

QUAKER VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
MONTHLY BOARD OF DELEGATES MEETING

December 21, 2022

The meeting took place at the Kilbuck Township Municipal Building (343 Eicher Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237) and was also broadcast via Zoom.

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:

**Aleppo:**

**Avalon:**

**Bell Acres:** Lane Grafton\*

**Bellevue:** Sabreena Miller\*

**Ben Avon:** Tavia Washington\*

**Edgeworth:**

**Emsworth:**

**Sewickley Heights:** Nathan Briggs\*

**Glen Osborne:** Barbara Carrier\*

**Glenfield:**

**Haysville:**

**Kilbuck:** Jean-Sebastien Valois

**Leet:** Marty McDaniel

**Leetsdale:** Jeff Weatherby\*

**Sewickley:** Julie Barnes

\*Attended the meeting via Zoom.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Approval of November 16, 2022 Meeting Minutes:**

Ms. Barnes moved to approve the November 16, 2022 meeting minutes as presented.

Mr. Weatherby seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

**Approval of November Financial Reports, Payroll, and Unpaid Bills:**

Subsequently, Mr. Weatherby moved to approve the November financial reports, unpaid bills, and employee payrolls as presented. Mr. Valois seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

**Route 65 Report:**

Executive Director Connors stated that the QVCOG has recently reached out to Michael Baker International and the Southwest Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) in an effort to rekindle discussions regarding the findings of the Route 65 Corridor study. He noted the QVCOG could utilize a consultant such as Michael Baker International to move forward with some of the recommendations included within the study.

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

**Executive Director’s Report:**

Latent Fingerprint Grant Award – Executive Director Conners reported that the QVCOG has received an additional equipment award from the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association in the amount of \$13,379.73 through the "Latent Evidence Improvement Project". He noted that the grant award will be used to procure a 48-inch floor model Safefume CA Fuming Chamber and a 36-inch floor model Drysafe Evidence Drying Cabinet which may be utilized by our region's 9 Police Departments. He cited that delivery of the equipment will be delayed due to supply chain issues.

2023 Fuel Cost Adjustment – Executive Director Conners reported that after a discussion with the WM team and a re-calculation of the 2023 Fuel Cost Adjustment, the rate has been revised from a \$0.12 increase (per unit, per month) down to \$0.09 (per unit, per month). He noted that the new rate will take effect on January 1, 2023. He stated the adjustment will impact the following QVCOG member communities: Aleppo Township, Avalon Borough, Bellevue Borough, Ben Avon Borough, Edgeworth Borough, Emsworth Borough, Glen Osborne Borough, Glenfield Borough, Kilbuck Township, Leet Township, and Sewickley Borough.

GEDTF Awards – Executive Director Conners reported that the QVCOG has been awarded three Gaming Economic Development & Tourism Fund (GEDTF) grants through the Commonwealth Finance Agency. He cited that funding through the GEDTF program is made possible through a state law requiring casinos to pay a daily assessment of 5.5% of their gross terminal revenues. He proceeded to summarize each of the projects.

*Sewickley Heights Borough - Borough Public Works Infrastructure Improvement Project: \$190,000*

This project includes the installation of 4 new catch basins and 220 linear feet of storm pipe. Additionally, the project will include the reconstruction of 1,235 square yards of driveway and buffer yard. The project seeks to resolve sedimentation from degraded asphalt surface and improve surface to subsurface drainage to mitigate future impacts from heavy precipitation events.

*Leet Township - Stormwater Improvement Project: \$100,000*

This project will reconstruct a failed stormwater management facility in the Old Sewickley Highlands neighborhood.

*Leet Township - Township Park Improvements: \$300,000*

This project will include the restoration of the existing basketball court and deck hockey court at the Township facility including replacement of the surfacing, new fencing, new playground equipment, and construction of a War Memorial.

**New Business:**

**Approval of 2023 Meeting Locations:**

Executive Director Conners reported that the QVCOG will continue to visit various member communities who have agreed to host the organization’s monthly Board meetings. Proposed 2023 meeting dates along with the accompanying host communities can be found below (all meetings are set to commence at 7:00 p.m.). He cited that 2023

meetings would continue to be hybrid (open to both in person and virtual attendance) and will be simulcast over Zoom and recorded for posterity. He noted that the meeting dates and locations will be advertised within the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette within the first week of the new year.

