

French Creek Council of Governments

Meeting Notice and Agenda

TO: All French Creek Members

You are cordially invited to the next meeting of the French Creek COG

When: Thursday, March 16th, 2023

Where: West Mead Township Building

Time: 11:30 a.m.

AGENDA:

1. Public Comment
2. Administrative Matters
 - A. **Action** - Approve Minutes of January 19th, 2023 - Enclosed Hoovler
3. Crawford County Fire Commission Speakers Horvat
James Pratt, Joe Smock and Eric Coston
4. Authorize Secretary to draft and send out letter of support with suggestions on the firefighters services issue to all legislators, PSATS and any other interested entities.
5. Other Business All
6. Next meeting is on April 20th, 2023 and will be at the Chamber of Commerce.

French Creek Council of Governments
Meeting of JANUARY 19TH, 2023

MINUTES

Present:

Bob Ackerman, Union Township
Roxie Fucci, Union Township
Renee Hayes, Woodcock Township
John Shartle, West Mead Township
Mike Jordan, West Mead Township
Jill Dunlap, West Mead Township
Lyle Hoovler, Sadsbury Township
Bonnie Smith, Sadsbury Township
Terry Simonette, East Mead Township
Rob Horvat, Vernon Township
Don Maloney, Vernon Township
Steve White, Cussewago Township
Mary Kennedy, Wayne Township
Kathy Graham, French Creek Township, Mercer County
Dan Breese, Cochranton Boro
Cindy Breese, Cochranton Boro
James Walsh, Venango Boro
Alan Shaddinger, Solicitor
Madeira Paraskos, Conneaut Lake Ambulance Service
Eric Henry, Meadville Ambulance Service
Krista Geer, Active Aging
Josh Manuel, DPS 911 Center
Gordon Benninghoff, Visitor

Public Comment:

None

Administrative Matters:

Meeting called to Order by Chairman Lyle Hoovler and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Administrative Matters: The delegates for each municipality for 2023 are as follows:

Vernon Township: Fritz Snyder, Robert Horvat (1st Alternate)
City of Meadville: Jamie Kinder, Gretchen Myers (1st Alternate)
West Mead Township: Mike Jordan, John Shartle (1st Alternate)
East Mead Township: Terry Simonette, Larry Mattocks (1st Alternate)
Cambridge Township: Kevin Cole, Charlie Bauer (1st Alternate)
Woodcock Township: Renee Hayes, Randy Chess (1st Alternate)
Sadsbury Township: Lyle Hoovler, Kevin VanHonk (1st Alternate)
Greenwood Township: Kurt Dennis, Richard Muir (1st Alternate)
Union Township: Bob Ackerman, Roxie Fucci (1st Alternate)
North Shenango Township: Dan Dickey, Donna Kean (1st Alternate)
East Fallowfield Township: Andy Kosar, Donna Kean (1st Alternate)
Pine Township: John Leffingwell, (1st Alternate)

Hayfield Township: Jennifer McClymonds, (1st Alternate)
Cussewago Township: Steve White, John Acker (1st Alternate)
Crawford Central School District: Holly Chatman, John Amato (1st Alternate)
Crawford County Commissioners: Eric Henry, Francis Weiderspahn (1st Alternate)
Redevelopment Authority of City of Meadville Jan VanTuil, (1st Alternate)
Meadville Area Sewer Authority: Kim Mourer, Mary Ellen Scowden (1st Alternate)
Meadville Area Water Authority: Robert Harrington, (1st Alternate)
Meadville Area Recreation Authority: Aaron Rekich, (1st Alternate)
Crawford County Solid Waste Authority: Brenda Schmidt, Penny Monahan (1st Alternate)

- A. Reorganization: Roxie Fucci noted the nominating committee wished to nominate the same slate of officers continue for 2023 including Lyle Hoovler for Chairman, Kevin Cole for Vice Chairman, Jill Dunlap for Secretary and Rob Horvat for Treasurer. Roxie Fucci moved to close the nominations and accept the nominations as presented. John Shartle seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.
- B. Subcommittees: Roxie Fucci noted the nominating committee wished to nominate the same slate of members continue for 2023 including Brenda Schmidt, Charlie Bauer and Terry Simonette to serve on the Tire/Electronic Recycling Subcommittee; Rose Mumau, Renee Hayes and Debra Merritt to serve on the Audit Subcommittee; Roxie Fucci, Jennifer McClymonds and Jill Dunlap to serve on the Nominating Subcommittee; Lyle Hoovler, Fritz Snyder and Kevin Cole to serve on the Membership Subcommittee and Kevin Kean, Bob Ackerman and John Leffingwell to serve on the Gas and Energy Subcommittee. Roxie Fucci moved to close the nominations and accept the nominations as presented. Rob Horvat seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.
- C. Approval of Minutes: Rob Horvat made a motion to approve the October 20th, 2022 minutes as presented. John Shartle seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.
- D. Treasurer's Report: Rob Horvat presented the Treasurer's Report and Meadville Tribune bill to pay in the amount of \$90.00. Rob Horvat made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the Meadville Tribune bill in the amount of \$90.00 as presented. Jill Dunlap seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

EMS Commission Presentation:

Josh Manuel, 911 Operator of the Crawford County DPS and Krista Geer, Executive Director of Active Aging provided background information on the Crawford County EMS Commission that was established in 2021 to look into finding solutions and recommendations to help solve the ambulance crisis. They discussed staffing issues, public education, and the need for family members and volunteers to help cut down on unnecessary calls such as lift assists. They explained items such as the IamResponding alert system being implemented and information being advertised and distributed to help alleviate nuisance calls. Steve White thanked Active Aging and discussed call buttons during emergencies. Brad Roae discussed updates on legislation he has put forward involving options such as cell phone fee, per capital tax, LST increase and using hotel tax for EMS instead of funding the Visitors Bureau. Eric Henry noted he will be sending out a letter to all municipalities as he is withdrawing his request for funding at the local level for 2023. He also discussed various bills in process as well as the state has increased the medical assistance rate but he anticipates losing money in 2023 while we all try and figure out solutions. Terry Simonette questioned the EMS Act and how to change it. John Shartle would like to see the tax be increased on cell phones. Madiera Paraskos discussed the certification process for ambulance personnel.

EMS Letter of Support and Request of PSATS Resolution:

Jill Dunlap discussed working with people such as Eric Henry, Renee Hayes of the Crawford County Association of Township Officials Resolutions Committee and Solicitor Alan Shaddinger on a letter of support or request for solutions. Information was provided on the process for having a Resolution prepared for the PSATS Annual Conference. Lyle Hoovler discussed the process as he had served on the Resolutions Committee for PSATS. John Shartle made a motion to authorize the Secretary and others to draft and send out a letter of support with suggestions on the EMS ambulance services issue to all legislators, PSATS and any other interested entities. Lyle Hoovler seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Other Business:

Rob Horvat discussed the Crawford County Firefighters Commission that is like the EMS Commission, as he serves on the Fire Commission. He recommended the COG members would benefit from hearing from a few representatives like we did with the ambulance issues at this meeting. Jill Dunlap noted monthly meetings have already been advertised and although we normally only meet quarterly, we could meet in February if representatives could attend. All agreed and further information will be provided early in February.

The next meeting may be held on Thursday, February 16th, 2023 at 11:30 p.m. at the West Mead Township Building.

The next quarterly meeting will be held on Thursday, April 20th, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. at the Chamber of Commerce.

Rob Horvat made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:45 p.m. Mike Jordan seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jill Dunlap

Secretary