across neighboring townships.

Karen distributed the 2019 road materials and line painting bid results. Please have your board/council award the bid and get the results back to Karen as soon as possible.

Karen mentioned that Lower Frankford Township is planning to update its comprehensive plan with the assistance of the Cumberland County Planning Commission. A steering committee meeting will be held in the next several months to let everyone know Lower Frankford Township’s intentions.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m. on a Sangialosi/Fry motion.

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

March 11, 2019

WCCOG Attendance Record:

Pat Sangialosi, Cooke Township

Larry Barrick, Dickinson Township

David Bachman, Lower Frankford Township

Katie Daniels, Mount Holly Borough

Sara Rhine, Newburg Borough

Mike Fry, Newville Borough

Mike Gutshall, North Newton Township

Gary Martin, Penn Township

Kevin Plasterer, Shippensburg Borough

Scott Mack, Southampton Township

Wayne Myers, West Pennsboro Township

Derek Snyder, 193rd District

Brian Ochs, 199th 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