

MINUTES
Cambria County Planning Commission
April 17, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of the Cambria County Planning Commission was held on Thursday, April 17, 2014, at 12 noon, at Kosta's Restaurant, Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Mr. Belz.

PRESENT

David L. Belz
Tim Whited
Ronald Rovansek
Russell Kiel
Eric Wolf

ABSENT

Robert E. Fisher, Jr.
Toni Renee Andreson
Joseph McAneny
Lonnie Batdorf

STAFF

Ethan C. Imhoff
Christopher D. Allison
Shanna M. Murphy
Colleen A. Bukowski

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were received at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Kiel, seconded by Mr. Whited, the March 20, 2014 meeting minutes were approved. The motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was read by Mr. Imhoff and reviewed by those present. There being no questions on the report, Mr. Wolf made a motion that the April Treasurer's Report and the bills listed for payment be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kiel and passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was read at this time.

STATUS REPORTS

Executive Director

Mr. Imhoff invited the members to an upcoming public meeting to be held in Carrolltown on April 29, 2014. He explained that at this meeting the Chatham University graduate students will unveil their ideas and renderings for the Route 219 corridor through the borough. Mr. Imhoff also informed those present of a JATS Technical Committee meeting scheduled for May 5, 2014 at the CamTran office. He noted that updates to the Highway Action Plan will be discussed at this meeting and invited interested Commission members to attend.

Mr. Imhoff stated that he and Mr. Allison have been invited to serve on a steering committee to develop a Safety Symposium, which will be held on June 10th in Harrisburg. He explained that the purpose of the symposium is to raise awareness of a variety of safety issues, i.e., teen driving, seatbelt usage, DUI, automated enforcement, with Pennsylvania legislators. Mr. Imhoff noted that Senator Wozniak will be invited to participate at the event.

Mr. Imhoff reported that the biennial update to the CamTran Financial Capacity Plan has been initiated. CamTran capital projects will be reviewed to ensure their consistency with planning objectives of the County's Comprehensive Plan.

Updating the board members of plan review activities completed during March, Mr. Imhoff stated that plans for a new Sheetz gas station and convenience store in Ebensburg Borough were reviewed. In addition to this review, plans for the subdivision of a commercial property in Munster Township were also reviewed. Mr. Imhoff noted that appropriate comments were provided to the respective municipal officials.

Mr. Imhoff announced that Commission staff will assist Carrolltown Borough with a grant application to the Automated Red Light Enforcement Program. The purpose of the application is to secure grant funding to replace the traffic light at the intersection of Route 219 and Carroll Street.

Mr. Imhoff noted that he had updated the CCPC information on the County's website. The Commission's 2013 Annual Report and the 2014 Fee Schedule were also included on the County's website, as well as on the CCPC's website

Transportation

Mr. Allison reported that work was continuing on the various work elements of the current Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). He also reported that all documents for the upcoming 2014-2016 UPWP had been compiled and forwarded to PennDOT Central Office for final approval.

Mr. Allison stated that during March Commission staff continued to provide technical support to prospective applicants interested in the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). He noted that applications had been received from Ebensburg Borough; Adams Township; the City of Johnstown; Cambria Township; and the Cambria County Conservation and Recreation Authority. Mr. Allison stated that although final project selection will be made at the State level, input will be solicited from the local MPO. In this regard, Mr. Allison invited interested board members to participate in the review and ranking of the projects submitted from the JATS MPO area. Mr. Wolf expressed his interest in participating in this endeavor.

Mr. Allison noted that he had participated in several conference calls during the past month. He apprised the members of the various topics of discussion, which included the Regional Operations Plans for Intelligent Transportation Systems planning and implementation, Linking Planning and NEPA (LPN), and the 2016-2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Allison stated that

anticipated approval of the TIP and related Air Quality Conformity Report is June of this year.

With regard to the County's selection of a consultant for bridge engineering services, Mr. Allison stated that the Commissioners approved a Policy and Procedures document for consultation selection in March. He reported that, pursuant to advertisements in PennDOT's Electronic Contract Management System and the Mainliner newspaper, statements of interest (SOI) had been submitted by eleven qualified engineering firms. He explained that the SOI will be reviewed by himself, Ethan Imhoff, and Commissioner Mark Wissinger and ranked based on six specific criteria. Mr. Allison invited members of the board to serve on the selection committee as well. For clarification purposes, Mr. Allison stated that the contractor selected as the County's engineer of record will not necessarily be the consultant that performs routine inspections on the County-owned bridges. He also noted that The EADS Group is currently under contract with the County for the Wildwood Bridge replacement project.

Community Development Planning

Ms. Murphy reported that, with the improving weather, she has been able to resume field work associated with the local roads data inventory. She noted that activities on this initiative will be increased during May and June. Ms. Murphy informed the members of an upcoming LTAP training session scheduled for May 7th. She explained that the course will review laws governing posting and bonding of local roads, requirements for developing and implementing a posting and bonding program, and ways to monitor a program. It was noted that the Commission will send a course announcement to all County municipalities.

Ms. Murphy reported that work is continuing on the 2014 CamTran Demographic Profiles. She stated that disability data for the municipalities within the fixed urban bus route system will be updated using the Census Bureau's 2008-2012 American Community Survey information. Ms. Murphy noted that, at CamTran's request, information will also be added to the report about the Authority's new Operations, Maintenance and Administrative facility and compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station.

Those present briefly reviewed three project reviews completed during the past month.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Kiel requested that a meeting of the Finance Committee be scheduled to discuss ongoing personnel matters. He indicated that findings of the committee will be presented to the full board at a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Imhoff distributed a 9-page document entitled, "2014 Benefits from Pennsylvania's Transportation Plan," which provided a brief synopsis of the additional statewide investment in transportation projects made possible through the enactment of Act 89. Mr. Imhoff noted several resurfacing projects in Cambria County that will be completed in 2014 and will be funded through the Act 89 legislation. He

also indicated that preservation activities on four state bridges will be undertaken this year utilizing Act 89 funds.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Whited, seconded by Mr. Wolf. Motion passed unanimously.