

QUAKER VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MONTHLY BOARD OF DELEGATES MEETING

September 21, 2022

The meeting took place at the Ben Avon Borough Building (7101 Church Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202) 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:

Aleppo: Art Williams	Glen Osborne: Barbara Carrier
Avalon: *Roberta Edwards	Glenfield:
Bell Acres: *Carmee Murphy-Horton	Haysville:
Bellevue: *Dan McKelvey	Kilbuck:
Ben Avon: Rick Wagner	Leet:
Edgeworth: *John Schwend	Leetsdale:
Emsworth:	Sewickley: Julie Barnes
Sewickley Heights: Nathan Briggs	

*Attended the meeting via Zoom.

Public Comment: None.

Approval of August 17, 2022 Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Briggs moved to approve the August 17, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barnes. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote:

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

Subsequently, Ms. Barnes moved to approve the August financial reports, unpaid bills, and employee payrolls as presented. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Executive Director Connors noted that the October Board Meeting will serve as the Budget Meeting for the QVCOG. He cited that in previous years, an ad-hoc Budget Committee was formed to discuss the budgetary projections in advance of the Budget Meeting. He asked if anyone would be interested in serving on the Committee. Ms. Carrier, Mr. Briggs, and Mr. Wagner all agreed to serve on the Committee.

President's Report:

President Carrier noted waste and recycling service issues for multiple QVCOG member communities. She highlighted that it may be beneficial for WM representatives

to attend the October Board meeting. A brief discussion regarding waste and recycling ensued.

Route 65 Report:

No Report was provided.

CDBG Status Report: Executive Director Conners provided brief updates concerning all active CDBG projects. He then highlighted that a total of 8 Pre-Applications for CDBG Year 49 (2023) were submitted on behalf of member communities.

Executive Director's Report:

Seeking Nominations – Executive Director Conners reported that as a part of the Annual Dinner's proceedings, the QVCOG is seeking to recognize a public servant(s) within a member community(s). He cited that two nominations have been made. First, Ms. Cathy Jones was nominated by Mr. Paul Getz. Through an email, Mr. Getz highlighted that Cathy would be recognized for her 30 years of service as Secretary of Emsworth Borough. Second, Mr. Fred Gregorich, was nominated by the Edgeworth Borough Council. Mr. John Schwend cited that Mr. Gregorich has served Edgeworth Borough for over twenty years in many capacities including as Public Works Director and Building Code Official. Mr. Gregorich also sits on the Aleppo Township Planning Commission.

Mr. Wagner moved to recognize both Ms. Cathy Jones and Mr. Fred Gregorich at the 2022 QVCOG Annual Dinner for their extraordinary public service. Ms. Barnes seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Property Assessment Educational Forum – Executive Director Conners reported that Allegheny County Controller Corey O'Connor has organized several educational Forums which will be held in the next several weeks and welcomes residents of Quaker Valley Council of Government member communities to attend an event scheduled for Monday, October 3rd (5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.). He noted that the event will take place at the Northland Public Library (300 Cumberland Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237). He stated that the County Controller will share resources and general information with residents on the property appeals process. Additionally, he cited that the Forum will feature remarks, a brief educational program, and time for a question-and-answer component around the appeals process, residents' rights, and how to navigate the appeals process when necessary.

New Business:

Presentation - Yard Waste Program - Michael Brothers Hauling:

Executive Director Conners stated that in an effort to continue recent recycling and sustainability initiatives, the QVCOG has engaged in discussions with the Michael Brothers Companies to develop the structure for a yard waste recycling drop-off program. He noted that Michael Brothers Hauling provides the transportation services for the QVCOG's glass recycling program. He continued by highlighting that a "Pilot" program is being proposed for evaluation purposes.

Mr. Boyd Jones of the Michael Brothers Companies introduced himself to the Board. He stated that the Yard Waste Drop-Off Program will only be open to residents of Quaker Valley COG member communities and their Public Works Departments. He cited that the addresses of users will be cross-referenced within the provided GIS Zoning Map to ensure that only QVCOG residents and entities participate. He highlighted that private businesses will not be permitted to participate in the program and will be subject to the normal drop-off rate established by Michael Brothers. He then outlined the rules and regulations of the program below:

Drop Off Location: Michael Brothers Reserve Township - 408 Hoffman Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Items Accepted:

Grass Clippings; Leaves;
Brush; Wood Chips; concrete pieces (clean); dirt (clean); and Small Logs under 12” diameter

Items not accepted:

Stumps; and Food (Including pumpkins)

He concluded by reporting that Michael Brothers is proposing a **\$350 monthly fee** for access. Executive Director Conners proposed to pay the fee for a designated set of time out of the QVCOG’s Joint Recycling Fund for evaluation purposes. Mr. Jones stated that the Program should be reassessed by all participating parties 6 months from its start date.

