



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, March 17, 2010
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Dixon University Center
South Hall Room 205-206

Officers:

- [p] Jo Ellen Litz
- [] Steven Peterson
- [p] Harrison Bink
- [p] Raymond Klein

Others Attending:

- Deborah Kravitz (Staff)
- Stephen Scanlon (Staff)
- Sherri Zimmerman (Executive Director)

Directors:

- [p] Brenda Alton
- [] Jeffrey Bergsten
- [p] Nancy Besch
- [p] Ray D'Agostino
- [p] Gail D'Angelo
- [] Nick DiFrancesco
- [] Mike Folmer
- [] Mauree Gingrich
- [p] Steve Hietsch
- [] Deborah Himes
- [p] George Klaus ¹
- [] Josh Karns
- [e] Russ Montgomery
- [] Skip Mimmi
- [e] Penny Myers
- [] Susan Parry ²
- [e] Stephen Powell
- [e] Ann Stacey
- [] Hank Tait
- [p] Ann Simonetti
- [t] Steve Snell
- [p] Rose Marie Swanger
- [] Boyd Wolff
- [p] Craig Zumbrun

Ex Officio:

- [] Francis B Haas
- [] Irving Hand
- [] Roger T. Karsnitz
- [] Walter Lyon
- [] Joe McCarthy
- [] Steve Reed

Attendance Key: e - Excused absence (prior contact) p - Present t - Telephone
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¹ Ex Officio USDA
² Ex Officio RC&D

I. Welcome and Introduction of New Members:

President Litz called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. Ms. Brenda Alton, Ombudsman for the Mayor of Harrisburg and Mr. Steve Hietsch, representing Mayor Kirk Wilson introduced themselves. Board member introductions followed. Ms. Zimmerman stated, Ms. Ann Stacey (new Board Member) was ill, and would not be attending.

II. Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes

President Litz asked for approval of the minutes from January 20, 2010. Ms. Simonetti suggested the following corrections:

- Page 1 – Mr. Snell needs to be checked off as being present at the meeting
- Page 2 – Section III A “mention” needs changed to “mentioned”
- Page 3 – C 1st line – HB “and” SB bills were both referenced by President Litz
D 2nd paragraph – place a comma after the word ‘however’ on the last line of the first paragraph
- Page 3 - Under the Treasurer’s Report the number of original categories under membership is to be noted.

Mr. D’Agostino moved to approve the corrections to the minutes, seconded by Ms. Besch. All were in favor and the motion carried.

III. Reports:

A. Executive Director Report

Ms. Zimmerman reviewed the Executive Director’s Report in detail (**Exhibit I**). Items not mentioned in her report include:

- Mr. Tait, Mr. Powell and Mr. D’Agostino sent in membership renewals. Ms. Barbara Groce resigned her membership due to other commitments.
- Ms. Zimmerman requested board member support by attending the CPHIT Workshop on March 26th at the Giant Community Room in Camp Hill.
- SCA will receive payment from the Energy Consortium in April, as they are on a quarterly payment schedule. An update from Benchmark will be emailed to the Board on Friday, March 19th.
- Ms. Zimmerman will give a talk on the Energy Consortium at Lancaster and York Branches of APWA.
- Kenyon Energy is a potential revenue stream if SCA chooses to collaborate with their company.
- The SCA Energy Consortium is open to all organizations, i.e., non-profits, businesses, churches, and rotary clubs.

- Two school districts, Dallastown and York, have expressed interest in the Health Insurance Trust. Ms. Zimmerman noted that the “Trust” is limited to government organizations, authorities and school districts. She requested that Mr. Rick Lee look into the language governing the Trust as it is based on Intergovernmental language.

Mr. Klein suggested that Ms. Zimmerman contact Mr. Tait for leads for the Energy Consortium. He also requested that Ms. Zimmerman detail the categories for which she is requesting assistance from the Board.

B. County Commissioners’ Association Report:

President Litz indicated that she emailed the Board a synopsis of the County Commissioner’s study results. Many members did not receive it. Ms. Litz will be meeting with the County Commissioners next week and will follow-up with results from that meeting. She commented that the County Commissioners are helping municipalities as a region.

Ms. Litz stated that the Lebanon County Commissioners recently voted to join the Central Pennsylvania Energy Consortium (CPEC). Since information on the program was not provided in advance of the commissioner’s meeting and she hadn’t reviewed their recommendation in advance, she voted against the proposal. Ms. Litz recommended that presentations like this include information which clearly shows comparisons on service and savings. Ms. Zimmerman stated she created a matrix listing providers and their services within the 8 County areas and will work to get it updated. This will give decision makers a comparative chart. Ms. Besch stated that Mr. Paul Zigler is involved with CPEC and a wide group of people have been involved with their consortium. She noted that she was involved as a county commissioner when they started their organization with the onset of electric deregulation.

