

**LANCASTER INTER-MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR LIMC MONTHLY MEETING**

**Date and Time:** January 9, 2013, 7:30AM

**Place:** Manor Township

**Attendance:**

Columbia Borough:	Leo Lutz
East Lampeter Township:	Ralph Hutchison, John Blowers
East Petersburg Borough:	
Lancaster City:	Rick Gray, James Reichenbach
Lancaster Township:	Bill Laudien, Kathy Wasong
Manheim Township:	
Manor Township:	Barry Smith, Ryan Stroehecker
Millersville Borough:	Ed Arnold
Mountville Borough:	Francis Zimmer
West Hempfield Township:	Kent Gardner, Ron Youtz
West Lampeter Township:	James Kalenich, DeeDee McGuire

Others: Mike Kyle, LASA; Tony Crocamo, W. Hempfield Township resident/LUAB; Michael LaSala, LIMC; Susan Martin, Lancaster SPCA; Ray D’Agostino & Jim Shultz, LHOP; John Bingham, East Hempfield Township; Roy Baldwin, McCormick Taylor; Mike LaSala, LandStudies

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Wasong called the meeting to order at 7:31AM and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Establish Quorum and Introduction of Guests:** Through roll call, nine voting members were present and quorum was established for action and major action.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the December 12, 2012 meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.
3. **Public Comment:** There were no public comments.
5. **Reports and Actions:**
  - A. **Treasurer’s Report:** Mayor Gray moved, Mr. Reichenbach seconded, and the December 2012 treasurer’s report was approved.
  - B. **East Hempfield Township Notice of Withdrawal from LIMC:** Mr. LaSala explained the procedure for resigning from the LIMC as described in the LIMC Agreement, Article III, Section 5. “Municipalities may withdraw from membership in this organization effective January 1 of any year by notifying the Chairman and the Executive Director in writing prior to September 1 of the previous year. The decision to

withdraw shall be made by the governing body of the municipality at an official, open meeting of such body.”

Mr. Gray feels we would be setting a precedent if we recognize/approve their decision; let them withdraw on their own and still pay next year’s dues. Mr. Laudien made the point that we can’t hold their feet to the fire when we didn’t act soon enough to approve the 2013 budget. Mr. Lutz wants to see East Hempfield Township return to membership and feels any punitive action might preclude that. Mr. Smith stated that we are all supposed to be partners and we should not take action against each other. He further stated that he feels East Hempfield’s action violated the spirit of the agreement and its integrity. After more discussion, Mr. Gray moved to acknowledge East Hempfield Township’s withdrawal, and let them know we are waiving the membership fees they owe to the LIMC. Mr. Zimmerman seconded the motion, which passed.

Mr. Arnold suggested we may want to revisit our agreement and bylaws. It was noted that Manheim Township is also considering withdrawing from the LIMC this week. This action may also necessitate withdrawing from the comprehensive plan.

Mr. Lutz pointed out that joint efforts can also add bonus points to grant applications. It would therefore be improper for a municipality to receive the benefits of the comprehensive plan when the entity is no longer a dues-paying member of the LIMC. We need to continue as a strong unified organization, not one at odds with one another, the legacy of which has led to the resignation of a great executive director. Municipalities and their representatives, both appointed and elected, need to be better educated and understand the strong, tangible long-term benefits of belonging to the LIMC. Just as an example, Mr. Gardner noted our support of the Clean Water Consortium, which brought in almost two million dollars. Bringing in monies to the county benefits all of us.

Mr. Gray stated that this may be the point where the LIMC “grows up” and gets down to the important things we can accomplish; the potential of this organization. We very much do need our neighbors. We must define what we are/will be and move forward.

An unresolved question is how to handle the position of LUAB chair since it is currently held by East Hempfield. The Land Use Advisory Board is a totally independent body. Mr. LaSala stated there is nothing in the bylaws to prevent the LUAB members from electing another chair.

Since there is now no LIMC vice chair, it was moved and seconded that John Blowers fill the position. The motion carried.

**C. Municipal Contributions Committee:** Mr. Arnold spoke of the need to accommodate a new budget with the loss of revenue. Mr. Laudien said we shouldn’t cut spending this year because of what might happen next year. Perhaps we should look at some type of flat fee. Municipalities who currently pay around \$2,000 still reap the same benefits of belonging to this body just as those who pay \$22,000. We need a formula that is more fair. Those paying the higher dues have some resentment towards those who pay lower dues. Do we want to establish a base amount? How about a percentage of each municipal budget? Shall we base it on property taxes and/or earned income? A formula needs to be developed that will be fair and equitable to both small and larger municipalities. It will take some time to establish, but it must be done as quickly as

possible. Mr. Arnold asked “do we establish a base line contribution or not?” He feels earned income tax is a better key of one’s ability to pay than population.

The discussion was tabled until the next meeting. We need several options on which to vote.

**D. Executive Board Committee:** We need to form a sub-committee tasked with outlining a potential expansion of the Executive Committee and corresponding terms. Mr. Bingham can no longer serve as he was appointed by East Hempfield Township (topic will be continued at next meeting).

**6. Executive Director’s Report:** Attachment C

**7. Advisory Board Reports:**

**A. LUAB:** There has been no meeting on which to report.

**B. GPAB:** There has been no meeting on which to report.

**8. Municipal Exchange:** There were no comments.

**9. Old Business**

**A. Animal Control:** Susan Martin, Director of the new SPCA, made a presentation on the newly organized agency, which is a no-kill facility currently located in the city on Chesapeake Street. Mr. Gardner inquired if there was the possibility of one contract for the LIMC municipal members. This agency is in its infancy, but that will be taken into consideration at a later date.

**10. New Business:**

**A. LHOP Programs and Endeavors:** As time was running short, this item will be on the agenda next month.

**B. Auditing Committee:** Chair Wasong appointed an auditing committee comprised of Rick Gray, Lancaster City, Ed Arnold, Millersville Borough, and DeeDee McGuire, West Lampeter Township. An e-mail to finalize a meeting date and time for the committee will be sent.

**11. Other Business:**

**A. Matter of Record**

a. The next regular LIMC monthly meeting will be held Wednesday, February 13, 2013 at 7:30 am at West Hempfield Township

**12. Adjournment:** Chair Wasong adjourned the meeting at 9:10AM.