

QUAKER VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
MONTHLY BOARD OF DELEGATES MEETING

April 20, 2022

The meeting took place at the Leetsdale Borough Municipal Building (373 Beaver Street, Leetsdale, PA 15056) and was also broadcast and recorded via Zoom and made available on the QVCOG website at the conclusion of the proceedings.

Board President Carrier called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken.

The following members were in attendance:

<b>Aleppo:</b>	<b>Glen Osborne:</b> Barbara Carrier
<b>Avalon:</b>	<b>Glenfield:</b>
<b>Bell Acres:</b>	<b>Haysville:</b>
<b>Bellevue:</b>	<b>Kilbuck:</b> Jean-Sebastien Valois*
<b>Ben Avon:</b> Tavia Washington*	<b>Leet:</b> Marty McDaniel
<b>Edgeworth:</b>	<b>Leetsdale:</b> Jeff Weatherby
<b>Emsworth:</b> Paul Getz	<b>Sewickley:</b> Julie Barnes
<b>Sewickley Heights:</b> Nathan Briggs	

**\*attended via Zoom**

**Public Comment:** Ms. Maria Napolitano, Vice-President of the Leetsdale Borough Council, was in attendance stating that she was interested in listening to the meeting's proceedings.

**Omnibus Motion:** Executive Director Connors provided a brief update regarding the financial statements and outstanding payments.

Mr. Weatherby moved to approve March 16, 2022 meeting minutes, March financial statements, and unpaid bills as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Getz. The motion carried by an affirmative voice vote.

**President's Report:** President Carrier noted that the Route 65 Committee had met on April 5<sup>th</sup> and highlighted recent discussions between the QVCOG, Allegheny County, and the office of Representative Valerie Gaydos. She also noted the importance of patrons following the rules (i.e. clean glass and no plastic bags) for the glass recycling center.

**Executive Director's Report:**

WM Recycling Facility Tour – Executive Director Connors stated that all interested parties are invited to attend a tour of Waste Management's (now WM) Greenstar

Recycling Facility (4100 Grand Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15225). He stated that the tour will take place on Wednesday, May 4th at 11:00 a.m. He noted that the site visit will provide an in-person visual demonstration of the recycling separation and consolidation process and will serve to highlight proper recycling techniques specific to the curbside recycling program. He encouraged anyone interested in attending the tour to rsvp via email (pconners@qvcog.org).

Act 152 Grant – Executive Director Connors reported that Allegheny County Economic Development (ACED) has announced the 2022 Act 152 Program’s application window will open on March 21, 2022 with applications being accepted until April 29th. He noted that permissible projects include the demolition of any residential, commercial, institutional or industrial structure within Allegheny County that meets 3 of the 9 blighted conditions as defined by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He reminded member communities that they may apply through the QVCOG for this program.

Hard to Recycle Event – Executive Director Connors highlighted that on July 23rd the Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC) will be hosting a hard to recycle event at the Quaker Valley High School (625 Beaver St, Leetsdale, PA 15056). He noted that the event will take place between 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. He stated that all of PRC’s Hard to Recycle Collection events for 2022 will be registration based. He encouraged member communities to promote this event and the registration requirement. He noted that more information can be found by visiting prc.org.

Joint Police Grant – Executive Director Connors reported that in recent months the QVCOG has worked with Haysville & Glenfield Boroughs who have both expressed interest in partnering together in effort to seek a more community-based police solution. He noted that both municipalities are currently served by the Pennsylvania State Police. He stated that both communities have requested quotes from Sewickley Borough for policing services. He highlighted that Sewickley Borough Chief of Police David Mazza had identified a Regional Policing Assistance grant through the Office of Justice Programs of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, but due to the constrained timeline an application was not submitted. He stated that another round of grant funding will be available beginning July, 2022 and it is anticipated that Sewickley Borough in partnership with the QVCOG will be submitting an application for the aforementioned grant during that time frame.

Cyber Security Training – Executive Director Connors reported that in an effort to provide a proactive solution for an increasingly important workplace environment, the QVCOG has purchased access for a Cyber-Security webinar that will be hosted by the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs which will take place on June 15, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. He stated that attendees will learn how to spot fraudulent emails, links, or texts and how to recover from a ransomware attack as well as what insurance policies will and won't cover. He encouraged staff/officials from all member communities to take advantage of this free webinar. He asked that interested parties request the login credentials via email (pconners@qvcog.org). A recording of the webinar will also be available upon request.

Haysville-Glenfield Route 65 Sign – Executive Director Connors reported that in recent months Haysville Borough and the QVCOG have been in contact with PennDOT District 11 and Senator Devlin Robinson’s office in an effort to install an LED “speedminder” sign along Route 65 near the Norfolk Southern railroad crossing (adjacent from Pittsburgh Stage, Inc.). He stated that funds were procured with the assistance of Senator Robinson and in the coming weeks PennDOT will be working to establish a location and install the signs. He cited that Haysville Borough will be financially responsible to pay for the upkeep and electricity associated with the signage.

Recycling Performance Grant Distributions & 2022 Dues Invoices – Executive Director Connors reported that during the week of April 4th the QVCOG sent out dues invoices for the 2022 calendar year. Additionally, he reported that the QVCOG was notified of its award for the 2020 Act 101 Section 904 Performance Grant through the Pennsylvania DEP. Participating municipalities will be receiving their distribution for the program in the coming weeks. After fielding a question from Mr. Weatherby concerning the total grant award, he stated that it was \$23,691.55. He also noted that in the past the QVCOG had utilized the Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC) to submit the grant for a \$5,000 fee. He highlighted that the grant was submitted in house for the 2020 cycle which saved the aforementioned amount.

