Danelle Del Corso called the regular March 26, 2018 meeting of the Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) to order at 7:01pm in the Forum Room of the Centre Region COG Building.

Members present: Mses. Dauler and Lafer and Messrs. Barlow, Brown, and Murphy, State College Borough; Ms. Stilson and Messrs. Bernier, Francke, and Lyncha College Township; Mses. Carlson and Dininni and Messrs. Buckland and Miller, Ferguson Township; Ms. Del Corso and Hartle and Mr. Stevenson, Halfmoon Township; Messrs. Hameister, Harden, Lord, and Wilson, Harris Township; Mses. J. Buckland and Whitman, and Messrs. Abrams, Downsbrough, and Treviño, Patton Township.

Others present: Messrs. Bair, COG Fire Director; Boeckel, CRPA Planner; May, CRPA Director; Schneider, CRCA Director; Viglione, COG Finance Director; Zilla, CRPA Planner; Brumbaugh, College Township Manager; C. Miller, UAJA Executive Director; Erickson, Patton Township Manager; Pribulka, Ferguson Township Manager; Fountaine, State College Borough Manager; Swisher, Penn State Engineer; Shorney, State College resident; and Strahota, Hazen and Sawyer; and Mses. Alloway, Library Director; Farkas, Harris Township Manager; Stamm, COG Office Manager and Recording Secretary; Salokangas, CRPR Director; Young, Penn State University Director of Local Government; and Erickson, Director of Happy Valley Launchbox.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were none.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Hameister and seconded by Ms. Dauler that the minutes of the February 26, 2018 General Forum meeting be approved as presented. The vote in favor to accept the minutes was unanimous.

MUNICIPAL ACTION ON THE 2017 ACT 537 PLAN SPECIAL STUDY – UPGRADES OF THE PENN STATE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Mr. Hameister introduced Mr. Swisher, the waste water utility engineer for Penn State University, to provide a PowerPoint presentation on the topic. Mr. Swisher began the overview presentation that included:

- Background information regarding the Penn State Waste Water Treatment Plan
- Previous planning summary with information about the 2006 Act 537 Update, 2013 Comprehensive Plan, and the 2016 Special Study – PSU Reclaimed Water System
- Project objectives
- Special Study evaluations and recommendations
- Site layout
- Implementation schedule and action to be taken
Mr. Hameister questioned if this plan would impact the planning for using beneficial reuse for some buildings in the future. Mr. Swisher responded that the 2016 Special Study has planned and gotten appropriate permits from DEP to be able to bring the reclaimed water system to campus.

In response to Mr. Brown’s question, Mr. Swisher stated that historical flow into the facilities and flow projections for the future required a modest amount of growth that needed implemented into the plan. He added that the amount of growth has been approximately a one percent increase per year.

Ms. Dininni questioned what kind of growth rate was anticipated in terms of housing students on campus. Mr. Swisher responded that population projection was measured by historical trends through total enrollment, building square footage impacting the treatment plant, and current zoning analysis to determine how much flow would impact the design. Ms. Dininni also asked where sewage would go if west campus would expand toward College Avenue and Corl Street. Mr. Swisher stated that properties in that area is currently served by the University and the State College Borough.

**A motion was made by Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mr. Barlow that the General Forum recommend the adoption, by the individual municipalities, of the Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan – Special Study for upgrades to the Penn State Wastewater Treatment Plant with the condition that Penn State respond to all comments. The motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. Del Corso reviewed the process to proceed with the adoption of the Act 537 Plan Special Study including a public hearing and individual municipal meetings to approve the Special Study.

The public hearing was opened at 7:18pm and Ms. Del Corso asked if there were any comments or questions from the public. There were no comments. Ms. Del Corso closed the public hearing at 7:19pm.

Ms. Del Corso called for a ten minute recess for the individual municipalities to hold a meeting. At 7:29pm the General Forum resumed at which time Ms. Del Corso stated that the Resolutions passed and will be filed with the DEP.

