Ms. Del Corso called the May 22, 2018 meeting of the Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) Executive Committee to order at 12:19pm in the COG Building meeting room.

Members present: Mses. Del Corso and Stilson; and Messrs. Abrams, Harden, Miller, and Myers.

Others present: Messrs. Hieser, State College Borough Water Authority; May, CRPA Director; Steff, COG Executive Director; and Viglione, COG Finance Director; Mses. Dininni, Ferguson Township resident; Salokangas, CRPR Director; and Stamm, COG Office Manager and Recording Secretary.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ms. Dininni, Ferguson Township resident, stated that until the State College Borough Water Authority meeting she was unaware that the Executive Committee asked for apologies for behavior by some of the authority members. She added that in the past there have been members of the Parks and Recreation Authority displaying similar behavior but nothing was addressed regarding those issues.

Ms. Dininni mentioned the publication of the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority Annual Report. She questioned where in the COG’s structure or process is the time that this document is presented to the Finance Committee or the General Forum.

Mr. Abrams mentioned that the areas in Patton Township that require septic systems that need pumped receive letters that are threatening. He added that he has previously reported the tone of this letter and suggested it be edited.

Mr. Harden responded to Ms. Dininni regarding the behaviors of authority members stating that an authority is an autonomous organization. He added that the only input COG has is appointing the members and that the reason for addressing the Water Authority is because of the matter dealing with a COG employee.

Mr. Abrams suggested setting guidelines for behavior at public meetings and stated that some municipalities already have those guidelines. Mr. Evans added that State College Borough has had to adopt something regarding behavior as a reminder which also removes gray areas. He suggested that the Human Resources Committee be tasked with preparing guidelines for all COG meetings.

Mr. Steff explained that the Executive Committee may assign tasks to other committees. He added that in this case he would report the task to the Human Resources Committee chair and that Mr. Miller should report to the General Forum regarding the task during committee reports.

Mr. Steff responded regarding the distribution of the CRPR Authority Annual Report stating that he would suggest it be presented to the General Forum the same month each year for consistency. Ms. Del Corso questioned if all the authorities should be on a regular cycle. Mr. Steff responded that there is not a regular report from the library but if something occurs, Ms. Alloway presents a strategic plan or new
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initiative. Mr. May added that the Planning Agency provides the Annual Report yearly because they are required to do so by the Municipality Planning Code.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Myers and seconded by Ms. Stilson that the minutes of the April 17, 2018 Executive Committee meeting be approved as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

GENERAL FORUM AND CRPR AUTHORITY DISCUSSION

Ms. Del Corso explained that the agenda text includes a lot of historical information regarding the project of the Whitehall Road Regional Park. Mr. Steff introduced Mr. Hieser, the Interim Executive Director at the State College Borough Water Authority where this project has been discussed on many occasions. Mr. Steff continued by stating that last year at this time there were many uncertainties, specifically whether or not the Cottages project would move forward which would affect the COG budget. He added that the Cottages was to provide the connections to utilities and the road and if that did not occur those expenses would need to be added to the park budget. Mr. Steff reported that the case litigation is complete and the project will be moving forward expecting to break ground in July 2018 with expected completion by August 2019.

Mr. Steff stated that what is proposed for the General Forum meeting is not an action item but an update provided by the Parks and Recreation Authority Chair and the Parks and Recreation Director. He questioned if that was the intent and manner in which the elected officials requested during last year’s meeting regarding this project. Ms. Del Corso responded that the major pieces that should be provided is the unchanged budget, timeline estimate, issues that have been addressed, and any outstanding issues. Mr. Steff stated that there will be a lot more detail in the Land Development Plan that will be submitted to Ferguson Township during 2018.

Mr. Abrams suggested perhaps the water controversy on the site could be studied through the sustainability institute or groups that are interested in protecting and enhancing our resources to provide more information. Mr. Myers stated that the information provided at the General Forum meeting should include what and how we are responding to the watershed impact issues so the public understands that it is an important issue that is not being ignored.

Ms. Salokangas stated that none of the engineers on this project are available to attend the General Forum meeting. She summarized the information she will be providing to the General Forum with the intent to be able to take questions back to the engineers since they will not be attending to be able to speak to the technical side of the project. Mr. Harden stated that the General Forum is a good platform to update the public on the history, timeline, future plan and include the continual monitor of the watershed issues.

Ms. Dininni, Ferguson Township resident, requested the inclusion of municipal contributions to the history and timeline of the presentation. She added that Ferguson Township residents have paid a lot in
early contributions before documents were signed. Ms. Dininni stated that a College Township council member made a comment regarding contributions that drew questions for Ferguson Township residents and the ownership of the land. Ms. Stilson responded that although valid, including contributions with the timeline may be too much information for this presentation. She also responded to the College Township comment stating that it is possible it was in reference to how much money College Township has contributed to Oak Hall Regional Park being the host municipality without College Township’s name on the land. Ms. Dininni responded that it is being used to Ferguson Township Supervisors as leverage towards deleting staff costs involved with the Land Development Plan.

Ms. Salokangas stated that the information is available but pulling that together for this presentation may be difficult. Mr. Steff stated that he and the Finance Director could provide a slide in the presentation regarding the loan and budget for the project. He added that this is an update in response to the request of the General Forum from last year.

### UAJA ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Steff stated that Mr. Cory Miller, UAJA Executive Director, would give a short presentation regarding the capacity of the waste water collection system and treatment processes in terms of nutrient loading, organics, regulatory restrictions, and reuse. He added that this report is to explain the physical and legal constraints of what’s at the authority. Mr. Steff explained that Mr. Miller has formatted this report to be used in future years so it may be used in future years for trend viewing.

### 2018 TRICK-OR-TREAT NIGHT

The committee agreed unanimously to include this item on the General Forum agenda.

### JULY GENERAL FORUM MEETING DATE

The committee agreed unanimously to include this item on the General Forum agenda and to keep the Executive Committee meeting scheduled for its original date of July 17, 2018.

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Mr. Steff thanked the committee for the support he and his family received during the last two months. He moved on explaining the Finance Committee’s decision to not set a recommendation to the General Forum for the budget guideline. Mr. Myers responded that the idea moving forward is to think more strategically while keeping the increases as low as possible while basing decisions on more long-term projection. The committee further discussed the pros and cons of establishing a specific budget guideline.

### TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Del Corso reviewed the agenda items for the May 29, 2018 General Forum meeting.
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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for the committee the May 22, 2018 meeting of the COG Executive Committee was adjourned at 1:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Stamm
Recording Secretary