Mr. Zumbrun updated the Board on York’s experience with Benchmark. He indicated that the York Housing Authority may be their most difficult customer. They use PPL, MetEd, UGI and Columbia Gas for their extensive array of properties. He indicated that York has been experiencing serious problems with Benchmark which they have been working to correct. His concern was that this will reflect negatively on the SCA and he recommended that the SCA meet with Benchmark to discuss these situations and get assurances that they will be able to deliver. Ms. Zimmerman will work to schedule a meeting with selected Board members and Benchmark.

Additionally, President Litz requested that notices for SCA meetings clearly define locations and requested that notices be incorporated into the body of emails versus attachments. Mr. Klein also requested that more than one notice be sent out to remind Board members of meetings and locations.

C. Regional Roundtable: County and City Reports

Ms. Simonetti noted that Perry County’s traffic light is now operational. She also commented that residential building permits have increased.

Ms. Litz expressed that the Builders’ Association is concerned that the city and county code officers would like to see the Uniform Construction Code repealed back to 2006 standards. From the builder’s perspective, they feel that we are in a recession and we need to repeal the

enforcement of this code due to its high costs. Discussion followed. Representative Swanger indicated that the UCC is an unreasonable code for new residences. Mr. Bink commented that the sprinkler systems are meant to save properties, not lives. He stated that the larger issue which needs to be addressed is that there is inadequate education and implementation of the code. Discussion continued on the expense of the sprinkler system with start-up businesses and new housing developments.

Mr. Bink recommended that we use the SCA as a facilitator for our municipal government members. Mr. D'Agostino suggested that we hold a forum, so that both builders and fire fighters and someone from municipal government could express their views and educate legislatures on the code. Discussion followed. Mr. Klaus suggested we hold a ½ day forum in a donated space, get several speakers from both sides of the issue, record the comments, and present the findings to area legislators.

Mr. D'Agostino agreed to take the lead on forming a committee to organize this program. It was suggested that the program take place in the next two months, prior to summer recess. The codes council will have to explain the current state of affairs, where and why we are in this position. We'll find folks to discuss why they believe it is good or bad. Mr. Klaus also suggested that we get someone to represent the view of the homeowner or that of a daycare center.

Mr. Klein moved to authorized up to \$1500 to support the program; if needed, to conduct a ½ day workshop on the UCC in the State of PA, seconded by Mr. Harrison Bink.

Discussion continued on whether the focus should just be on the sprinkler system. It was noted that all homes must have carbon detection systems by 2011. President Litz suggested that a bulleted sheet be prepared and presented as an informational handout on what the UCC is going to mean. Mr. Bink suggested that we get a very strong moderator, i.e., a code official to clearly discuss and highlight changes that have occurred to the code. Forum participants would be asked to bring their own documentation highlighting why this is good or bad. The SCA would assemble these documents and the presentations in order to write up the pros and cons. Representative Swanger suggested that we hold this workshop on a Thursday afternoon or Friday morning to attract legislators.

The motion was called. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

D. Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Klein, SCA Treasurer distributed the statement of accounts (**Exhibits II and III**). He indicated that the projections into the future look good. If we can hold out for another year, we will have greater stability. He thanked Ms. Zimmerman for her hard work in revitalizing the organization.

Ms. Simonetti moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Ms. Besch. The motion carried.

E. Nominating and Membership Report

Nomination to Board: Ms. Mary Kay Echenrode

Ms. Zimmerman distributed a biosketch for Ms. Mary Kay Echenrode (**Exhibit IV**). She was recommended by Mr. Klaus and now it is up to the Board for a vote.

Ms. Besch moved to invite Ms. Echenrode to sit on the SCA Board, seconded by Mr. Zumbrun. The motion carried.

Emeritus Status: Mr. Mark Berg

Ms. Zimmerman asked the Board if they wanted to offer Mr. Berg emeritus status. Discussion followed on the number of years he served and the committees he was involved with. The consensus of the Board was to table the decision pending further information about Mr. Berg's service.

F. Planning and Finance

Mr. Klein indicated that a small group has been meeting and at this point he feels that the Board needs to focus on the support of the Energy and Health Insurance Trust. There isn't enough staff to manage all the projects. He extended an invitation to any other Board member who would like to participate in these discussions.

G Land Use, Growth Management, and Agricultural Preservation

Ms. Simonetti stated that a meeting is scheduled on March 31st in the REDDI Office located at 1519 North George Street at 10 a.m. She noted that this committee will be working with the conservancy and Ms. Deborah Bowman. Mr. D'Agostino stated he would be interested in attending this meeting.

H. Health and Human Services

Ms. Zimmerman indicated that she would like to see this committee help oversee the Health Insurance Trust.

I. Housing, Community Development and Predatory Lending Report

Mr. Klaus stated that the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 13, 2010. There will be a speaker from the Federal Reserve Board to discuss their new study on affordable rental housing needs in PA.

