

QUAKER VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MONTHLY BOARD OF DELEGATES MEETING

August 20, 2025

The meeting took place at the Sewickley Public Library (500 Thorn St, Sewickley, PA 15143) and was broadcast via Zoom.

President Barnes 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:

*attended via Zoom

Aleppo:

Avalon: Roberta Edwards

Bell Acres: Matthew Horton

Bellevue: Dan McKelvey*

Ben Avon: Tavia Washington*

Ben Avon Heights: Steve Stiller*

Edgeworth:

Emsworth: Paul Getz*

Glen Osborne: Anne Fruehauf*

Glenfield: Paul Carmody

Haysville:

Kilbuck: Daryl Hartman

Leet: Donna Adipietro*

Leetsdale: Maria Napolitano*

Sewickley: Julie Barnes

Sewickley Heights:

Sewickley Hills Borough: Michael Lapore

Public Comment:

None.

Approval of July 16, 2025 Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Hartman moved to approve the July 16, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Ms. Napolitano seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote with Ms. Barnes abstaining, citing that she was not in attendance.

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

Mr. Hartman moved to approve the July financial reports, unpaid bills, and employee payrolls as presented. Mr. Carmody seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

President's Report:

President Barnes thanked Ms. Napolitano for presiding over the July Board meeting. Additionally, she noted the Executive Team of Ms. Napolitano, Mr. Hartman, Executive Director Connors, and herself met via Zoom to discuss the establishment of 2026 membership dues rates and discuss the early parameters of the 2026 Budget and organizational goals.

Route 65 Report:

Executive Director Connors reported that on July 10th he had met with Mr. Peter Quintanilla and Ms. Kirsten Compitello of the Michael Baker International engineering team to discuss the parameters of the community welcome signage project that was approved by the Board at its June meeting. He stated that an introductory presentation from the MBI team is anticipated for either the September or October Board meeting.

Emergency Preparedness Committee Report:

After noting the most recent meeting was cancelled, Executive Director Connors reported that a future meeting date is being finalized amongst the group.

Grant Status Report:

Executive Director Connors provided brief updates concerning all active and recently awarded CDBG and GEDTF projects. He continued by reporting that on July 25th the QVCOG was made aware of Act 152 and CDBG Year 51 awards. He summarized the awarded projects and the funding amounts below.

Awards

MPR003 - Bellevue Borough - Gillott Park Playground Improvement Project - **\$35,000.00**

MSW010 - Edgeworth Water Authority (Leet Twp) - Big Sewickley Creek Waterline Replacement Project Phase II - **\$331,500.00**

MRB028 - Leet Township - Orchard Street ADA Sidewalk Project - **\$30,000.00**

MPD001 (Act 152) - Leetsdale Borough - Washington Street Blight Remediation Project - **\$30,000.00**

MRB026 - Leetsdale Borough - Henle Park ADA Sidewalk Replacement Project - **\$40,092.00**

MRB027 - Sewickley Borough - Crosswalk ADA Improvement Project - **\$35,000.00**

MAD006 - QVCOG - CD Year 51 Project Management - **\$50,000.00**

Executive Director's Report:

QVCOG Intergovernmental Reception – Executive Director Connors reminded the Board that the annual Intergovernmental Reception will occur on August 28, 2025, at the Edgeworth Club (511 East Drive, Edgeworth PA 15143). He stated the theme of the reception will be to recognize the value of intergovernmental collaboration and those who make it all possible. He encouraged all public officials and staff from member communities to register as soon as possible. He noted that further details regarding the event and information on how to register can be found by visiting qvcog.org.

Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road 2025 Grant Cycle now Open – Executive Director Connors reported that the Allegheny County Conservation District's (ACCD) Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road (DGLVR) 2025 grant cycle is open, and they are accepting applications through August 31, 2025. He cited that ACCD is specifically looking for dirt and gravel road projects and have approximately \$220,000 to award. He highlighted that ACCD administers the Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Roads (DGLVR) Grant Program in Allegheny County. He stated that the grant provides funds to municipalities and other governmental entities to improve dirt and gravel roads and/or low volume roads and eligible applicants include municipalities who own roads

and are responsible for their maintenance. He concluded by reporting to start the application process, interested parties should contact DGLVR Program Manager Riley Kinney at rkinney@accdpa.org or visit ACCD's website.

Local Share Account Application Details Announced – Executive Director Conners reported that the statewide Local Share Account (LSA) Program application window will be open from September 1, 2025, through November 30, 2025, for grant requests between \$25,000.00 and \$1 million dollars. He noted that there is no local match required. He cited that interested parties may access the updated guidelines by visiting qvcog.org. He stated that eligible projects must be owned and maintained by an eligible applicant or a nonprofit organization and include a Project in the Public Interest (i.e. a projects that improve the quality of life in the impacted community). He highlighted that eligible uses of funds may be used for: Acquisition, Construction, & Demolition; Infrastructure; Purchase of vehicles, machinery and/or equipment; Planning, consulting and design costs related to planning projects; and Engineering, design and inspection, to include permitting fees, for construction projects not to exceed 10% of the total grant award. He noted that member communities can utilize the QVCOG for the submission of an application and the overall facilitation of the grant, etc.

Public Works Educational Seminar – Executive Director Conners reported that the Allegheny League of Municipalities (ALOM) is hosting a free public works educational series on September 26th and October 1st. He stated that attendees must choose one of the dates prior to registration. He cited that this educational opportunity for public works officials will allow participants to fulfill Operations & Maintenance Plan Training Requirements. He highlighted that certificates of training completion will be provided and capacity is limited. He concluded by noting the event will take place at Gateway Engineers (100 McMorris Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15205) and those interested in participating may register online here: https://secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/YXdjm9IR4QBKd_EyR-THpw

New Business

Consideration of a Resolution Establishing 2026 Schedule of Dues

Executive Director Conners stated the Bylaws of the Quaker Valley Council of Governments stipulates that the Board of Delegates shall review and establish a schedule of dues each year. Citing the financial stability of the organization, Executive Director Conners proposed keeping dues at 2025 rates (proposed structure below).

