

## BUCKS COUNTY CONSORTIUM

Thursday, October 6, 2011

### Meeting Minutes

#### **Call to Order:**

A meeting of the Bucks County Consortium was held at Buckingham Township on October 6, 2011 and called to order by Ms. Teoli at 9:40 a.m.

#### **Roll Call and Introductions:**

The following Bucks County communities were represented at the meeting:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Dana Cozza, Buckingham Township           | Dennis Carney, Solebury Township                    |
| Jill Pistory, Buckingham Township         | Linda McNeill, Tinicum Township                     |
| Stephanie Mason, Doylestown Township      | Stephanie Teoli, Upper Makefield Township           |
| Sandra Zadell, Doylestown Township        | Herb Schoell, Upper Southampton Municipal Authority |
| Terry Fedorchak, Lower Makefield Township | Ann Alker, Upper Southampton Township               |
| Ted Taylor, Lower Southampton Township    | Joseph Golden, Upper Southampton Township           |
| Joe Czajkowski, Newtown Township          | Tim Hagey, Warminster Municipal Authority           |
| Bob Armelin, Northampton Township         | Bob Tate, Warminster Township                       |
| Bob Pellegrino, Northampton Township      | Vivian Bell, Warrington Township                    |
| Andrea Coaxum, Perkasie Borough           | Tim Tieperman, Warrington Township                  |
| Dan Olpere, Perkasie Borough              | Kyle Seckinger, Warwick Township                    |
| Carolyn McCreary, Plumstead Township      | John Boyle, Yardley Borough                         |
| Stephen Sechriest, Richland Township      |   |

#### **Other Guests:**

John Fry, Revelstone  
Mark Nelson, Revelstone  
Ted Dorand, PECO  
David Jones, Boucher & James Inc. Engineers  
Rick Lee, DVIT  
Rick Borgerson, Citizens Bank  
Jim Gray, Citizens Bank

#### **Approval of Minutes – 06/02/11 & 09/01/11:**

The meeting minutes were approved as written.

### **Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills:**

Vivian Bell presented the Treasurer's Report for the months of July, August & September 2011. The reports were approved.

### **Presentation:**

- Herb Taylor, Vice President & corporate Secretary of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, discussed the state of the economy and the role of the Federal Reserve Bank.
  - Mr. Taylor explained that there are 12 Federal Reserve banks across the country that provides basic services for banks. They are the official banker for the U.S. Treasury and control the supply of money and credit. Goals are set by Congress and support the foundation for good decision making in the economy.
  - He went on to say that he expects the recovery from the recession to be inordinately slow – this recession has been named “The Great Recession” because it has been the longest recession since the Great Depression. Nine million jobs were lost, unemployment peaked at 10%, and it lasted from December 2007 to June 2009, with the worst month being September 2008.
  - He said the long recovery was caused by several things:
    - No bounceback in real estate because of an oversupply;
    - When banking industry is the cause of a recession, there is a slower bounceback because the financial turmoil must be sorted out.
  - From 2007 to 2011, there was basically zero growth in the economy. Normally, the economy has a potential to grow about 2.5% per year. So essentially, Mr. Taylor explained that the economy is 10% below where it should be. Out of the 9 million jobs lost, only 2 million have been restored to date. He expects the recovery to continue modestly with ups and downs – it won't be even.
  - Mr. Taylor said that the biggest challenge to the recovery is the uncertainty in the stock market.
- The Consortium had two guest speakers discussing performance measurement.
  - Dan Olpere, the manager of Perkasio Borough and Adjunct Faculty member with Villanova University began the discussion.
    - Mr. Olpere discussed the theory of performance measurement, explaining exactly what performance measurement is and why it is so important for municipalities.
    - He detailing some important definitions for Consortium members to remember when looking at performance measurement: input, outputs, outcomes, intermediate outcomes, end outcomes, performance indicator, efficiency, productivity, the impacts, and benchmarking.
    - Mr. Olpere detailed why it is so important to measure performance and how you can get started with a formal performance measurement program. He then introduced the next presenter that continued on the topic.
  - Mark Nelson, Chief Operating Officer with Revelstone, discussed web-based performance software with the group.
    - Mr. Nelson described his unique software that helps communities manage what they are doing. Subscription to the software is based on population.

**Community Updates:**

Bob Pellegrino informed the group that Northampton was headed to arbitration with their officers in January. Stephanie Mason said that Doylestown Township went to arbitration in September and the officers were awarded 2% increases for each year on the contract. Stephanie Teoli told the group that Upper Makefield's 2012 budget was looking favorable and she was proposing a .5 mill decrease in taxes.

**Other Business:**

None.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea L. Coaxum  
Consortium Coordinator