J. Transportation Report: Mr. Bergsten

No report. Ms. Zimmerman indicated that Mr. Bergsten has been involved with the Sustainability Committee.

K. Old Business

Ms. Zimmerman indicated that she sent out the annual membership mailing.

Mr. Klaus distributed the outline for the proposed Summit (**see Exhibit V**), but was unable to get a committee together. For the benefit on new members, Mr. Klaus explained the SCAs Summit purpose, and noted that Summits are usually held on one day. Expected attendance is between one to three hundred people. Mr. Klaus is hoping the Summit will be held in September or

October, as we come out of the recession. His topical theme speaks to post recession recovery in South Central PA from the perspective of municipalities and communities. Also, he hopes to promote the SCA Energy Consortium and Health Insurance Trust. He talked about getting a strong speaker, one who is knowledgeable about Central Pennsylvania to make some prognostications for the next decade.

Discussion followed. Mr. Zumbrun noted that mayor's Bracey, Gray, and Thompson are working hard to get public attention to the plight of cities tax policies and employment burdens. He recommended that this would be a topic to include in the proposed summit on governance. He also suggested a municipal services talk about the erosion of standards, property maintenance and preservation.

Mr. Harrison expressed concern that the SCA not conflict with the panel discussion on Codes or the Sustainability Workshop that is being planned. The Board members requested more information on the Sustainability Workshop prior to making a decision on whether or not they support Mr. Klaus's proposal.

Ms. Zimmerman addressed the Board about the Sustainability Workshop. She indicated that the American Public Works Association (APWA) is interested in partnering with the SCA on piloting a joint Sustainability Workshop to include "What is Sustainability" and tools for managing sustainability. Ms. Zimmerman serves on the Central PA Chapter Board of APWA and several national committees. At the last Board meeting she discussed the event.

- It would be a day-long event, where the morning session provides a structured sustainability message and the afternoon sessions would build upon the application of sustainability.
- Summit is structured by committee members Mr. Bergsten, Mr. Bink, Mr. Kerprich, Mr. Close, and Mr. Neilson.
- Sessions address applied learning.
- Attendees will be asked to bring projects they are working on.
- Attendees will learn about sustainability in the morning.
- Afternoon sessions will tease out a project idea in each of the five categories' – Facilities and Municipal Financing, Energy, Asset Management, and Transportation. Ideas will be discussed in the breakout sessions.
- The SCA will review the projects and select several which the SCA can support. SCA would lend political support, project visibility, educational support and assistance in applying for grants on projects selected throughout the coming year.

Mr. Bink added that APWA could really clarify the terms "Green Washing" and "Sustainability." He indicated that the project ideas will come from the group participants from the morning sessions. The participants will be asked to complete a rough draft proposal at the event with a follow up ... after a week for review by the SCA committee. Selected proposals will become living projects. Mr. Bink offered ideas as to how SCA could lend support, e.g., School Building Facilities. He indicated that he knows that working with the Department of Education that there is funding available for "Green Building Projects for Schools. SCA would channel the information to the municipalities and remind personnel in School District Facilities that funds are available.

Ms. Zimmerman indicated that the morning sessions reference sustainability which includes environmental, economic and sociological components. Sustainability has a broader context, which would be discussed through the APWA and Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI). This is an international association of governments committed to climate protection and sustainability development. This group will also be involved in the morning sessions and will act as facilitators for the breakout sessions in the afternoon. Ms. Zimmerman indicated that Mr. Lance Simmens from the Governor's Office will be the Keynote lunch speaker. The workshop will be held in June.

Ms. Zimmerman was asked to send via email a more detailed proposal to the Board on the Sustainability Workshop (date included) so they could decide which event to support. This also includes the plans for the UCC Forum in May. Mr. Klaus's summit proposal will be for sometime in the fall.

L. New Business

Kenyon Energy Collaboration

Ms. Zimmerman stated that Kenyon Energy Company is based in Florida. It is looking to invest \$10 million in Pennsylvania. Kenyon Energy is seeking a large organization that is visionary and forward thinking, has land and a facility. They would partner with the organization on a long term lease to install energy panels on their building at no cost and sell the energy back to the grid for a percentage. When the lease expires, they leave behind whatever improvements have been made. They see the SCA organization as an opportunity to open doors for them.

SCA Facebook

Ms. Zimmerman stated that the Board will be receiving an invitation to sign up on Facebook. She indicated that dialogues can take place through this medium as well as posting events that will be taking place through the SCA. Mr. Bink stated this is a great opportunity to promote the organization. Ms. Zimmerman indicated that only invited guests may participate on the Facebook website.

Ms. Simonetti stated that she hasn't had any luck contacting Mayor's Bracey or Gray. Mr. Snell will follow-up.

Ms. Litz read Mr. Reed's letter of acceptance of Emeritus status on the board.

M. For the Good of the Order

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2010, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. with the location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah L. Kravitz
SCA Administrator