**Western Cumberland Council of Governments**

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Minutes of February 10, 2020**

**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 January 13, 2020 were approved on a Sangialosi/Myers motion.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

The January 31, 2020 bank balances were as follows: Checking $5,868.78, Savings $30,518.28 and Regional Code MMA $336,672.87. West Pennsboro Township earned $1,350.12 for UCC building permit administration in January, the WCCOG earned $337.53 for the same period. The February Bill List of $95,601.69 was authorized on a Martin/Sangialosi motion which carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

#### No report.

COUNTY & STATE REPORTS

Barb Gleim distributed the PA 2020-2021 Budget in Brief. She reviewed the revenue and expenditure pie chart on page 4. She highlighted various line items on the 2020-21 General Fund Financial Statement. Barb explained that PA will be starting the new budget cycle with a $900 million budget overage in supplemental appropriations category.

Barb mentioned the Governor would like to increase minimum wage to $15. She feels this will be a point of serious negotiation.

Fair funding for PA State Police is another hot topic. A hearing will be held on February 20th at 10AM.

Barb Gleim handed out information concerning MS4. Two local townships have already decided not to pay the MS4 tax. Representatives Gleim, Perry, and Keefer will be meeting soon to go over all the MS4 concerns they have been hearing from their residents.

Kirk Stoner highlighted Cumberland County Planning Department’s 2020 Outreach Meetings. The first meeting for the western region will be held at Dickinson Township on Wednesday, February 19th beginning at 11:30AM.

Kirk also mentioned that FEMA draft flood plain map 90-day appeals period has started. Municipalities have received emails concerning this. If a resident does file an appeal, the municipality must then forward the appeal to FEMA.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Southampton Township presented a signed resolution to utilize the WCCOG’s UCC Appeals Board, Marcus reviewed the document and authorized Larry Barrick and Karen Heishman to sign it on behalf of the WCCOG.

MUNICIPAL REPORTS

**Big Spring School District** – Madison Barrick said at the Governor’s Budget Speech last Tuesday, his proposed plan would provide Big Spring a 2% increase in Basic Subsidy, virtually flat line Special Education, and no new money for Safety and Security. The focus for school districts within his plan was to try and get legislation across the finish line that would reform the current Charter School Legislation passed in 1997. The current system was not setup for Cyber-Charters and as such, accountability and funding for those 16 Cyber Schools throughout PA is tragically flawed. Big Spring taxpayer will pay $1.9 million this year for Cyber students even though we have less than 100 students out of our nearly 2700 students.

**Cooke Township** - Pat Sangialosi reported that Township’s road crew has been spreading 2A, salt and anti-skid. They removed a tree on Old Shippensburg Road. The road master attended flagger training, first aid training, as well as CPR training. The Township is hoping to be awarded grant monies to be used to work on High Mountain Road. They need to sure up the bridge on Murphy Road. The updated comprehensive plan will be adopted soon.

**Dickinson Township** – Larry Barrick said that the Township’s Parks & Recreation Community received a Land Partnership Grant from Cumberland County. The monies will be used for park improvements including the construction of a bathroom at Stuart Park. The last public comment meeting prior to adoption of the zoning and SALDO ordinances will be in early March. The Township road crew has been trimming trees and the usual winter maintenance. They will be hiring a company to remove the 200 trees on North Dickinson School Road in preparation for road project.

**Lower Frankford Township** – David Bachman indicated that the road crew had to repair a section of Waterloo Road. They also had to replace several signs that were damaged by big trucks. Thanks to grant monies received from Cumberland County, the Township engineer has been writing the SALDO.

**Mount Holly Borough** – Troy Russell said the property that the water authority recently purchased needs to have tree removed. They plan to apply for a grant for monies to install a pumping station on the property for the south part of town. The sewer lines have been inspected. The Borough recently signed a contract to purchase playground equipment with some grant money. They recently purchased a roller and a power rake for the maintenance of their trails. The office staff turned over all of the necessary documents to General Code to begin the codification process. The 2020 road projects are Mountain Street and East Pine Street.

**Newburg Borough** – Sara Rhine reported via email that the Borough is getting necessary paperwork ready for the 2020 street projects. They are looking for a good engineer to help them with the borough porch layout. Anyone with any referrals please reach out to Sara at the Borough office.

**North Newton Township** – Mike Gutshall said the Township’s road crew attended flagger training, first aid training, as well as CPR training. After much negotiation, the Township signed a new 10-year contract with the landfill. Brehm-Lebo will be conducting a feasibility study for a trail that would connect the Township Park to Cumberland County Rails to Trails.

**Penn Township** – Gary Martin reported that the Township continues to have tractor trailers driving on Township roads that they should not be on, due to bad information on GPS units. Many tractor trailers end up having to turn around on Dave Gettle’s property. The Township placed two signs (one with a picture and one with words) which seems to have solved the problem. Cory Wadel, the new secretary seems to be doing well. Vicki officially retires at the end of this month. They sold an old dump truck. They have completed the first draft of the updated Zoning ordinance. Their zoning officer recently held a “stop the bleed” class. Gary encourages everyone to take it as emergency guidelines are always changing.

**Southampton Township** – Scott Mack indicated the Township will be hosting an informational meeting with CS Datum on Thursday, February 13th at 9:30AM. They purchased a new plow truck. They are still working on the C2P2 Grant application through DCNR for park improvements. The Township recently had an Ag Security hearing. The next big task will be reviewing and updating the Township Zoning Ordinance.

**West Pennsboro Township** – Wayne Myers reported the road crew has been removing tree stumps and rocks along the roadways. They have also been cleaning out the ditches. They replaced some safety railing at the sewer plant. They plan to place two AED kits at the Township Park.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Scott Mack mentioned that many local municipalities no longer have an elected constable. The Court of Common Pleas is responsible for appointing one. After that appointment, Scott recommends that the constable then deputizes several individuals. Southampton Township is having all three supervisors deputized.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m. on a Myers/Sangialosi motion.

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

February 10, 2020

WCCOG Attendance Record:

Madison Barrick, Big Spring School District

Kirk Stoner, Cumberland County Planning

Barb Gleim, 199th District

Pat Sangialosi, Cooke Township

Larry Barrick, Dickinson Township

David Bachman, Lower Frankford Township

Troy Russell, Mount Holly Borough

Mike Gutshall, North Newton Township

Gary Martin, Penn Township

Scott Mack, Southampton Township

Wayne Myers, West Pennsboro Township

Peter Conlow, MDIA

Marcus McKnight, WCCOG Solicitor

Karen M. Heishman, WCCOG Administrator