

STEEL RIVERS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Board of Directors Meeting
February 6, 2025 – 6:00PM

AGENDA

Call To Order at 6:30pm by President Tammy Firda

Council Present

<u>Braddock Hills:</u>	Tom Evans	<u>Munhall:</u>	Reenie Fry
	Jack Brown		
<u>Clairton:</u>	Eric Hatchett	<u>Port Vue:</u>	Debbie Thomas
			Ken Hresko
<u>Duquesne:</u>	Elaine Washington	<u>South Versailles:</u>	Roy Lawson
<u>Forward:</u>	Amy Cline		
<u>Glassport:</u>	Anthony Colecchi	<u>West Elizabeth:</u>	Janet Isaacs
			Cathy Welty
<u>Homestead:</u>	Duane Schulte	<u>West Homestead:</u>	Barb Ferson
<u>Liberty:</u>	Mike Zrenchak		
<u>Lincoln:</u>	Tammy Firda	<u>Whitaker:</u>	Al Race

Pledge of Allegiance



Welcoming Remarks

Welcome Councilman Bob Macey

- Update for County special events and updates
- Assessments will be done in stages (entire county)
- Community Residential Rehab Program
- Bob will not be running again, but he will be available for us whenever possible while he is here.

Public Comments

N/A

Minutes

Motion to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of January 2, 2025.

Motion made by Amy Cline Motion 2nd by Jack Brown
All in favor. Motion carried.

Guest Speakers

N/A

Treasurer's Report: Kristin Gusten

Changes to format of Cash Statement and List of Bills

Motion to approve the Cash Statement for January 2025 and the List of Bills as dated.

Motion made by Duane Schulte Motion 2nd by Anthony Colecchi

All in favor. Motion carried.

A Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual report was provided to members.

RAD reports were provided to members.

President's Report: Tammy Firda

Annual Meeting in March – County Treasurer, Erica Rocchi Brusselars, will be keynote speaker. She was not in politics, very receptive to feedback, and a strong voice for us.

Tammy will no longer be the Council President, but she would like to thank everyone and she will be around if anyone needs her.

Solicitor's Report: Falco Muscante

Motion to approve Resolution #01/2025R to enter into contract with Cautela Enterprises, LLC for the amount of \$19,700 for demolition of blighted properties in Forward Township, funded by an Act 152 grant - Project 2023-BRP-008

Motion made by Tom Evans Motion 2nd by Roy Lawson

All in favor. Motion carried

Director's Report: An Lewis

An attended the ACBA Annual Banquet at the Rivers Casino on 2/1/25. Tammy Firda was given "Borough Official of The Year" Award.

Election of Officers

SRCOG Officers can only serve two consecutive terms in their positions. At this time, all four of the officer positions are up for reelection.

Nominations for:

President – Anthony Colecchi nominated by Tammy Firda

VP – Tammy Firda nominated by Anthony Colecchi

Treasurer – Tom Evans nominated by Roy Lawson

Secretary – Amy Cline nominated by Anthony Colecchi

FCB Credit Card

Our original motion was for an increase to \$15,000. We would like to increase the amount to \$20,000, which was approved by First Commonwealth Bank.

Motion to increase the SRCOG organizational credit card limit to \$20,000 for FCB credit cards

Motion made by Eric Hatchett Motion 2nd by Duane Schulte

All in favor. Motion carried

Old Wood Chipper (TRCOG – McKeesport)

This has not worked or in been in use for some time. We do not know if this is SRCOG property. There is an interested party who is adamant on buying it.

Motion to adopt a resolution to sell the wood chipper to the interested party at the offer price.

Motion made by Debbie Thomas Motion 2nd by Anthony Colecchi

All in favor. Motion carried

Working Group – SRCOG Owned Properties

An wants to know the boards thoughts on creating a small group/committee to discuss the management of the properties that we own. Kristin has extensive experience in financial management and also facilities management, and she has ideas to help improve what we do. The group would focus on this building, the train station, the parcel that is the parking lot for the train station, the cell tower, and the range. An is working to hopeful get another long-term lease for the range.

Anthony, Tammy, Roy, and Ken would like to participate in this group, along with Kristin.

Roy asked how often the meetings would be held and Tammy stated that could be discussed and agreed upon after the first meeting.

SRCOG manages the Regional Training Complex located in Elizabeth Township. This facility is available exclusively for police departments, law enforcement, and public safety agencies who maintain membership with SRCOG. The complex includes a classroom, firing range, tactical training building, drivers' proficiency course and firearm training simulator (FATS) machine. (<https://steelriverscog.org/resources/regional-training-complex/>)

2025 SRCOG Board Meeting Host Locations

Please reach out to SRCOG Office Coordinator, Penny Donaldson, to confirm.

Host Locations will be confirmed by Annual Dinner so we have everything scheduled.

Finance Director's Report: Kristin Gusten

The additional fraud protection is working well. This enables us to do more online ach payments. We are working to get better pricing for our building and office needs.

An stated that TCVCOG offices have been in the Monroeville Municipal building for at least 12- 15 years. Monroeville made a decision to move Steve Zapalla and his offices into the space where TCVCOG offices are. TCVCOG is currently exploring their option for relocating and An sees huge advantages to having TCVCOG in the same space as us, if necessary. This may not happen, but in the event that they cannot find a space, does any board members have any objections to having them in our building? Kristin stated that they have a small staff of about 10 employees or less. Glassport also stated that they have room, if needed.

Government Grants Report: Jenny Kwiatek

There has been staff turnover at the county level and things are moving quickly. The recent bid opening went well and we are going to be very busy over the next few months. Act 152 is being held up and Jenny is not sure why. Duquesne received a Mon Valley Health award. Reach out to Jenny if you have any ideas or plans for anything coming up and she can help. Thank you for the newsletter feedback. If you are not on the email list, please let Jenny know so that she can add you.

CVRI Update: Alan Sisco

SRCOG is the host site for Allegheny County CVRI

This program services McKeesport, Clairton, Homestead, and Duquesne. Last year, after the very poor review, McKeesport and Clairton staff were all removed. Currently they are in the process of interviews for these communities. Ten individuals have been interviewed this week, and the team is very excited and pleased with the panel interviews. Once the official hiring process is done, they will move into training.

SRCOG Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

Meeting Date	Location
February 6, 2025	SRCOG – Human Service Center, Homestead, PA
March 6, 2025	SRCOG – Human Service Center, Homestead, PA
March 27, 2025	Annual Dinner – The Sunset Room, Elizabeth, PA
May 1, 2025	West Elizabeth – Municipal Building - 800 4 th St
June 5, 2025	TBD

Community Reports / Discussion

Braddock Hills:

Jack will be speaking on WTAE Channel 4 re: US Steel

Duquesne:

Elaine said Duquesne will get their excavator on 02/07/25. They have people being trained and certified. There are many buildings that need to be addressed, so this will be a big help.

Homestead:

Duane asked about setting up seminars for local residents to apply and get financing for TCLB properties. An explained that the SRCOG and TCLB are different and that the TCLB does not do financing.

West Elizabeth:


Could our dues ever be on a per capita basis? An stated that they are based loosely on population and assessed valuation.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion made by Anthony Colecchi Motion 2nd by Debbie Thomas

Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm by President Tammy Firda

ATTEST:


Penny Donaldson


An Lewis, Executive Director