Mr. Schwend expressed his concerns with the distance between many QVCOG member communities and the Reserve Township drop-off site. Ms. Barnes & Ms. Murphy-Horton echoed the concerns of Mr. Schwend. She then inquired regarding a potential partnership between Michael Brothers and the Zero Waste Wrangler. Mr. Bob Badstibner of Michael Brothers stated that he would be happy to begin a dialogue with Mr. Kyle Winkler. Executive Director Conners highlighted that the Program would be evaluation based with no required term length. He cited the QVCOG’s joint recycling fund emanates from the DEP’s Recycling Performance Grant which is intended for the investment in and expansion of recycling programming.

After some discussion, Mr. Briggs moved to approve the QVCOG’s participation in the drop-off yard waste program in partnership with the Michael Brothers Companies for an evaluation term of at least 6 months at a rate of \$350 per month. Mr. Wagner seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote with all in attendance voting in the affirmative with the exception of Mr. Schwend who voted nay.

GEDTF Concurring Resolution Approvals:

Executive Director Conners reported that the QVCOG is in the process of submitting a total of 9 Gaming Economic Development & Tourism Fund (GEDTF) Grant Applications on behalf of its members. He noted that a requirement of the application submission is the approval of a Concurring Resolution for each project.

The projects can be found below:

- Aleppo Township Deer Run Road Stormwater Improvements - \$332,732.00
- Bellevue Borough North Jackson Retaining Wall Project - \$495,985.84
- Leet Township Municipal Complex Improvements - \$268,800.00
- Leet Township Park Improvements - \$321,600.00
- Leet Township Salt Storage Improvements - \$186,000.00
- Leet Township Olde Sewickley Heights Stormwater Improvements - \$181,125.00
- Leet Township ADA Pedestrian Improvements - \$386,900.00
- Sewickley Heights Borough Parking Lot Reconstruction & Storm Sewer Project – \$190,090.00
- Sewickley Heights Borough Park Road Reconstruction & Stormwater Project - \$350,660.00

He noted that as the “recipient” of requested funding, all participating municipalities will be subject to the QVCOG’s utilization fee policy.

After some discussion a motion was made by Ms. Barnes to approve each Concurring Resolution as presented. Ms. Carrier seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Waste & Recycling Contract Cost of Fuel Adjustment:

Executive Director Connors reported that per the current Waste & Recycling Agreement, a fuel cost adjustment must be calculated for the second year of the contract which will go into effect on January 1, 2023. He cited that the fuel price variance shall be based upon a 52-week period (September 2021 - September 2022) as reported by the U.S. Department of Energy Weekly Retail for the price of On-Highway Diesel. He provided an overview of the calculation formula and reported that the Diesel fuel cost adjustment for the 2023 calendar year is \$0.12 per month per unit.

Letter of Support Request - Redgate, Merriman, River, & Deer Run Road Traffic Study:

Executive Director Connors reported that in recent weeks the QVCOG has been made aware of a number of traffic incidents along River Road in Aleppo Township involving overturned tractor trailers. He cited the dates of the incidents - August 28, 2022, September 8, 2022, and September 17, 2022. He continued by highlighting an email correspondence dated September 9th from Ms. Amy Paff (Haysville Borough) which requested that adjoining municipalities and the QVCOG become more involved in requesting a formal review and evaluation from PennDOT. He cited an additional email correspondence dated September 19th from Ms. Gwen Patterson (Borough Manager, Aleppo Township) which highlighted that Aleppo Township has proactively posted “No Thru Truck Traffic” on a post with existing PennDOT signage. Lastly, referencing an email correspondence dated September 20th from PennDOT District 11 Traffic Engineer, Todd Kravits, PennDOT recently has reviewed the truck restriction signage that is currently in place along River, Redgate, Merriman, and Deer Run Roads. He cited that PennDOT District 11 will be making updates to the existing signage to better alert motorists of the current weight restriction(s). He noted that the updates will ensure that all signage is both appropriate and able to be legally enforced. He highlighted that

as a supplemental part of that process an additional study(s) will be required to determine if further truck restrictions based on length, etc. may be required. He stated that PennDOT District 11 will be reaching out to nearby municipalities since they would ultimately be responsible for enforcing any new truck restrictions. He stated that Mr. Kravits requested that municipalities send District 11 a formal request either by letter or email to conduct these studies.

After some discussion, Mr. Wagner moved to direct Executive Director Conners to draft a letter of support requesting additional traffic studies from PennDOT District 11 along Redgate Road, Merriman Road, River Road, and Deer Run Road. Ms. Barnes seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Old Business:

None.

Other Concerns of the Delegates:

Aleppo Township – Mr. Williams highlighted continued discussions between Aleppo Township, Haysville Borough, and Glen Osborne Borough and the Norfolk Southern Rail Road on the topic of stopped trains at the intersection of River Road and Route 65. A discussion ensued.

Bellevue Borough – Mr. McKelvey noted a community initiative within Bellevue to further engage with residents which would include meet and greet sessions with Borough Council.

Ben Avon Borough – Mr. Wagner noted the distribution of the Borough’s second edition of its community newsletter as well as the Borough’s Fall Festival which will be taking place on September 24th.

Adjournment: Mr. Williams moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Briggs. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. and will take place at the Edgeworth Borough Building (301 Beaver Road, Edgeworth, PA 15143). 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