Municipalities with a population less than 250 residents	\$1,331
Municipalities with a population less than 251 - 1,000 residents	\$2,662
Municipalities with a population less than 1001 – 4,000 residents	\$3,993
Municipalities with a population less than 4,001 + residents	\$5,324
Associate (non-voting) Members	\$550

Ms. Adipietro moved to approve the Resolution establishing 2025 membership dues rates as presented. Mr. Horton seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of 2025 GEDTF Program Application Concurring Resolutions

Executive Director Connors reported that the Quaker Valley Council of Governments has been asked to submit a total of 16 Gaming Economic Development & Tourism Fund (GEDTF) Grant Applications on behalf of its member communities and affiliated organizations for the 2025 cycle. He cited that a Concurring Resolutions needs to be included with each application's submission. He highlighted that the 2025 GEDTF Application timeline runs from August 4, 2025 through August 22, 2025. He stated that as the "recipient" of requested funding, all participating municipalities will be subject to the QVCOG's utilization fee policy, highlights of which he proceeded to summarize.

Proposed 2025 GEDTF Projects:

- Community Center & Archive Project – **Sewickley Hills Borough** - \$500,000.00
- Quarry Road Sewer Extension Project – **Sewickley Heights Borough** - \$500,000.00
- Beaver and Broad Street Upgrade Project – **Sewickley Borough** - \$174,042.00
- Emergency Exit Study and Design Project – **Leetsdale Borough** - \$271,000.00
- Watson Street Stormwater Project – **Leet Township** - \$171,480.00
- Salt Storage Facility Project – **Leet Township** - \$200,000.00
- East Beaver Street Road Rehabilitation Project – **Glenfield Borough** - \$500,000.00
- Community Connection Project – **Fern Hollow Nature Center** - \$500,000.00
- Mayernik Field Lighting Retrofit Project – **Emsworth Borough** - \$293,300.00
- Marmo Park Playground Replacement Project – **Emsworth Borough** - \$485,950.00
- North Avenue Water Line Replacement Project – **Edgeworth Water Authority** - \$191,020.00
- Municipal Building ADA Access Ramp Project – **Ben Avon Borough** - \$260,000.00
- Bayne Park ADA Restroom Project – **Bellevue Borough** - \$353,500.00
- Veshio Drive Water Line Replacement Project – **Aleppo Township Water Authority** - \$335,200.00
- Rhodes Avenue Improvements Project – **Aleppo Township** - \$500,000.00
- Academy Avenue Traffic Signal Project – **Edgeworth Borough** - \$412,170.00

Mr. Hartman moved to authorize the QVCOG to apply on behalf of the requesting agencies for the 2025 GEDTF Program. Mr. Lapore seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous voice vote.

2025 Intergovernmental Reception Public Service Recognitions

Executive Director Connors stated that this year's Annual Reception event will recognize regional public servants who have exemplified a commitment to their community(s) and public service as a whole. He reported that Mr. Lee Nelson, Councilperson of Avalon Borough has been nominated by Roberta Edwards and Mr. Martin McDaniel, Commissioner for Leet Township, has been nominated by several Leet Township residents including Dan Peluso, John Bunce, and Don Birnie. Recognition of these individuals would occur at this year's event on August 28th.

Ms. Napolitano moved to approve the nominations of Mr. Lee Nelson (Avalon Borough) and Mr. Martin McDaniel (Leet Township) as the recognized QVCOG public servants for the 2025 Intergovernmental Reception. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Old Business

None.

Other Concerns of the Delegates:

Leet Township – Ms. Adipietro reported that the Leet Township Park Improvements Project funded through the GEDTF program has been completed.

Sewickley Hills Borough – Mr. Hopkins reported that the Borough will be hosting a volunteer day to continue the development and maintenance of walking trails in the community. Mr. Lapore reported that repairs are needed along Fern Hollow Road.

Avalon Borough – Ms. Edwards reported that the Borough is hosting a “touch a truck” event on September 20th.

Kilbuck Township – Mr. Hartman reported that the Township is working in coordination with neighboring communities for improvements to Avon Park.

Ben Avon Heights Borough – Mr. Stiller reported that the Borough is set to commence a robust ADA sidewalk project.

Bellevue Borough – Mr. McKelvey reported that the Lincoln Avenue Streetscape Project is continuing. He also reported that the Borough recently hosted 1,500 visitors for its Rhythm and Blues Festival. A discussion regarding a proposed music festival ensued.

Bell Acres Borough – Mr. Horton inquired regarding veterans’ banners. The group discussed how their communities organize, pay for, and maintain similar banners.

Glen Osborne Borough – Ms. Fruehauf reported that Glen Osborne Borough would begin residential leaf pickup beginning in the fall of 2025.

Leetsdale Borough – Ms. Napolitano reported that the Borough would be organizing a garden harvest potluck in Henle Park on August 27th.

Ben Avon Borough – Ms. Washington reported that Ben Avon Borough would be having a ribbon cutting ceremony for their newly installed elevator.

Sewickley Borough – Ms. Barnes reported that the Borough has recently completed a multi-modal traffic study, and as a result of the evaluation, will recalibrate the timing of pedestrian signaled crossings throughout the community.

Adjournment: Mr. Hartman moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Horton. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

The next meeting will take place at the Sewickley Public Library (500 Thorn St, Sewickley, PA 15143) on September 17, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patrick M. Conners
Executive Director