

ADAMS COUNTY BOROUGH ASSOCIATION
Pike Restaurant ▪ Gettysburg, PA 17325
ACBA MEETING ▪ NOVEMBER 16, 2015

ATTENDANCE

BOROUGH REPRESENTATION PRESENT (29):

Abbottstown: April Trivitt; Dennis Posey

Biglerville: Melinda Elnaggar

Carroll Valley: Andy Strausbaugh; Ron Harris; Robert Pyles

East Berlin: None

Fairfield: Robert Stanley; Caroline Stanley

Gettysburg: John Butterfield

Littlestown: Terry Moser; Jim Eline Sr.; Betty Bucher;
Sandy Conrad; Charlene Westcott; Jim Long; Paul
Sharpless; Dave Wheeler

McSherrystown: David Bolton; Robert Niedererr; Michael Calderone;
Scott Cook; Patricia McKim-Bortner; Jim Forbes

New Oxford: Patrick Sullivan; Portia Bosch; John Lansing; Dot Robinson

York Springs: Bob Megonnell; Jeff Shull

TOWNSHIPS PRESENT (5):

Berwick: Barry Cockley

Germany: Jack Ketterman

Hamiltonban: None

Huntington: Gus Fridenvalds

Liberty: John Bostek

Oxford: Bob Martin

GUEST PRESENT (4):

Dan Moul – State Representative

Joshua Ehrman – PSAB

Bill Chantelau – Land Conservancy

Scot Pitzer – Senator Alloway

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CALL TO ORDER

The Adams County Boroughs Association met in session and the meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Ron Harris and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROUND TABLE

Introductions were made by all in attendance.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Dave Bolton and seconded by Jim Eline to approve the minutes from the November 16, 2015 as written. Motion adopted.

FINANCIAL REPORT

TREASURER:
ANDY STRAUSBAUGH

Treasurer, Andy Strausbaugh reported the following:

Balance as of December 31, 2015.....	\$2,432.75
<u>Receipts for 28 meals @ \$10.....</u>	<u>\$ 280.00</u>
Balance.....	\$2,712.75
<u>Expenses for 35 meals @ \$10.....</u>	<u>\$ 350.00</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2015.....	\$2,362.75

A motion was made by Paul Sharpless and seconded by Charlene Westcott to accept the Treasurers Report as read by Andy Strausbaugh. Motion adopted.

PRESIDENT COMMENTS

ACBA President, Ron Harris passed around an email list for the individuals in attendance to update and a committee membership. The committee membership was for anyone to volunteer for a committee position.

ACBA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

PSAB COMMITTEES: DAVID BOLTON

ACBA PSAB DELEGATE REPORT

Dave reported that there were about 77 newly or re-elected Council Members. He thanked everyone for getting involved and also thanked those who have previously served.

Dave encouraged each borough in good standing with PSAB to appoint a Voting Delegate for the purpose of electing the Officers of the Association and also to vote on proposed resolutions and policies.

MEDICINAL CANNABIS RESOLUTION

A motion was made by Sandy Conrad and seconded by Terry Moser to adopt the Medicinal Cannabis Resolution. A roll call vote was taken by the Secretary:

Abbottstown – Yes
Biglerville – Yes
Carroll Valley – No

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East Berlin – No

Fairfield – No

Littlestown – Yes

McSherrystown – Yes

New Oxford – Yes

York Springs – Yes

Motion adopted with a vote of 6-3 with Carroll Valley, East Berlin and Fairfield casting a vote in opposition.

PSAB – JOSH EHRLMAN

Josh Ehrman gave a brief introduction to what PSAB has to offer. He referred to PSAB as your "one stop shop".

PSAB is a statewide, non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to serving 957 borough governments. They assist local governments through legislative advocacy, research, education and other services.

PSAB provides legislative/regulatory representation at both the state and federal levels; promotes constructive and cooperative relationships among boroughs and between PSAB and other levels of government; provides endless training both classroom and webinar to boroughs; and offers many cost-effective programs and services. Information including: sample resolutions, documents, laws and many other useful tools can be found on their website at www.boroughs.org. If you cannot find it on the website their staff is always available to help.

