**Western Cumberland Council of Governments**

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Minutes of April 8, 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 March 11, 2019 were approved on a Sangialosi/Mack motion.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

The March 31, 2019 bank balances were as follows: Checking $3,583.54, Savings $35,481.80 and Regional Code MMA $468,908.10. West Pennsboro Township earned $2,152.68 for UCC building permit administration in March, the WCCOG earned $538.17 for the same period. The April Bill List of $38,293.44 was authorized on a Barrick/Sangialosi motion which carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

COUNTY & STATE REPORTS

Stephanie Williams mentioned that the Cumberland County Planning Commission 2018 Annual Report is complete and can be found at [www.ccpa.net/planning](http://www.ccpa.net/planning).

The Land Partnership Grant Program application period is currently open until June 21, 2019. Municipalities interested in projects related to updating ordinances should contact Kirk Stoner. Municipalities interested in projects related to parks, trails, greenways, or natural resource protection should contact Stephanie Williams.

The County’s Household Hazardous Waste Recycling program will be run differently this year. There will be three collection dates: Thursday, July 18th from 12PM to 6PM, Saturday, August 17th from 9AM to 3PM, and Thursday, September 19th from 12PM to 6PM. Appointments are required and there will be a $.30 per pound disposal fee.

Brian Ochs from the 199th District said the House has been in session for three weeks now. The budget is in full swing.

Derek Snyder from the 193rd District mentioned that the House of Representatives is concerned with workforce development. They are focusing on ways to get young people that do not plan to attended college interested in trade jobs and apprenticeships.

Proposed HB 521 would require a family to pay out-of-pocket tuition to attend a cyber charter school if their home district offers a “cyber-based program equal in scope and content.” Depending on its interpretation and implementation, this measure could halt the flow of millions in taxpayer dollars from traditional school districts to cyber charters. If the law applies to any school district with some sort of digital learning program, cyber charters could be in big trouble. Districts have to send a per-pupil tuition fee every time a student from their district decides to attend a cyber charter. The same setup exists for students in brick-and-mortar charter schools. Unlike brick-and-mortar charters, though, traditional districts don’t oversee or approve cyber charters. The state’s department of education does that. And it means districts don’t control the number of students who can opt for cybers.

Larry Barrick mentioned that he would like to see the local representatives start attending the local joint emergency services meetings. It is becoming increasingly more difficult for local fire companies to obtain volunteers. Also, the EMS Companies are experiencing difficulties with receiving payments for bills. Often insurance companies send a check to the patient and the patient never pays the EMS Company.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Marcus McKnight distributed a newspaper article from The Sentinel concerning the Cumberland County Controller supporting the proposed casino in Shippensburg Township. At the public meeting many residents had very strong opinions against the casino and many municipal speakers had very strong opinions in favor of the casino. One of the biggest concerns mentioned was the increased traffic. Greenwood Gaming and Entertainment would be making significant improvements to the entrance and exit ramps located at exit 29 off Interstate 81.

MUNICIPAL REPORTS

**Big Spring School District** – Vonda Kelso said the District is working on the preliminary 2019-2020 budget. For the 2018-2019 budget they had the smallest tax increase in Cumberland County. The various construction projects will be starting soon.

**Cooke Township** - Pat Sangialosi reported the Township has been spreading stone and filling pot holes as needed on the roads. They plan to work on updating their comprehensive plan with the assistance of Cumberland County Planning Commission.

**Dickinson Township** – Larry Barrick mentioned that the Township’s road crew has been trimming limbs off of trees along the roadways. They are restoring the park and adding new wood fibers as necessary. They are also repairing the flood damage on the walking trail. The Zoning and SALDO ordinance updates were reviewed by the Cumberland County Planning Department. They are recommending significant changes.

**Lower Frankford Township** – Dave Bachman said that the Township took two loads of recycling to Diller’s Transfer Station. They are servicing the trucks and equipment for the summer. The planning commission is holding a public meeting about updating the zoning ordinance next week.

**Newburg Borough** – Sara Rhine mentioned that the Borough is preparing a spring newsletter to highlight upcoming events. They are getting the necessary permits to do two road projects on South Water Street.

**Newville Borough** – Mike Fry mentioned that the Borough will be receiving the materials for the trailhead park project in early May. The project will take one week to complete. The funding came from donations and grants. West Street will be resurfaced beginning on August 1st. The funding came from a Community Development Block Grant. The police department purchased a jammer that will provide speed surveys and accurate traffic counts. The Water and Sewer Authority has gone out for bids for the construction of a new spring house. A new sewer truck will be delivered soon. The old one will be sold by sealed bid. The Borough’s second newsletter of 2019 will be mailed the first week in May.

**North Newton Township** – Mike Gutshall said the Township awarded the Fairview Road project to New Enterprise. The road crew continues to trim trees, patch potholes, and preparing the equipment for the summer mowing season.

**Penn Township** – Ron Tritt reported that the Township is repairing and spot black topping High Mountain Road. Smith Road will be resurfaced. They have placed a new box and edge on their grader. They have been grading gutters. The new leaf blower it doing a great job blowing the anti-skid off the edge of the roads.

**Shippensburg Borough** – Kevin Plasterer mentioned that the Borough hired a water foreman. They are looking to hire two sanitation drivers. They started the street sweeping. Congratulations to Kevin on his promotion to Borough Manager.

**Southampton Township** – Scott Mack reported that the Township recently had the park surveyed. They plan to apply for a Land Partnership Grant from Cumberland County. Shippensburg Borough will be sweeping the roads next week. They purchased a new 15 gallon rubberized crack sealer. Bulk Clean-up Days will be April 25th to 27th at the municipal office. They continue to work on their website.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

The 2019 line painting contract was awarded to Alpha Space Control with a motion by Larry Barrick and second by Mike Gutshall which carried. Midlantic Marking was the lowest bidder coming in at $75,628.70 while Alpha Space was next lowest at $83,643.68. Several municipalities mentioned the last time Midlantic Marking painted the roadways the paint seemed to be of an inferior quality and wore off very quickly. West Pennsboro had an issue with Midlantic Marking not placing the double yellow line in the center of the road even though it was pre-marked by the road crew. Midlantic Marking did not correct the issue, even when asked to do so.

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

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

April 8, 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

Mike Gutshall, North Newton Township

Ron Tritt, Penn Township

Kevin Plasterer, Shippensburg Borough

Scott Mack, Southampton Township

Derek Snyder, 193rd District

Brian Ochs, 199th District

Vonda Kelso, Big Spring School District

Stephanie Williams, Cumberland County Planning Department

Peter Conlow, MDIA

Marcus McKnight, WCCOG Solicitor

Karen M. Heishman, WCCOG Administrator