

MINUTES
STEEL RIVERS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MARCH 5, 2020

The SRCOG Board of Directors Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by SRCOG President Tammy Firda at the SRCOG Human Service Center, 1705 Maple Street, Homestead, PA 15120.

Those Present Included

Braddock Hills: T. Evans; J. Brown
Clairton: R. Ford; Lee Laisch
Dravosburg:
Duquesne:
Elizabeth: A. Miklos
Forward: A. Cline
Glassport: E. Skiba
Homestead: B. Esper
Liberty: M. Zrenchak

Lincoln: T. Firda
McKeesport:
Munhall: R. Votedian; M. Fallon
Port Vue: D. Thomas
S. Versailles: C. Craig
Versailles: R. Jacklitch
W. Elizabeth:
W. Homestead: B. Ferson
Whitaker: M. Bogesdorfer; A. Race
White Oak: Louis Bender

Welcoming Remarks

Members introduced themselves.

Public Comments

None.

Guest Speakers

Robert Johnson, Mon Yough Area Chamber of Commerce & Michael Jones, My Benefit Advisor Presentation on goals of Mon Yough Area Chamber of Commerce and benefits of becoming a member including a program called Chamber Choice which is available to all members to help select and provide employee benefit plans.

Minutes

A **motion** was made by E. Skiba and seconded by B. Esper to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of February 6, 2020. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report: A. Lewis

Since our last meeting SRCOG has closed the Public Safety Account which the COG managed for the DA's office for utilities and maintenance at the Train Station.

A **motion** was made by A. Race and seconded by J. Brown to approve the Cash Statement for February 2020 and the List of Bills as dated. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual was provided at the meeting.

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Solicitor's Report / Resolutions: Falco Muscante

A **motion** was made by R. Votedian and seconded by A. Miklos to approve Resolution No. 2/2020R to authorize entering into contract with Morgan Excavating, LP in the amount not to exceed \$839,124.00 for the Bayard Street Storm Sewer Separation Phase 3 & 4 project for the Elizabeth Borough Municipal Authority. All in favor. Motion Carried.

A **motion** was made by E. Skiba and seconded by R. Ford to approve Resolution No. 3/2020R authorizing the Steel Rivers Council of Governments to enter into Contract with Playchak Construction Co. Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$128,600.00 for the Fire Hall Door Renovation project in the City of Duquesne. All in favor. Motion Carried.

A **motion** was made by J. Brown and seconded by A. Miklos to approve Resolution No. 4/2020R authorizing the Steel Rivers Council of Governments to enter into Contract with Nevaeh Pipe Bursting LLC for an amount not to exceed \$40,365.00 for the McLean Playground Drainage Improvements project in the Borough of Homestead. All in favor. Motion Carried.

A **motion** was made by A. Race and seconded by M. Zrenchak to approve Resolution No. 5/2020R authorizing the Steel Rivers Council of Governments to enter into Contract John D. Caruso, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$55,850.00 for the Catch Basin Replacement project in the Borough of Munhall. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Staff Reports

Directors/Programs Report: An Lewis

Train Station Lease Agreement with Allegheny County Housing Authority

SRCOG drafted a six month lease for the train station for \$3,825.00 per month. The lease will include all utilities and maintenance. Following the six month term, the tenant will have the option of extending the lease for another three months and potentially extend the lease for additional terms following. The lease will set the amount of extensions after which the lease will be renegotiated.

A **motion** was made by B. Esper and seconded by E. Skiba to finalize and enter into the lease agreement with the Allegheny County Housing Authority for SRCOG's Train Station at 500 Amity Street in Homestead pending final review by the SRCOG solicitor. All in favor, motion carried.

HSC Lease Renewals

Human Service Center rent has not been raised in about five years. SRCOG staff propose a five cent increase to the current rate which would raise the rent from \$10/sq ft to \$10.05/sq ft. Lease agreements are being reviewed by SRCOG solicitor.

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A **motion** was made by R. Ford and seconded by J. Brown to update and finalize the Human Service Center lease agreements with SRCOG solicitor and send them to the current tenants and prospective tenant for review. All in favor. Motion Carried.

The Waterfront Maintenance Fund updates

Traffic Camera Installation in progress at the waterfront. New cameras will not be installed at this time but potentially in additional phases of updating the camera system.

WMF Committee authorized the award of bid for the first phase of road construction.

Pending Legislation

Allegheny County proposed \$15 recorder of deeds fee to create a fund to be used for demolition. This fee could raise about \$2 million for demolition projects in Allegheny County. Municipalities should contact council members with concerns or to express support for ordinance.

HB 1069 - Sunshine Act Reform passed in the house and referred to the senate. This legislation would place additional restrictions on municipalities in creating and posting agendas for all meetings. Municipalities should contact senators with comments over proposed legislation.

Institute of Politics Request

SRCOG would like to submit request to the Institute of Politics to analyze intergovernmental cooperation and its impacts to support the need for funding intergovernmental cooperation organizations like COGs.

A **motion** was made by B. Esper and seconded by J. Brown to allow SRCOG to submit a letter of request to the Institute of Politics. All in favor. Motion carried.

Annual Dinner Update

The Annual Dinner will be held at the Sunset Room in Elizabeth.

TCLB Staffing Agreement

SRCOG solicitor is in the process of modifying staffing agreement with TCLB to include reimbursement from TCLB for employee paid time off expenses. The agreement will then be sent to TCLB for review.

A **motion** was made by R. Votedian and seconded by E. Skiba to finalize staffing agreement with solicitor and the Tri-COG Land Bank.

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F. Muscante commented that the modifications would also allow organizations to pass resolutions as employee benefits and salaries change which would allow agreement to automatically renew every year. All in favor. Motion carried.

Community Development Report: Carla Barron
CD Report provided to members.

Community Reports / Discussion

A. Cline, Forward Township: LGA held a graduation for newly elected officials who completed their course that began last fall and recommends program to other members.

J. Kiley: Senator Jay Costa's Office is cosponsoring Real ID information event in Bloomfield.

T. Firda, Lincoln Borough – Grants are available for municipalities and organizations to promote census. Census information will also be presented at the Annual Dinner at the end of March.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:33pm on a motion made by B. Esper and seconded by E. Skiba. All in favor. Motion Carried.

ATTEST:



Anna Meehan



An Lewis, Executive Director