

QUAKER VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MONTHLY BOARD OF DELEGATES MEETING

February 15, 2023

The meeting took place at the Aleppo Township Municipal Building (100 North Drive, Sewickley, PA 15143) and was also broadcast via Zoom.

Vice-President Barnes called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken.

The following members were in attendance:

Aleppo:

Avalon: Roberta Williams*

Bell Acres:

Bellevue: Sabreena Miller*

Ben Avon: Tavia Washington*

Edgeworth:

Emsworth: Paul Getz*

Sewickley Heights: Nathan Briggs

Glen Osborne:

Glenfield:

Haysville: Amanda Muzichuck*

Kilbuck: Jean-Sebastien Valois

Leet: Dan Peluso

Leetsdale:

Sewickley: Julie Barnes

*Attended the meeting via Zoom.

Public Comment: None.

Approval of January 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Valois moved to approve the January 18, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Briggs seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of January Financial Reports, Payroll, and Unpaid Bills:

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

After approval Mr. Valois inquired about an outstanding CDBG administrative payment. Executive Director Conners stated that the QVCOG submitted paperwork associated with the CDBG Year 47 administrative payment distribution in the amount of \$26,303.22. He noted the paperwork was originally submitted in October 2022. He cited employee turnover within Allegheny County's Economic Development Department as a reason for the payment delay. Mr. Valois stated that a formal correspondence outlining the QVCOG's concerns regarding the payment delay should be prepared and sent to the County.

After some discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Valois directing Executive Director Conners to prepare a correspondence to Allegheny County outlining the QVCOG's concerns related to the outstanding administrative cost report. Mr. Briggs seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

President's Report:

Vice-President Barnes stated with President Carrier's absence no President's report would be provided.

Route 65 Report:

Executive Director Conners stated that the QVCOG has continued to reach out to the Southwest Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) in an effort to rekindle discussions regarding the findings of the Route 65 Corridor study. He noted the QVCOG has remained in contact with Michael Baker International who has offered to help facilitate discussions with SPC.

CDBG Status Report:

Executive Director Conners provided brief updates concerning all active CDBG projects.

Executive Director's Report:

GIS Workshop – Executive Director Conners invited all to attend a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) workshop on Thursday, February 16th at 11:00 a.m. He stated the QVCOG in partnership with Civic Mapper will be demonstrating newly generated maps focusing on road ownership and legislative boundaries. He concluded by noting that the workshop will take place at the Sewickley Public Library (500 Thorn Street, Sewickley, PA 15143).

Mobile Fingerprint Scanner Agreement – Executive Director Conners noted that the QVCOG was recently awarded a shared mobile fingerprint scanner by the PA Chiefs of Police Association. He stated that a requirement of the program is municipal approval of an agreement by each participating department/municipality which outlines the device usage and sharing policy. He highlighted that the program requires the device to be hosted by one police department. In this case, he noted that the Edgeworth Borough Police Department has agreed to host the device and has completed the associated paperwork required by the PA Chiefs of Police Association. He reported that in the coming weeks participating departments and municipalities will be provided with a draft agreement for review/approval. He concluded by citing that the mobile fingerprint scanner requires a cellular connection and software maintenance package totaling \$1,025 annually. He stated that the QVCOG has budgeted accordingly and will pay for the required services in 2023.

Mr. Valois inquired if Police Departments were associate members of the QVCOG. A discussion ensued.

New Business:

Glass Recycling Update

Per an update in their regional policy, Executive Director Conners stated that WM will now be accepting glass within their single stream recycling program. He noted that the QVCOG's waste & recycling contract has not changed or been altered. He continued by citing that 11 QVCOG municipalities are participants within the current contract which is set to expire on December 31, 2026 (Aleppo Township, Avalon Borough, Bellevue Borough, Ben Avon Borough, Emsworth Borough, Edgeworth Borough, Glen Osborne Borough, Glenfield Borough, Kilbuck Township, Leet Township, and Sewickley Borough). He reported that the current contract language does not include glass within the single-stream recycling program. Regardless, he stated that residential/municipal customers under the purview of the current contract will not be charged more for this WM policy change. He then discussed a flyer provided by WM which outlines what is now acceptable within WM's single stream recycling program.

Executive Director Conners cited that 2022 witnessed the launch of the QVCOG's joint drop-off Glass Recycling Program for 12 participating member communities, outlining the two established sites are located in **Sewickley Borough** (300 Chadwick St, Sewickley, PA 15143) and **Avalon Borough** (629 New Brighton Road, Avalon, PA 15202). He highlighted that these sites have been embraced by our region's residents with over 73 tons of glass being collected and recycled since the program started in March of 2022. He stated that the program is based on a pay-per-pull model and does not include a contract with the hauler, Michael Brothers Hauling. He noted that this program is partially funded through the QVCOG's Joint Recycling Fund with the remaining cost being generated from participating communities using a formula based on each community's population size.

He concluded by outlining that many QVCOG residents will now have two options for responsibly recycling their glass. 1. put glass in their curbside recycling bins. 2. Drop glass off at the Sewickley/Avalon dumpsters. He stated that due to the abrupt policy change made by WM he recommends maintaining both glass recycling dumpsters for the foreseeable future. He stated that glass dumpster pull frequency/usage will be evaluated throughout 2023.

Old Business:

None.

Other Concerns of the Delegates:

Avalon Borough: Ms. Roberta Edwards reported that Avalon Borough's long-time Public Works Supervisor, Dave Haslett, would be retiring in the coming weeks.

Bellevue Borough: Ms. Sabreena Miller stated that two Bellevue Borough police officers were recognized by the Borough for their prompt arrival and assistance which resulted in the survival of a Borough resident during a cardiac event. She proceeded to inquire about the QVCOG's experience regarding land banking of blighted properties. Mr. Valois provided a brief history of the topic. A discussion ensued.

Kilbuck Township: Mr. Jean-Sebastien Valois noted that Kilbuck Township has entered into an agreement with the Emsworth Borough fire department to provide fire protection service. A discussion ensued regarding regional fire service.

Leet Township: Mr. Dan Peluso introduced himself as Leet Township's new alternate delegate to the QVCOG. He outlined his background and noted his excitement for working with the Board. He concluded by citing Duquesne Light's LED retrofit streetlight program.

Adjournment: Mr. Valois moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barnes. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. and will take place at the Avalon Borough (640 California Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202). The meeting will be simultaneously broadcast on the Zoom platform, open to the public, and recorded. Please visit qvcog.org for further information.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick M. Conners
Executive Director