

# CENTRE REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

COG General Forum Room

Tuesday, October 11, 2016

12:00 Noon

### AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bruce Lord will convene the meeting.

2. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Members of the public are invited to comment on any items not already on the agenda (five minutes per person time limit, please). Comments relating to specific items on the agenda should be deferred to that point in the meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A copy of the minutes from the September 13, 2016 meeting of the COG Public Safety Committee is *enclosed*.

4. REVIEW OF BENNER TOWNSHIP/COG EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

During the July 12, 2016 Public Safety Committee meeting, Messrs. Shawn Kauffman and Jim Steff reported that they met with Benner Township and Penn State University officials to discuss interest in Benner Township joining, in some way, the Centre Region Emergency Management Program. It was noted that the meeting focused on the University Park Airport and other University facilities in the Township.

At the July 2016 Committee meeting, COG Staff explained that there are some advantages to the Centre Region for Mr. Kauffman's involvement in Benner Township given the following:

- A commuter air crash could occur on the Benner/Patton Township border, making a response confusing under the current planning arrangements
- Many of the fire, police, and EMS resources responding to a crash would be dispatched from the Centre Region

- Mr. Kauffman has an open, regular, and positive line of communication with University (the owner of the airport), emergency planners, and response personnel
- A more formal relationship with Benner Township would ensure that Mr. Kauffman is included in emergency management training and exercises involving the airport

The Committee endorsed COG Staff continuing the discussion with Benner Township. Since the Committee's July 2016 meeting, the *enclosed* draft agreement between Benner Township and the COG has been prepared. It has been shared with several Township officials. In a general way, the Emergency Management Services agreement is patterned after the Code Administration Agreement with Bellefonte Borough. In addition, Mr. Kauffman has contacted the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) to confirm that the proposed arrangement is acceptable. PEMA has sanctioned the concept of Mr. Kauffman serving as a Deputy Coordinator for Benner Township.

The draft agreement has not been reviewed by the COG Solicitor, the Centre Region Emergency Management Council, the full Benner Township Board of Supervisors, or any other group within the COG.

The Committee should review the draft agreement and discuss the following items:

- a) Should the Benner Township/COG Agreement continue to be pursued? Does the Committee want this concept to move forward?
- b) If so, does the Committee have recommended revisions to the draft Agreement? Policy issues that the Committee may want to consider include the cost of the service, length of the agreement, obligations of the COG and Benner Township, and the terms for resolving disputes
- c) Should the Agreement, as may be revised by the Committee, be forwarded to the Centre Region Emergency Management Council for its consideration or does the Committee wish to review it again at its November 2016 meeting?

Should the Public Safety Committee decide to proceed, the decision making process would be roughly as follows:

- a) Draft agreement reviewed by the Centre Region Emergency Management Council
- b) Draft agreement reviewed by COG Solicitor
- c) Draft agreement forwarded to the Benner Township Board of Supervisors with review by its Solicitor
- d) Final agreement referred to the General Forum for approval
- e) Final agreement referred to the Benner Township Board of Supervisors for approval

5. DISPOSAL OPTIONS FOR 1991 KME PUMPER – ENGINE #513

During its September 13, 2016 meeting, the Public Safety Committee recommended the purchase of a 2017 Pierce Pumper through the Pennsylvania CO-STARS contract at a cost not to exceed \$684,429. The new engine that would be delivered in mid-2017 would replace the 1991 KME Fire Pumper (Engine #513). The Committee's recommendation was approved by the General Forum during its September 26, 2016 meeting.

Looking ahead to the delivery of the new engine, Mr. Bair will present options for disposal of the 1991 KME Pumper. In accordance with COG practice, COG municipalities interested in the asset are given priority over other options.

Alternatives for disposing of the engine are:

- a) A manufacturer trade-in
- b) Direct sale to others via competitive bidding
- c) Direct sale to a non-COG municipality
- d) A sale through a broker that specializes in the sale of fire apparatus

The Committee should discuss the four options, discuss whether there are additional alternatives, and recommend a desired course of action for disposing of the 1991 KME Pumper.

6. CONSIDERATION FOR LOCATING NEW FIRE STATIONS

During its September 13, 2016 meeting, the Public Safety Committee discussed the future of the Regional Fire Protection Program in terms of constructing a new fire station in western Ferguson Township should that be the desire of its Board of Supervisors and be accepted to the other member municipalities and to the Alpha Fire Company.

As a starting point in the education process involved in considering an idea of this significance, Mr. Bair has prepared the *enclosed* report – Considerations for Locating a Fire Station – that will be reviewed with the Committee.

This report is provided for informational purposes only and does not require Committee action.

7. HAZMAT SERVICES

Mr. Bair will present a possible new model for providing HAZMAT services to the municipalities participating in the Regional Fire Protection Program.

The Public Safety Committee should discuss this proposal, note areas of concern, and identify information that it would like to review at future meetings should there be interest in pursuing the concept further.

8. STAFF UPDATES

COG Staff will provide updates on the following topics:

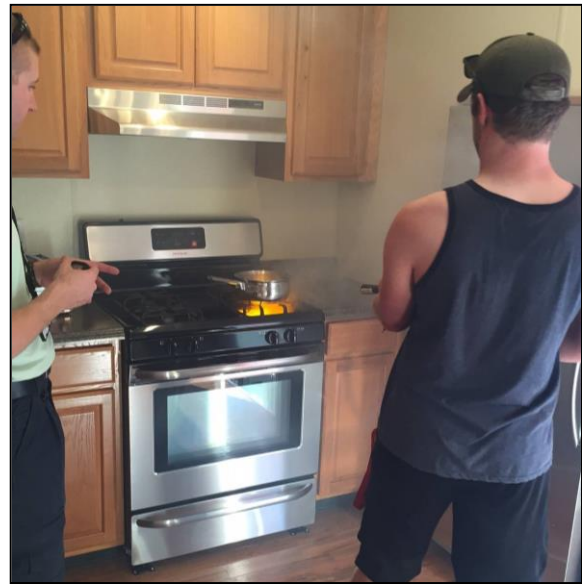
- **Code Administration (Walt Schneider)** – The Code Director will provide a status report regarding the municipal review process for the updated Centre Region Building Safety and Property Maintenance Code.
- **Code Administration (Walt Schneider)** – The Code Director will provide an update on the completed storage building (pictured below).
- **Fire Protection (Steve Bair)** – The Fire Director will report on the status of the mezzanine construction project.
- **Emergency Management Program (Shawn Kauffman)** – The Emergency Management Coordinator will report on the status of the strategic planning process.



9. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Matter of Record - The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 8, 2016 at the COG Building. Please note this will be a joint meeting with Public Services and Environmental Committee and include local utility providers, emergency responders, and PennDOT officials. The purpose of this joint session is to discuss changes in emergency procedures that may have occurred during the last year or are being proposed for the upcoming winter season.

B. Matter of Record - The new Centre Region Code Administration Fire Safety Trailer has already begun to make a difference in the community. *Enclosed* is feedback that was received from a college student on his valuable experience with Inspectors Messrs. Wesley Fouse, Michael Faustina, and Tim Knisely during fire safety training. Pictured on right is the fire safety trailer in action.



C. Matter of Record - The August 2016 monthly comparison of code statistics are *enclosed* in this packet, and permits issued/permits closed reports are *enclosed* electronically only. Please note that the number of single family units constructed statistic is included in the total construction value by municipality statistic.

10. ADJOURNMENT