

ERIE AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Dec 9, 2020 at 3:00 pm

ZOOM Meeting

Minutes

Municipality	Delegate or Alternate	In Attendance:
Albion Borough	Greg Hemmis	X
City of Erie, Mayor	Joseph Schember	X
City of Erie Mayor's Alternate	Mas Sala	X
City of Erie Council	Kathy Schaaf	
County Council	Kim Clear	
County Executive's Representative	Honey Stempka	X
Borough of Edinboro	Pat Davis	X
Borough of Edinboro, Manager	Kevin Opple	X
Franklin Township	Dennis Howard	X
Girard Township	Lindy Platz	X
Girard Borough	Dennis McNally	X
Greenfield Township	Steve Rathman	
Greene Township	John Bartnicki	X
Harborcreek Township	Tim May	
Lawrence Park Township	Eric Gerardine	
LeBoeuf Township	Michael Porter	
Millcreek Township	Dan Ouellet	X
North East Township	Robert Mazza	X
Summit Township	Jack Lee	X
Venango Township	DJ Austin	X
Union City Borough	Cindy Wells	X
Wesleyville Borough	Regina Julius	
Invited guests and others in Attendance:		
EA COG	Jessica Horan-Kunco	X
Quinn Law Firm	Art Martinucci	X

A. Call to order: Call to order and roll call of delegates/alternates on the video/audio conference at 3:05 pm.

B. Approval of minutes: A motion to approve the minutes from Nov 4, 2020 General Assembly meeting was made by Dan Ouellet and seconded by Lindy Platz and passed unanimously.

C. Public Comment: none

D. Treasurer's Report:

Member Governments

Boroughs of: Albion • Edinboro • Girard • Union City • Wesleyville • City of Erie • County of Erie

Townships of: Franklin • Girard • Greene • Greenfield • Harborcreek • Lawrence Park • LeBoeuf • Millcreek

North East • Summit • Venango

1. Resolutions received from members regarding 2021 budget:

Resolutions have been received from 14 of 18 members. Resolutions needed from Summit, Greene, Wesleyville and Edinboro.

2. Official vote to approve 2021 budget: A motion to approve the 2021 Budget as presented was made by Dennis Howard and seconded by Jack Lee and passed unanimously.

E. Old Business:

1. Project updates:

a. Glass Recycling Pilot:

Prism Glass has reported firm commitments for hosting containers from Harborcreek Township, Venango Township, the City of Erie, Greene Township, Millcreek Township, and Franklin Township

COG members that indicated that they are also interested included: Girard Borough, North East Township, and Girard Township which is considering the West County Paramedics building. If delegates know of any commercial locations that they would like to recommend also, let Jessica know. Manufacturing delays have put the delivery of bins back to mid-January.

b. Covid 19 Education and Awareness Campaign – Social Media materials

A consultant for the County, Stevens Strategic, is working to get Covid 19 information out to hard to reach populations. Jessica sent some social media posts and a list of testing locations for your information and posting on municipal websites, facebook pages or printing out and posting. The current campaign is the 4 Ws: Wear Masks, Welcome Space, Wash Hands Watch Crowds. Jessica provided the graphics for reposting.

2. Erie County Cares Funding updates:

The 2nd Grant Round is now closed. The municipal reimbursement checks should be issued by Monday.
1st Round: 17 municipalities = \$400,000
2nd Round: 11 municipalities and 1 authority = \$300,000
16 of 17 COG municipalities applied and received funding, only 2 municipalities outside of COG members applied for funding.

Volunteer Fire and EMS agencies were eligible under the Non-Profit Grant Round.
20 of 36 eligible agencies received funding.
A total of approximately \$600,000 of funding was awarded.

F. New Business:

1. Annual report of 2020 COG Programs and Accomplishments

Jessica prepared and provided an annual report of 2020 COG activities. Some activities were different or postponed due to the Covid Pandemic including the workshop training series and the annual assembly. The focus of 2020 was on supporting municipalities with information, PPE supplies and grant funding.

Major accomplishments for 2020 include gaining 4 new members to achieve the doubling of the membership of the COG in 5 years.

2. 2021 Delegates and alternates need assigned:

Please provide your list of delegates and alternates to Jessica in January 2021 in time for our first meeting in February. Please assign as many alternates as possible to ensure that you will always have a voting member present. A borough manager or township treasurer or secretary can be assigned as

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alternates.

3. Officers will be needed for 2021: Chairman Buzz McNally has served the maximum 3 terms. We will need a new chairperson

All other officers are eligible for renewal. Nominations will be needed at Feb 2021 meeting.

4. 2021 Schedule of meetings and work sessions:

Jessica provided a proposed schedule of meeting for 2021. There will be 5 General Assembly or voting meetings, that will require delegate or alternates in attendance. Meetings will remain at 3:00 pm on Wednesdays. 2021 meetings will begin on Zoom until restrictions are lifted. Once we can meet in person delegates will be asked to host at their municipal locations.

5. Open discussion of delegate updates:

Pat Davis, reported that Edinboro is hosting an Advent Calendar in the windows of residences and businesses, each day a new decorated window is revealed. Jessica will provide a link on the COG Facebook so others can check it out.

Presque Isle Lights is open with Christmas light viewing every weekend through Christmas.

Greene Township is encouraging holiday decorating by collecting a list of light displays and providing the list to residents and considering prizes for best displays in the future.

April 2021 the ECGRA MMC grant round will reopen, if you have any multi-municipal projects Jessica can assist with grant writing.

G. Adjournment: On a motion of Dennis McNally the meeting adjourned at 3:39 pm.

The next meeting will be February 3, 2021 at 3:00 pm Via ZOOM.

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