**January 18, 2023** - Sewickley Public Library – 500 Thorn Street, Sewickley, PA 15143

**February 15, 2023** - Aleppo Township 100 North Drive, Sewickley, PA 15143

**March 15, 2023** - Avalon Borough 640 California Avenue, Avalon, PA 15202

**April 19, 2023** - Bellevue Borough 537 Bayne Avenue, Bellevue, PA 15202

**May 17, 2023** - Bell Acres Borough 1850 Big Sewickley Creek Rd, Sewickley, PA 15143

**June 21, 2023** - Ben Avon Borough Building 7101 Church Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15202

**July 19, 2023** - Sewickley Borough 601 Thorn Street, Sewickley, PA 15143

**August 16, 2023** - Fern Hollow Nature Center, 1901 Glen Mitchell Rd, Sewickley, PA 15143

**September 20, 2023** - Kilbuck Township 343 Eicher Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237

**October 18, 2023** – Edgeworth Borough, 301 Beaver Road, Edgeworth, PA 15143

**November 15, 2023** - Leet Township 194 Ambridge Avenue, Fair Oaks, PA 15003

**December 20, 2023** - Leetsdale Borough 373 Beaver Street, Leetsdale, PA 15056

Mr. Weatherby moved to approve the proposed schedule for 2023 QVCOG Board meetings. Mr. McDaniel seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

#### **Selection of a New Printed Newspaper of Record:**

Executive Director Connors reported that the Citizen newspaper (based out of Bellevue Borough) will cease printed news editions on January 1, 2023. He noted that the QVCOG has utilized the neighborhood-based paper to connect directly with QVCOG residents as well as to save on advertisement costs associated with larger publications. He cited that due to the lack of regional newspapers available to utilize for routine advertisements, it is being proposed that the QVCOG select the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (PPG) as the organization's formal paper of record (a requirement of many municipal codes). He highlighted that while the QVCOG does not strictly adhere to the Commonwealth's Borough or Township Codes, it does use both templates for guidance in an effort to standardize day-to-day operations and practices. He noted that due to the requirements associated with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding, the QVCOG already utilizes the PPG for many printed public notices. He stated that in an effort to save money, the QVCOG would utilize the PPG's Local Xtra edition (approximately 80% cheaper than the PPG's normal legal advertising rates). He then provided a brief overview of the PPG's Local Xtra edition.

Ms. Barnes moved to appoint the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette as the QVCOG's paper of record. Mr. Valois seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

### **2022 Annual Report:**

Executive Director Connors stated that in order to encapsulate the events and services rendered during the 2022 calendar year he has prepared an Annual Report for distribution to member communities. He proceeded to summarize the report noting that it was included within the Board's December meeting packet and has also been posted on the QVCOG's website.

### **Proclamation Honoring Mr. Harry Dilmore for his Public Service:**

Executive Director Connors reported that Mr. Harry Dilmore (Manager for Kilbuck Township) will be retiring in the coming weeks. He noted that Mr. Dilmore has served as a municipal manager for two separate QVCOG member communities (Avalon and Kilbuck) for over 20 years.

After saying a few words regarding Harry's service, Mr. Valois moved to approve the proposed proclamation honoring Mr. Dilmore. Ms. Carrier seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote. Executive Director Connors proceeded to read aloud the proclamation.

### **Old Business:**

### **Update Concerning Trucking Restriction Along Redgate Road:**

Executive Director Connors reported that at its September 2022 meeting the QVCOG Board of Delegates voted unanimously to submit a letter to PennDOT District 11 on behalf of its impacted member communities (Glen Osborne Borough, Aleppo Township, and Haysville Borough) regarding a number of traffic incidents along River/Redgate Road involving overturned tractor trailers. He noted the dates of traffic incidents (August 28, 2022, September 8, 2022, and September 17, 2022). He stated that on November 28, 2022 the QVCOG received a correspondence from PennDOT District 11 which outlined the results of the requested engineering and traffic study.

#### Summary

- The Study outlines a new restriction limiting truck length to 40 feet along S.R. 4028 (Redgate/River Road);
- The installation of approved signage (by PennDOT District 11); and
- A request that Aleppo Township remove nonstandard "No thru truck traffic" signage along the intersection of Redgate & Merriman Roads.

### **Other Concerns of the Delegates:**

Kilbuck Township: Mr. Valois noted a service issue between Kibuck Township and Waste Management (WM) regarding commercial accounts. He also noted the approval of an intergovernmental salt storage agreement between Kilbuck Township and Glenfield Borough.

Leet Township: Mr. McDaniel noted a recent Common Pleas Court decision concerning the proposed Quaker Valley Area High School. He noted the decision is subject to a waiting period where the verdict may be challenged in Commonwealth Court.

**President's Report:**

President Carrier thanked the Board for their time and volunteerism to the organization. She wished all in attendance a merry Christmas and happy holiday season.

**Adjournment:** Mr. Weatherby moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barnes. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. and will take place at the Sewickley Public Library (500 Thorn Street, Sewickley, PA 15143). The meeting will be simultaneously broadcast on the Zoom platform, open to the public, and recorded. Please visit [qvcog.org](http://qvcog.org) for further information.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick M. Conners  
Executive Director