**Western Cumberland Council of Governments**

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Minutes of January 9, 2023**

**West Pennsboro Township Building**

Pat Sangialosi called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS

SPEAKERS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of December 12, 2022 were approved on a Barrick/Fealtman motion.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

The December 31, 2022 bank balances were as follows: Checking $9,722.38 Savings $30,662.49 and Regional Code MMA $298,065.07. West Pennsboro Township earned $3,389.64 for UCC building permit administration in December, the WCCOG earned $847.41 in the same time period. The January Bill List of $43,549.24 was approved on a Barrick/Gutshall motion which carried.

Correspondence was received from Southampton Township Board of Supervisors. They voted to not pay the 2023 WCCOG dues at this time. They realize they will not be able to participate in any WCCOG meetings, contracts, or other services that are provided.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

COUNTY & STATE REPORTS

Jean Foschi reported that the Cumberland County Commissioners changed their meeting schedule to every other Thursday. This change will allow her to attend all of the WCCOG meetings in 2023. The Commissioners began using consent agendas this year. Jean mentioned that she is the Commissioners liaison on the Harrisburg Area Transportation Study (HATS). She recently learned that HATS will be continuing its bridge program which includes 80% Federal Funding, 15% State Funding, and 5% County/Municipality split.

Derek Snyder said the House of Representatives, as well as the Senators, were sworn in for 2023. Representative Mark Rozzi was voted in as the Speaker of the House. Republicans have control of the Senate. Governor Tom Wolf called the House and Senate into special session hoping to get a referendum passed allowing a two-year window for otherwise outdated child sexual abuse lawsuits before voters for final approval in the May primary.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Marcus McKnight said he wrote a letter to withdraw membership of the WCCOG from the CapCOG. He followed up today with a phone call. Gary Myers, Executive Director of the CapCOG, indicated that the WCCOG would have to pay one quarter of its dues ($700) to continue utilizing the salt contract, thus ending the membership on March 31, 2023. Gary also mentioned that he wishes the WCCOG would make a counter offer for the amount that it is willing to pay for membership to the CapCOG. A lengthy discussion ensued. Larry Barrick made a motion for the WCCOG to write a letter to the CapCOG apologizing for the original withdrawal letter and offer to pay $1400 ($100 per municipality) to remain members for 2023, second by Mike Gutshall and the motion carried. The maximum amount the WCCOG is willing to pay for CapCOG membership is $1800. The intent is to bid our own salt contract this fall.

MUNICIPAL REPORTS

**Cooke Township** – Pat Sangialosi said that the Township road crew has been cleaning up the roads and filling pot holes. They are working on the bridge in the park. The original plan to pave one more mile of Bendersville Road has been changed to a half mile due to budget concerns.

**Dickinson Township** – Larry Barrick said the Township road crew has been cleaning up downed trees and performing vehicle maintenance. They are looking to hire another road crew member as well as an assistant zoning officer. The Township is waiting a year and a half for Brightspeed to remove a pole so the road crew can install a cul-de-sac near the railroad crossing on Old State Road that is currently closed.

**Lower Frankford Township** – David Bachman reported the Township road crew took care of two snowstorms and made three additional trips salting the ice that thawed and refroze.

**Lower Mifflin Township** – Jake Fealtman mentioned that the Township noticed a tree suspended on a utility line for two years. The utility company will not respond to clean it up because it isn’t causing any service outages. The road crew salted and cindered for two snowstorms. They will soon be putting a stream restoration project on Pipeline Road out for bid.

**North Newton Township** – Mike Gutshall said that the Township is considering buying the school house beside the Township Park. They are currently evaluating the amount of asbestos cleanup that would be required. The road crew is performing winter maintenance.

**Penn Township** – Corrie Wadel reported the Township road crew has been performing equipment maintenance. They recently sold their old pay loader on municibid for $45,000. They recently hired a new road master, Kyle Snyder. He will be training with Jeff Gilaugh until he retires in April. At the reorganization meeting, the Board appointed Salzmann Hughes as the Township Solicitor; they retained Marcus McKnight as the Solicitor for the Zoning Hearing Board. Corrie thanked Marcus for his service and dedication to Penn Township over the past twenty plus year.

**Shippensburg Borough –** Wes Farner mentioned that the Borough road crew has been trying to keep up the ice and filling pot holes.

**South Newton Township** – Marcus McKnight reported that two problem properties in the Township have been finally cleaned up. The son of the property owner became involved and encouraged his father to clean up this property.

**West Pennsboro Township** – Wayne Myers reported the Township is having trouble with trees knocking down wires and no utility companies coming to restore service. Wayne was forced to write a letter to the PUC to get their attention. Jeff Shope rode around the Township with PPL the other day and he plans to ride around with Comcast soon. The road crew has been working on the boom mower. They have also been performing building and sign maintenance. The Township recently hired a part-time sewage treatment plant operator.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Corrie Wadel and Evelyn Swartz agreed to perform the 2022 audit on Monday, February 13, 2023.

Karen emailed 2023 Road Materials and Line Painting Bid Documents to each municipality. She would like them back no later than February 10, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:43 p.m. on a Myers/Fealtman motion.

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

January 9, 2023

WCCOG Attendance Record:

Derek Snyder, 193rd District

Jean Foschi, Cumberland County Commissioner

Pat Sangialosi, Cooke Township

Larry Barrick, Dickinson Township

David Bachman, Lower Frankford Township

Jake Fealtman, Lower Mifflin Township

Mike Gutshall, North Newton Township

Corrie Wadel, Penn Township

Wes Farner, Shippensburg Borough

Wayne Myers, West Pennsboro Township

Peter Conlow, MDIA

Marcus McKnight, WCCOG Solicitor

Karen M. Heishman, WCCOG Administrator