ALOM Conference – Ms. Carrier asked Ms. Barnes and Executive Director Connors to report on their attendance at the Allegheny League of Municipalities Conference. Ms. Barnes noted the networking opportunities that the conference provided to her. Executive Director Connors highlighted the training/conversation panels that were provided.

#### **New Business:**

##### **Presentation** – Mr. Rob Hosken – Building Performance Architecture

Mr. Rob Hosken of Building Performance Architecture came before the Board to discuss the topic of Municipal Facility Energy Audits. He noted the value of conducting an energy audit highlighting the possible utility bill savings as well as the enhanced piece of mind that a building’s infrastructure is working appropriately. He then discussed the various steps of an energy audit and provided a real-world example (Forest Hills Borough, PA). He concluded by providing some funding and grant resources that may help pay for a future audit as well as physical improvements for a municipal building.

##### **Police Service Mutual Aid Agreement**

Mr. McDaniel introduced the topic of the current QVCOG Police Service Mutual Aid agreement which was enacted and signed by several member communities in 2009. He provided a brief history of the agreement and highlighted that the following municipalities and their police departments signed off on the Agreement: Avalon Borough, Bell Acres Borough, Bellevue Borough, Edgeworth Borough, Leetsdale

Borough, Ohio Township (Ben Avon, Emsworth Borough, and Kilbuck Township), Sewickley Borough, and the Sewickley Heights Borough.

He noted that Leet Township is not a part of the Agreement. He highlighted that much has changed in the field of Policing Service since 2009 and stated that it may be wise to revisit the verbiage and content of the current Agreement. Mr. Getz provided a brief history of mutual aid throughout the region. Ms. Carrier cited that the QVCOG Police Chiefs periodically meet to discuss pertinent matters. She also noted the desire for greater traffic enforcement along Route 65 which could be included within a revised mutual aid Agreement. Executive Director Connors highlighted that the Police Chiefs group could review the current Agreement at an upcoming meeting. Mr. Briggs highlighted that Sewickley Heights Borough relies on the mutual aid agreement for many calls. Ms. Barnes highlighted recent conversations with Sewickley Borough's Police Chief, noting her perceived belief in a desire for greater cooperation amongst QVCOG police departments.

After some discussion, Mr. McDaniel moved to direct the QVCOG Police Chiefs Committee to review the current Police Mutual Aid Agreement. Mr. Briggs seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

#### **Old Business:**

#### **PA Legislative Map Update**

Citing a question emanating from the March Board meeting, Executive Director Connors provided a brief update concerning the recently approved Pennsylvania legislative maps for 2022. He reported that under the final Legislative Redistricting Map, upheld by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court on March 16<sup>th</sup>, the QVCOG will be split between three PA House Districts and remain in two Senate Districts. He encouraged those interested to visit [www.redistricting.state.pa.us](http://www.redistricting.state.pa.us) for more information, including access to interactive maps.

#### **Glass Recycling Update**

Executive Director Connors reported that since the launch of the Glass Recycling Center (located in Sewickley Borough's Riverfront Park) on March 12<sup>th</sup>, there have been two pulls (March 21 – 3.22 tons and April 11 – 4.11 tons). He stated that the site's usage is tracking as anticipated. He noted that further information including an update on the second site would be provided at the May Board meeting.

#### **Route 65 Committee Update**

Executive Director Connors reported that the Committee met on April 5<sup>th</sup> referring the group to the meeting minutes which were included within the Board's meeting packet. Ms. Barnes encouraged delegates to review the Route 65 report citing the value of the "recommendations" and "toolbox" sections. She continued by noting the interest of elected officials such as State Senator Devlin Robinson and State Representative Valerie Gaydos to help with the advancement of a Master Plan. Executive Director Connors noted that the QVCOG is working to involve the Beaver County Regional Council of

Governments in future discussions as nearly half of the communities referenced within the initial report are within Beaver County. Mr. McDaniel highlighted a past study that focused on the beautification of Route 65. He stated that while some tree plantings were realized, many of the recommendations included within the study were not completed or followed. A brief discussion concerning that particular study ensued. Ms. Carrier highlighted the importance of continuing to advance the current study.

**CDBG Status Report:** Executive Director Conners provided brief updates concerning all active CDBG projects.

**Other Concerns of the Delegates:**

Ben Avon Borough: Ms. Tavia Washington expressed her concerns with the winter salt orders and delivery timeline citing many deliveries were delayed. Executive Director Conners noted the QVCOG is a partner within the South Hills Area Council of Governments (SHACOG) salt purchasing agreement. He noted that many QVCOG member communities expressed similar concerns throughout the winter. He encouraged any community that experiences a future salt order service issue to document the matter through an email to SHACOG as well as the QVCOG. Mr. Briggs highlighted that Sewickley Heights Borough utilizes COSTARS for the procurement and delivery of road salt.

Glen Osborne Borough: Ms. Barbara Carrier highlighted recent waste and recycling service issues within her community. She proceeded to read aloud a complaint levied by a Glen Osborne Borough resident. A discussion ensued concerning the communication between residents, their communities, and the QVCOG. Mr. Getz encouraged municipal Staff to follow the approved communications policy adopted by the QVCOG. He highlighted that the fine mechanism available under the current Agreement cannot be enacted without a paper trail of service issues. Ms. Barnes asked Executive Director Conners to prepare a one-page memo for residents/staff to help clarify the complaint procedure.

Sewickley Heights Borough: Mr. Nathan Briggs noted that the Hunt Road rehabilitation project is wrapping up.

**Adjournment:** Mr. Weatherby moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barnes. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bell Acres Borough Building (**1153 Camp Meeting Road, Sewickley, PA 15143**). The meeting will be in-person and open to the public as well as broadcast and recorded over Zoom. Please visit [qvcog.org](http://qvcog.org) for further information.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick M. Conners  
Executive Director