**Western Cumberland Council of Governments**

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Minutes of July 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

Matt Stough, Cumberland County Conservation District, discussed off site stormwater discharges in detail.  Stormwater discharge is an issue with all construction, where the disturbance is over one acre, however warehouse construction has a greater impact due to the size of the buildings.  Currently developers are required to get a permit from Cumberland County Conservation District and then final approval from DEP.  However, after the permit is issued and the project is completed all future enforcement is the municipality’s responsibility. Mr. Stough mentioned that a civil action lawsuit is an option for the affected property owners as well. The WCCOG members expressed that a lawsuit may not be feasible for a property owner when going up against a multimillion dollar company.  The WCCOG members discussed the option of developing local ordinances that would require developers to get permission in the form of an easement from all landowners. The easements would be required for any property that the post construction stormwater flows across between the construction site and the surface water that the storm water ultimately ends up draining to.  Penn Township plans to adopt an ordinance requiring that the developer have signed easements prior to construction commencing. Larry Barrick suggested that the easements should be secured before final land development approval.  Barb Gleim mentioned that she would like to see a “warm handoff” from the developer to the local municipality with DEP and the Cumberland County Conservation District in attendance.  This would allow an opportunity to have the developer make corrections, ask questions and receive input about the project before DEP completely steps away.  Larry Barrick made a motion to have Marcus McKnight draft a resolution to our local legislators voicing the WCCOG’s concerns about DEP’s permitting process for stormwater discharge permits, second by Wayne Myers and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of June 10, 2019 were approved on a Myers/Sangialosi motion.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

The June 30, 2019 bank balances were as follows: Checking $1,140.22, Savings $35,495.07 and Regional Code MMA $601,032.38. West Pennsboro Township earned $757.80 for UCC building permit administration in June, the WCCOG earned $189.45 for the same period. The July Bill List of $39,716.84 was authorized on a Barrick/Oldt motion which carried. Wayne Myers made a motion to transfer $5,000 from the regular savings account to the regular checking account, second by Gary Martin and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

Senator Mario Scavello re-introduced SB 607 that would allow municipalities to use radar in their communities. PA is the only state that does not allow radar to be used by local police.

A three-bill package, HB 510, 511, and 512 would remove the requirement for a municipality to enact an ordinance to enter into an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement and would permit this to be accomplished by resolution instead.

COUNTY & STATE REPORTS

Vince DiFilippo mentioned that the Governor passed and approved legislation concerning school resource officers. This will allow Big Spring School District to hire its second resource officer.

Thanks to a low interest loan program, Cumberland County will be able to speed up its bridge repair program and all its bridges will be replaced or repaired by the end of 2021.

Cumberland County expanded its household hazardous waste disposal program. July 18th is completely booked, August 17th has a few time slots remaining, and September 19th from Noon to 6PM has been added due to high demand for this disposal program. The cost is $.30 per pound and appointments are required.

Barb Gleim reported that the budget is adopted and there is $317 million in the rainy-day fund. EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit) grants for schools were increased in the new budget. As for the 2018-2019 budget, the income was $900 million higher than expected. Unfortunately the monies were spent all throughout the year, mostly on human services. State police funds are being redirected over the next two years so it won’t be a burden on the local municipalities.

Derek Snyder mentioned that Torren Ecker has been and plans to continue attending local municipal and fire department summer fairs. As for the new budget, it was a struggle, but the representatives managed to fight off proposed decreases in agricultural funding. Unfortunately, the funding for the newly mandated voting machines was not approved.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

MUNICIPAL REPORTS

**Big Spring School District** – Rick Kerr said the newly adopted budget includes dipping into the District’s reserves by $450,000. This is largely caused by unfunded mandates. There was no increase from the State budget for the school transportation fund. Four school renovations are happening this summer. Eighty-six inch touch screens televisions will be in each elementary school. A sidewalk is being installed along Mount Rock Road to allow safer walking for the students.