TREASURER AUDIT

David Wheeler performed the annual audit of the treasurers finance statement for the year ending December 31, 2015.

Balance as of December 31, 2014	\$2,047.75
Total Deposits for Dues	\$ 600.00
Total Deposits for Meals	\$1,140.00
Balance.....	\$3,787.75
<u>Expenses – 7 Invoices</u>	<u>\$1,425.00</u>
Balance as of December 31, 2015.....	\$2,362.75

A motion was made by April Trivitt and seconded by Charlene Westcott to accept the annual audit for the year ending December 31, 2015. Motion adopted.

ACBA INFORMATION EXCHANGE

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Gus Fridenvalds reported that there is no current recycling program in Adams County. The County budgeted \$12,000 dollars and has challenged the municipalities to come up with \$12,000. To date there is a shortage of \$200 and the municipalities were asked to try to find in their budgets some extra funds.

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Gus also reported that if a municipality did not participate the residents of that municipality would not be banned from utilizing the recycling program.

LAND CONSERVANCY

Bill Chantelau reported that 5 easements this year have been added which brings the total to 136 easements which is a total of 9,644.6 acres reserved.

RECESS

DINNER BUFFET

A 40 minute recess was taken for dinner.

GUEST SPEAKER(S)

DAN MOUL STATE REPRESENTATIVE

State Representative Dan Moul shared some interesting facts regarding the latest on the state budget.

A 29.8 billion dollar budget with no tax increases was delivered on time and the Governor vetoed the budget in its entirety, which is the first time a governor has dismissed a budget outright since the mid-1970s. The Governor wants a 1.8 billion dollar tax increase which would consist of the increase of sales tax and earned income tax.

We need to ask ourselves:

- What is the Governors agenda?
- Who is responsible for the governor being elected?
- Who wanted Wolf as governor?
- Who wants to eliminate charter schools?

If you answer these questions it will all make sense as to why the Governor vetoed the entire budget and wants the tax increase. The additional revenues will end up increasing education funding and not passing a budget will lead to the charter schools to close.

A bit of background, when a student leaves a public school and goes to a charter school the money for that student leaves the public school and goes to the charter school. So if funds are not going to the charter schools then they will not be able to keep their doors open and all the students will return to the public schools and so will the money. It has been said that the state budget does not spend enough for education however, Pennsylvania ranks sixth in the nation in the amount of money it spends per student to educate them. Teacher salaries are also among the highest in the country. "In Pennsylvania, the average teacher salary is more than \$10,000 above the national average."

The state budget broken down into percentages:

- 41% - Education
- 33% - Department of Welfare

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- 10% - Corrections
- 16% - to pay bills with the exception of PennDot

The state House did pass legislation which authorizes emergency state funding. This funding will support recipients of student loans and human services providers. "Today's vote means approximately \$11 billion in state funding that will carry Pennsylvania through the month of October may be distributed among service groups, students and schools that desperately need it. It resolves an interruption that has forced domestic violence and rape crisis centers to either consider or go through with plans to take out loans so their doors remain open." This does not replace the state budget. The governor vetoed the emergency funding legislation.

Several attempts have been made to release funds from the budget for organizations that need it and there has been no effort made from the other side.

There was discussion regarding pension reform which pension reform does need to happen. Pensions will be what destroys Pennsylvania if something is not done to get it under control, however pension reform should not affect the individuals that are currently in the pension system.

It is time to put all agenda's aside and get a budget passed so the organizations that depend on this money do not have to close their doors.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACBA NEWSLETTER

Then next Adams County Boroughs Association meeting will be held on March 21, 2016.

Ron Harris stated that he puts together the newsletter and the purpose of the newsletter is to share information, so if anyone has information political or not to please email him the information.

Submitted by:

Sandy Conrad

Sandy Conrad
ACBA Secretary