

Sullivan County Council of Governments
Minutes
February 22, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Hamilton, President.

Ted Lowden-Sullivan County Fire Department
Brian Hoffman-Sullivan County Commissioners
Robin Simpson-Laporte Borough
Jeff Hamilton-Laporte President
Steve Tomlinson-Forksville Borough

We opened the meeting with the pledge to the Flag.

A motion was made by Brian Hoffman and seconded by Robin Simpson to except the minutes from on December 14th meeting. When put to a vote all voted in favor so the motion was approved.

A motion was made by Robin Simpson and seconded by Brian Hoffman to approve the treasurer's report as presented. When put to a vote all voted in favor so the motion was approved.

Brian Hoffman stated that the meetings on the Sullivan County, Recreation Parks and Greenway Plans are moving along well. They are looking to finalize a plan by mid March; a hard copy of the plans will be available in the planning office.

Nominations for President and Vice President for 2022, a motion was made by Robin Simpson and seconded by Jeff Hamilton to retain the current officers for one more year. When put to a vote all voted in favor so the officers for 2022 remain as follows Jeff Hamilton—President and Steve Tomlinson-Vice President. We would like to thank them for their work in 2021 and look forward to working with them in 2022.

A question was brought about how much in advance of a meeting does the agenda need to go out, and if it needs to be posted somewhere. I agreed to send a message to Linda Costa from the PA COG and get the correct answer.

Our final 2021 Budget and 2022 Proposed Budgets were presented to the members to vote on. After going over the budgets Brian Hoffman made a motion to approve the budgets as presented and Robin Simpson seconded the motion when put to a vote all voted in favor so the motion was approved.

Joint purchasing is still just a concept with the municipalities who were present no new information as of date.

Ted Lowden –Vice President of the Fire Department talked to us about House Bill 2097 and needing to have us all send out letters in support of this house bill. Having this bill pass would benefit all 7 ambulances in the county, it would lower the number of people needed to respond to an ambulance call as of now they are required 2 EMT and 1 driver on each call which is nearly impossible to do. The Lions Club gave grant money to help defray some of the cost of training for EMT. It is still hard to get people to take the courses and become trained EMT's. The County also reimburses for people that take the course complete the 200 hour training with a passing grade.

Brian Hoffman also talked about Senate Bill 698. A discussion followed.

Brian Hoffman once again stated that they would really like to see a lot of support for House Bill 2097 and would like everyone to please consider sending out letters in support for this bill. A motion was for Clara to draw up a letter to be sent in for the COG's support for this bill. A motion was made by Steve Tomlinson to have the letter checked by Brian Hoffman before sending it out and seconded by Robin Simpson. All agreed so I will draw up a letter and have it checked out before sending out.

Brian Hoffman talked about Non-emergency road closure/clearing reposes (downed trees/power lines etc.). When fire fighters have to go to these calls to clear away trees it monopolizes their time and if they are needed for other calls they can't respond because they are tied up. The Fire Department would like some of this responsibility to go back to Penn Dot and the Electric Company.

A discussion was had on Stream Stabilization Program and Funds. There is a chance to use some of the American Rescues money for trying to fix the problems in our streams.

Jeff Hamilton talked about ARPA Funds.

A motion was made by Robin Simpson and seconded by Brian Hoffman to pay the bills as presented. All voted in favor so the bills will be paid.

A question was brought up about the letter being sent out for house Bill 2097 if since it wasn't on the agenda if we really should have voted to do this. Ted Lowden stated that sometimes Common sense must prevail since this letter needed to be sent out ASAP.

A motion was made by all to adjourn the meeting. So the meeting adjourned at 8:20