**Cooke Township** - Pat Sangialosi reported the Township had to do some road maintenance in front of a dry hydrant. In August they plan to sure up the bridge on Bendersville Road. They are having an engineer investigate the drainage problems on High Mountain Road. Approximately 3/10th of a mile of the road continually washes out. The Township entered into an agreement with the Friends of Pine Grove Furnace and the State Park to put in a hiking bridge to connect Old Railroad Bed Road and two State Park Trails.

**Dickinson Township** – Larry Barrick mentioned that the Township’s road crew has been doing storm clean up and cutting swales and widening various roadways and installing culvert pipes to improve storm water drainage. They have also been mowing along the roadways. Cumberland County has sent formal comments back to the BOS concerning both the zoning and SALDO updates.

**Lower Frankford Township** – David Bachman indicated that the Township road crew has been trimming trees and mowing along the roadways. They took two loads of recycling to the transfer station. The BOS will be holding a public hearing on July 9th concerning its new zoning ordinance and hopes to adopt it in August.

**Mount Holly Borough –** Katie Daniels reported via email that the Borough has had two part-time police officers resign and has hired one new part-time police officer. The Borough has an immediate opening on its council. A Multimodal Transportation Fund grant was submitted for work on E. Pine Street. The Hill Street road project is complete so now the curb cleanup and painting are back in full swing. “Take 5 at Trine” yoga classes have been going well and will continue through August. The Fireman’s Fair will be on August 7th through 10th.

**Newburg Borough** – Sara Rhine mentioned that the Borough put the street projects out to bid. They are hoping to attract some interested bidders. The road crew continues to do maintenance such as storm cleaning up, clearing drains and pulling weeds.

**North Newton Township** – Mike Gutshall said the Township’s road crew has been dealing with storm cleanup, cleaning and replacing culvert pipes, and mowing along roadways. They are getting ready to widen and pave Fairview Road.

**Penn Township** – Gary Martin reported that the Township road crew placed culvert pipe, a box, and reshaped the shoulder on Smith Road to alleviate the storm water problems. They are remodeling and moving the Township office into the meeting room space and constructing a new meeting room. PennDOT has agreed to place “no truck traffic” on several state roads. They received a dirt and low volume road grant from Cumberland County for Beetom Hollow Road.

**Shippensburg Township –** Steve Oldt said the Township is reconsidering its winter maintenance agreement with PennDOT. After careful consideration, it appears as though the Township is only gaining approximately $2,000 a year to maintain several state roads. It is really not worth the hassle.

**Southampton Township** – Scott Mack indicated the Township submitted a Land Partnership Grant Application to Cumberland County in hopes to obtain some funding for its park. Scott thanked North Newton Township for providing flaggers to assist while the road crew trimmed trees. He also thanked Shippensburg Township for helping them close a road to allow for a 1,000 foot of road realignment and expansion. The Township is interested in adopting an ordinance and using the WCCOG’s UCC Appeals Board. They recently sent out their very first newsletter with a little assistance from Penn Township.

**West Pennsboro Township** – Wayne Myers reported the Township’s road crew has been milling out at the intersection of Grahams Woods and Creek Roads so it can be repaved. They have been installing swales and culvert pipes on various roads. They have also been mowing and cleaning up storm damage as necessary.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. on a Myers/Sangialosi motion.

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

July 8, 2019

WCCOG Attendance Record:

Rick Kerr, Big Spring School District Barbara Gleim, 199TH District

Pat Sangialosi, Cooke Township Vince DiFilippo, Cumberland County Commissioner

Larry Barrick, Dickinson Township Matthew Stough, County Conservation District

David Bachman, Lower Frankford Township Marcus McKnight, WCCOG Solicitor

Sara Rhine, Newburg Borough Karen M. Heishman, WCCOG Administrator

Mike Gutshall, North Newton Township

Gary Martin, Penn Township

Steve Oldt, Shippensburg Township

Scott Mack, Southampton Township

Wayne Myers, West Pennsboro Township

Derek Snyder, 193RD District