

BUCKS COUNTY CONSORTIUM

Thursday, May 7, 2020

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order:

A meeting of the Bucks County Consortium was held at 9:30 a.m. at via zoom, on May 7, 2020, and called to order by Consortium President Angela Benner.

2. Roll Call, Introductions and Community Updates:

The following Bucks County communities were represented at the meeting:

Tom Scott, Bristol Township
Shawn Curran, Chalfont Borough
Colette Hering, BCWSA
Caroline Brinker, Doylestown Borough
John Davis, Doylestown Borough
Andrea Susten, Doylestown Township
Stephanie Mason, Doylestown Township
Laurie Hagey, Dublin Borough
Alicia Gasparovic, Langhorne Manor Borough
Joseph Galdo, Lower Southampton Township
Mega Bhandary, Middletown Township
Nick Valla, Middletown Township
Scott Sadowsky, Middletown Township
Stephanie Teoli Kuhls, Middletown Township
Dawn Tremmel, New Britain Borough
Michael Walsh, New Britain Township
Christina Szabo, New Hope Borough
Bill Wert, Northampton Township
Bob Pellegrino, Northampton Township
Mark Moffa, Penndel Borough
Linda Reid, Perkasie Borough
Angela Benner, Plumstead Township
Paul Stepanoff, Richland Township
Sherry Masteller, Rieglesville Borough
Jason Wager, Springfield Township
Joseph Golden, Upper Southampton Township
Gregg Schuster, Warminster Township
Timothy Hagey, Warminster Township Municipal Authority
Ashley Casey, Warwick Township
Becki Wilhelm, Warwick Township
Kyle Seckinger, Warwick Township
Paula Johnson, Yardley Borough

Sponsors:

Mike Italia, Barry Isett & Associates
Brian Jetter, Comcast
Thomas Panzer, High Swartz
Chad Dixson, McMahan Associates
Steve Noll, TMA
Patty Barthel, Waste Management
Dan Fagan, Senator Steve Santarsiero's office
Stephen Seufert, Commissioner Harvie's office

3. Presentations:

Ms. Benner lead a group conversation in which each municipality discussed how their municipality is dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. The municipality shared various topics such as:

- Opening/closure of municipalities,
- Staff working from home/in office,
- Virtual meetings (BOS, ZHB, PC, etc),
- PPE's,
- Use & occupancy certificates/inspections,
- Social distance guidelines when buildings reopen,
- Park & Recreation programs/summer camps,
- Various challenges each municipality will face financially,
- Proposed installation of plexiglass at municipal reception areas and barrier between employee areas,
- Discuss on how some municipalities have stayed within a normal procedure, some have totally shutdown and how others have made changes to adaptable during the pandemic.

Brian Jetter, Comcast provided an update on how Comcast is helping its customers during the current pandemic such as no late fees, an update for Broad Band users, assistance for seniors and other members of the community.

Steve Noll, Transportation Management Association (TMA) provide an update from TMA and noted that big things will be announced later this year.

Stephen Seufert, Commissioner Harvie's Office provided an update from the County of Bucks. Mr. Seufert announced that there is a meeting scheduled for municipalities with the county scheduled via zoom for May 13th.

4. Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills:

Upon motion by Stephanie Mason, seconded by Stephanie Teoli Kuhls, the Treasurer's Report for March & April 2020, was unanimously approved.

6. Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion by Caroline Brinker, seconded by Stephanie Mason, the March 5, 2020 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

7. Other Business:

Ms. Benner noted the following items:

- 2020 Salary Survey has been completed and emailed to the membership. The 2020 Salary Survey can also be located on the consortium website, in the members only section.
- The Bucks County Consortium Executive Board met virtually and decided to hire Econsult Solutions (ESI) to assist the Bucks County Consortium with a county-wide fiscal analysis of revenues due to the current pandemic. ESI will prepare a county-wide analysis of major revenue sources impacting Consortium members, with scenario-based projections through the end of 2020; which are based on historic budget, monthly tax collections from past 2 years, current monthly tax collection reports, and projections of future tax collections, based on potential recovery scenarios (optimistic, moderate, pessimistic).

For this analysis, ESI will combine monthly tax collection reports from the County's EIT tax collector and local tax collectors to provide both a current snapshot and future impacts, based on best available tax collection information, as well as projections of how economic losses will impact municipal revenue sources. With this information and municipal budgets from 2018 to 2020, we will prepare an impact index which will show the likely range of fiscal impacts for Consortium members as a whole, under the three scenarios (optimistic, moderate, low). The index will provide a summary of countywide impacts, individual municipality impacts, along with observations on current state of local government financial options. The Impact Index to demonstrate those communities most at risk due to scenario projections. The Executive Board agreed on the production and

completion of the Fiscal Analysis report, which will cost \$12,500. Collection date from municipalities deadline: May 13, 2020.

- The executive board has agreed to update the consortium website. Kyle Seckinger will work on updating and making changes to the website. An announcement will be made when updated website is launched.

8. Upcoming Events:

Ms. Benner made an announcement that the 2020 Bucks County Consortium APMM Scholarship will be carried over to 2021 due to the pandemic.

9. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 AM. The next meeting is scheduled for 9:00 AM on June 4, 2020, via zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Casey

Ashley Casey
Consortium Coordinator