**SEWER SERVICE TO PORTIONS OF PENN STATE UNIVERSITY BY THE UNIVERSITY AREA JOINT AUTHORITY**

Mr. Hameister stated that this is an update to a 1966 agreement and that Mr. May, CRPA Director, would give a presentation regarding the changes.

Mr. May stated that the original 1966 agreement initially started with the Patton Township Joint Authority (PTJA) and Penn State University and when the PTJA was taken over by UAJA, they were made a part of the agreement. Mr. May gave a PowerPoint presentation including the following information:

- Overview of the original Right-of-Way (ROW) Agreement
- The extent of COG’s involvement
- Map showing the agreement area going through the Big Hollow
- Summary of benefits to the COG, to UAJA, and to Penn State University.
Mr. Stevenson questioned what would happen if inspections show the lines that would not be permitted today because of the protection areas needed repair or replacement. Mr. May responded that the line would need to be repaired and would be done at UAJA’s cost.

Ms. Dininni referred to a statement in the agenda that states UAJA would continue to provide sewer service in areas that have historically been served by UAJA. She questioned if that area includes the golf course and properties in the West College area that Penn State currently owns but are not used as University property. Mr. May responded that although it is not shown on the map, that area that is currently, and will continue to be served by UAJA as well as properties served by the State College Borough’s system that is then transferred to the UAJA plant. Mr. May added that any proposed change in the sewer service area would require an official Act 537 Plan Amendment in the future.

A motion was made by Ms. Stilson and seconded by Mr. Buckland that the General Forum support the resolution of the 1966 Right-of-Way Agreement and support that the University Area Joint Authority and Penn State University update the ROW Agreement that is satisfactory to both parties. The motion passed unanimously.

PSU LAUNCHBOX PRESENTATION

Director of the Happy Valley LaunchBox, Ms. Lee Erickson, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding what the program provides for the region and how it can benefit the community. Her presentation included the following information on the program:

- Funding for the twenty-one locations in Pennsylvania
- Location started in February 2016 in the State College Borough that is open to the public at no cost
- Mission and services
- Professional clinics and expert speaker series
- Community Partners and participating founders
- Statistics from the previous two years.

Ms. Lafer stated that perhaps students could be tasked with watershed issues. Ms. Erickson stated that there is a company, Phospholutions, out of the LaunchBox program that works on some of those issues.

CODE BOARD OF APPEALS APPOINTMENTS & RE-APPOINTMENTS

Ms. Del Corso stated that Mr. Schneider is in attendance if there are any questions relating the appointments and re-appointments to the Building and Housing Board of Appeals.

A motion was made by Mr. Abrams and seconded by Mr. Lord that the General Forum forward the following slate of nominations to the member municipalities for appointment and re-appointment to the Centre Region Building and Housing Board of Appeals for a term beginning March 26, 2018 and ending with the first General Forum meeting in January 2022:

Core Board:
- Paul S. Lehr, R.A.
- Douglas Henry, R.A.
- Chad Maholtz
- Tim Jones, P.E.
- Paul Thomas, P.E. (Alternate)

**Plumbing Board:**
- Scott Good, P.E.
- Brian Walker, P.E. (Alternate)
- Kirk Lauer, P.E. (Alternate, already on the electrical board)

**Electrical Board:**
- Scott Good, P.E.,
- Brian Walker, P.E. (Alternate)

**Mechanical Board:**
- Scott Good, P.E.,
- Brian Walker, P.E. (Alternate)
- Kirk Lauer, P.E. (Alternate, already on the electrical board)

**Property Maintenance Board:**
- Zack Petitt (Tenant, Alternate)

The motion was approved unanimously.

**CONTRACT AWARD FOR RENOVATIONS TO COG BUILDING**

Ms. Del Corso stated that this item is to award the bid for the renovations intended to move some of the Code Staff into the Planning Agency suite.

