**Western Cumberland Council of Governments**

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Minutes of April 10, 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 March 13, 2023 were approved on a motion by Barrick/Gutshall which carried.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

The March 31, 2023 bank balances were as follows: Checking $8,666.45 Savings $30,681.82 and Regional Code MMA $226,835.72. West Pennsboro Township earned $3,689.28 for UCC building permit administration in March, the WCCOG earned $922.32 in the same time period. The Bill List of $15,202.08 was approved on a Sangialosi/Wadel motion which carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

COUNTY & STATE REPORTS

Jean Foschi reported that Cumberland County has a $2.5 million deficit in its mental health budget. Cumberland County is experiencing a growth in population over the last thirteen years, yet the funding from the State remains the same. The Commissioners have hosted three public townhalls on the topic. They hope to sit down with the State Legislators to discuss getting more funding included in the upcoming budget. Jean encouraged everyone to call his/her State House Representative and State Senators to request more funding for mental health.

The Cumberland County Commissioners recently allocated $4 million of funding to preserve 1,050 acres of prime farmland. The funds will be matched by the State. The County has preserved 203 farms totaling 22,533 acres since 1989.

The Cumberland County Office of Aging is looking for five members to serve a three-year term on its advisory board. The full board consists of fifteen Cumberland County residents with a wide range of life experience. Anyone interested in serving on the Board should contact Heather DeWire (hndewire@cumberlandcountypa.gov).

The Cumberland County Commissioners are looking for residents who would be interested in serving on the Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation (CADEC) Executive Committee.

The Cumberland County Sheriff’s Office is warning residents of a phone scam where the caller claims residents will be charged with misdemeanors if they do not report for jury duty.

Cumberland County will be hosting Hazardous Waste Days on April 13th, June 17th, August 19th, and October 26th. It will also be hosting Tire Collection Days on May 15th, 16th, and 17th.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Marcus McKnight said the Penn Township Fire Company hosted its 39th Easter Sunrise Service yesterday morning at Kings Gap. 425 people attended the event.

Marcus was curious if any municipality calculated the budget saving due to the light snow maintenance year?

MUNICIPAL REPORTS

**Cooke Township** – Pat Sangialosi said that the Township road crew has been cleaning leaves out of culvert pipes. They ordered a new dump bed for their truck. They are purchasing a grader. They plan to resolve blind spot issues on Pine Tree Drive and High Mountain Road. The Board is working on the Flood Plain Ordinance.

**Dickinson Township** – Larry Barrick said the Township road crew has been clearing dead trees at the park. They plan to work on the banks at the intersection of Route 11 and Burnt House Road to increase the sight distance and the banks at the intersection of Stuart Road and Rte. 174. The Board has changed its road crew hours to four ten hour days and the office will be open daily from 7AM to 3PM.

**Lower Frankford Township** – David Bachman reported the Township road crew has been preforming spring maintenance on the equipment. They cleaned up a fallen tree on the bridge crossing the Conodoguinet Creek. The Board is working on the updated Flood Plain Ordinance that needs adopted by September. Friends of Opossum Lake celebrated the completion of the pedestrian bridge on the walking trail at Opossum Lake.

**Lower Mifflin Township** – Jake Fealtman mentioned that the Township pre-bid meeting for the bridge project was delayed until this month. They received a grant to straighten Hunter Road. They also received a dirt and gravel grant to replace a culvert pipe.

**Newville Borough** – Ed Sinkovitz reported that the Borough has nothing to report. It is still trying to just pay its bills. Jody Hoffman, the current secretary, has been a tremendous asset.

**North Newton Township** – Mike Gutshall said that Township received an appraisal for the school house property and they are preparing to make an offer to purchase the property. The road crew is cold patching, roadside mowing, and trimming trees.

**Penn Township** – Corrie Wadel reported the Township road crew has been getting the paving equipment ready. They discussed a tar & chip project that is planned for this summer with Rick Levan. They are repairing shoulders on Hosfeld and Gettle Roads. Their big mower needs repaired. They plan to start roadside mowing soon. The road crew switched to summer hours. PPL Electric cleared some trees on the municipal property.

**South Newton Township –** Marcus McKnight mentioned that the Township finally accomplished getting 100% participation in the trash contract. The Township required everyone to sign up or request an exemption.

**West Pennsboro Township** – Wayne Myers reported the Township road crew is installing larger frisbee golf pads on its frisbee golf course. They are placing two new benches in the park. They are pulling shoulders on Creek and Goodyear Roads. They are trimming trees on Goodyear Road. They recently purchased a power broom.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Karen reported that she heard from Lower Frankford, North Newton, and Penn Township as well as Shippensburg Borough that each municipality awarded the line painting to Midlantic Marking. Larry Barrick reported that Dickinson Township also awarded the line painting to Midlantic Marking. Wayne Myers reported that West Pennsboro Township also awarded the line painting to Midlantic Marking. Larry Barrick made a motion to award the WCCOG 2023 line painting bid to Midlantic Marking, second by Wayne Myers and the motion carried.

The acceptance of credit card payments was mentioned. Wayne Myers invited Miriam DeFehr from F & M Bank to answer questions. She explained that in February the WCCOG earned 1% of the credit card maintenance charge. Miriam was asked to talk in more detail with Pat, Corrie, and Karen after the meeting. The decision of continuing to accept credit card payments was postponed until May.

Money market accounts have a maximum of six transactions per month. Larry Barrick made a motion to have Karen explore opening a second free checking account at Orrstown Bank to have the credit card purchases and fees funneled through, second by Wayne Myers, the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. on a Myers/Gutshall motion.

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

April 10, 2023

WCCOG Attendance Record:

Jean Foschi, Cumberland County Commissioner

Pat Sangialosi, Cooke Township

Larry Barrick, Dickinson Township

David Bachman, Lower Frankford Township

Jake Fealtman, Lower Mifflin Township

Ed Sinkovitz, Newville Borough

Mike Gutshall, North Newton Township

Corrie Wadel, Penn Township

Wayne Myers, West Pennsboro Township

Karl Smith, West Pennsboro Township

Miriam DeFehr, F & M Bank

Peter Conlow, MDIA

Marcus McKnight, WCCOG Solicitor

Karen M. Heishman, WCCOG Administrator