A motion was made by Mr. Hameister and seconded by Mr. Downsbrough that the General Forum award the contract for construction improvements to the COG Building to Stickler Construction in the amount of $119,431. The motion was approved unanimously.

**ACTIVITY REPORT**

Mr. Viglione reported that the Ad Hoc Facilities Committee will be holding its first meeting on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 and that a list of the committee members is included in the agenda.

**UNIVERSITY REPORT**

Ms. Young distributed a summary from the press conference with Senator Corman regarding the Anti-Hazing Bill which is expected to be presented in April and passed in June.
COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee – Mr. Miller reported that the agenda items for this meeting were discussed. He added that the process for updated the Millbrook Marsh Nature Center lease and the concept of adding additional members to the Steering Committee were also topics discussed.

Ms. Dininni questioned the timeline for the review of the Nature Center lease and who was given authorization to negotiate the terms of that lease. Mr. Miller responded that there is not a timeline designated and that COG Staff will be working with the Solicitor and Penn State to bring the information back to the Executive Committee.

Public Services and Environmental (PSE) Committee – Mr. Hameister reported that the items of discussion at this meeting have been discussed this evening at the General Forum.

Public Safety Committee – Ms. Del Corse stated that this committee did not meet.

Finance Committee – Mr. Viglione reported that the committee discussed two budget amendments to replace the UV System and diving board at Welch Pool as well as the approval of a Regional Fire Protection Program summer intern.

Human Resources Committee – Mr. Wilson reported that the committee approved the RFP to obtain a consultant for the personnel handbook. He added that the May meeting has been rescheduled to May 9, 2018.

Transportation and Land Use (TLU) Committee – Ms. Lafer reported that the committee received numerous presentations relating to the CHIP program and also discussed shared land uses for zoning purposes.

Parks Capital Committee – Ms. Del Corso reported that this committee did not meet.

Steering Committee for Parks and Recreation Regional Comprehensive Plan – Mr. Lord reported that this committee continued work on the Draft RFP to be distributed to DCNR for review in late April. He added that staff is working on revisions and there may be two meetings held in April.

Parks and Recreation – Ms. Salokangas reported that there is a meeting scheduled with Penn State’s RPTM regarding help with the Comprehensive Plan project. She stated that she will be meeting with Ferguson Township’s Parks Advisory Committee to review the Whitehall Road Regional Park plan. Ms. Salokangas added that her agency is working to bring a report to General Forum in May regarding the WRRP project. She discussed some deadlines and that the agency is currently an employee short.

Ms. Dininni questioned how the information that will be presented to the General Forum in May will differ from what was already presented to the CRPR Authority. Ms. Salokangas responded that what was presented to the Authority was a history from the time she was hired to date for the new members, amenities approved in the Master Plan from 2013-2014 and the direction for final cost estimating and
proposed timeline. Ms. Dininni then questioned if the Authority would be taking input from the Parks Capital Committee meeting and discussing the memo from Ferguson Township prior to that information coming to General Forum. Ms. Salokangas responded that there should be some discussion time however, the Authority meeting in April has been rescheduled.

Mr. Murphy questioned what diversity DCNR is looking for from members of the Steering Committee. Ms. Salokangas explained that DCNR is looking for community members not just elected or appointed officials. Mr. Murphy suggested including individuals with cultural perspectives not already represented in the group.

Centre Region Planning Commission (CRPC)/Centre County Metropolitan Planning Organization (CCMPO) – Mr. May reported that the third and last section of the 322 project was bid out and awarded to Glen O. Hawbaker for just over $82 million. The project is expected to begin in early May and be completed in October 2020.

Schlow Centre Region Library – Ms. Alloway reported that an average of 844 people visited the library each day last year. She also stated that an annual reading program called Centre County Reads just commenced.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Del Corso briefly reviewed the Matter of Records included in the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the March 26, 2018 meeting of the COG General Forum was adjourned at 8:14pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Stamm
Recording Secretary