

Minutes of the Schuylkill Tax Collection Committee Meeting May 17, 2010

The Schuylkill Tax Collection Committee (STCC) held a meeting on Monday, May 17, 2010, in Courtroom 1 of the Schuylkill County Courthouse, 401 North Second Street, Pottsville, PA 17901.

Jack Hurst, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. It was verified that a quorum was present.

Officers Present: Jack Hurst (Chairman), Gail Stehr (Secretary), Patricia Reazor (Treasurer)

Others Present: Paul Datte (Solicitor), Jim Bush (Berkheimer), Stephen Pytak (Republican Herald), Paul Robinson & Jessica Seiders (PLGIT), Gerald Nikolaus & Randy Bonchack (PA Treasury)

Members Present:

Blue Mountain SD	Cressona Boro	Deer Lake Boro	East Brunswick Twp.
New Ringgold Boro	North Manheim Twp.	Orwigsburg Boro	West Brunswick Twp.
Mahanoy Area SD	Delano Twp.	Gilberton Boro	Mahanoy City Boro
Mahanoy Twp.	Rush Twp.	Minersville Area SD	Branch Twp.
Cass twp.	Foster Twp.	North Schuylkill SD	Butler Twp.
Frackville Boro	Gordon Boro	Ringtown Boro	Pine Grove Boro
Pine Grove Twp.	Tremont Boro	Washington Twp.	Pottsville Area SD
Mechanicsville Boro	Mt. Carbon Boro	Norwegian Twp.	Port Carbon Boro
Pottsville City	Blythe Twp.	East Norwegian Twp.	Middleport Boro
New Castle Twp.	St. Clair Boro	Schuylkill haven SD	Landingville Boro
Port Clinton Boro	Schuylkill Haven Boro	South Manheim Twp.	Tamaqua Area SD
Rush Twp.	Schuylkill Twp.	Tamaqua Boro	Tri-Valley SD
Barry Twp.	Eldred Twp.	Hegins Twp.	Hubley Twp.
Upper Mahantongo Twp			

Members Absent:

Auburn Boro	Wayne Twp.	Ryan Twp.	Minersville Boro
Reilly Twp.	Conyngham Twp.	Ashland Boro	Girardville Boro
Union Twp.	Pine Grove Area SD	Frailey Twp.	Tremont Twp.
Palo Alto Boro	Saint Clair Area SD	New Philadelphia Boro	Shenandoah Valley SD
Shenandoah Boro	West Mahanoy Twp.	Walker Twp.	West Penn Twp.

I. Adoption of Bylaws

Larry Padora (New Ringgold Boro) and Leo Schwartz (Pottsville City) explained the new Bylaws. They feel it is a good compromise between those that are for One Man One Vote versus the Weighted Vote. Jack Hurst agreed it is a fair compromise for both sides.

Leo Schwartz made the motion, which was seconded by Larry Padora, to adopt the Bylaws as recommended by the Bylaw Committee. The motion passed unanimously. (Copy of Bylaws on file.)

II. Old Business

A. Cash Management Programs

Randy Bonchack and Gerald Nikolaus from the PA Treasury INVEST Program and Jessica Seiders and Paul Robinson from PLGIT explained their cash management programs. Some of the items they and the committee discussed were: where would the interest go, how would the interest rate be based, how the funds would be distributed, would there be individual accounts, are there hidden fees, etc. Both companies thanked the TCC committee for allowing them time to explain their programs.

Jack Hurst left the meeting at 6:40 p.m. and Larry Padora then chaired the meeting.

B. Tax Collector RFP Committee Report

Jim Wosochlo (Deer Lake Boro) explained that the Tax Collector RFP Committee met with Solicitor Datte and heard information from PLGIT and the First National Bank. After those presentations, they focused on the RFP. Leo Schwartz asked the Secretary to contact the municipalities and schools and find out which ones want the Schuylkill TCC to collect their Local Service Tax (LST). The Committee will also need to approve two policies that go with the TC RFP. There is reference to PASBO on the policies because they are their policies; however, changes were made. Solicitor Datte noted that the PASBO information could be removed at the bottom of each page.

Jim Bush (Berkheimer) commented that after a collector is selected, it might be a good idea to have investors in to explain their program in order to get a good interest rate. Solicitor Datte noted that the RFP Committee felt that all investments should go into a separate TCC account. The investments could offset what the municipalities and schools need to give towards expenses.

Tom Oblas (Mahanoy City Boro) made the motion, which was seconded by Mike Van Allen (Gilberton Boro), to accept the two policies of the Tax Collector RFP. The motion passed unanimously. It was requested that Gail Stehr send out the Tax Collector RFP's when requested. (Copies of policies on file.)

III. Approval of Minutes

Leo Schwartz made the motion, which was seconded by Laine Mack (Tremont Boro), to approve the minutes from April 12, 2010, with the correction of John Goodman to Neal Goodman under Section I (B) and the word implantation to implementation in Section IV (A). The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Patty Reazor noted that there are nine municipalities that have open invoices; they were due by April 15. She questioned if interest should be added to the past due invoices. It was noted that at this time, she should just send another bill, stating that it is past due.

On a motion by Leo Schwartz and seconded by Ann Pascavage (Delano Twp.), the Treasurer's Report passed by a unanimous vote. (Copy of Treasurer's Report on file.)

V. New Business

A. Meeting Dates

Larry Padora stated he does not feel there needs to be a meeting in June or July. Leo Schwartz noted the committee does need a meeting in August to meet TCC deadlines, and that the September meeting could be rescheduled. He also suggested it should be pushed to get away from Monday night meetings. Solicitor Datte stated that after the August meeting is held, it can then be decided if the September meeting should be changed.

Leo Schwartz made the motion, which was seconded by Patsy Bowman (Tri-Valley SD) to have a Tax Collector TCC meeting on Tuesday, August 24, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. in the Court House. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Schuylkill TCC Website

The Schuylkill TCC Website is up and running, but it does have some tweaks now and then.

C. Approval of Invoices

Julian Milewski (Ringtown Boro) made the motion, which was seconded by Jim Wosochlo, to approve the invoices for Solicitor Datte and Gail Stehr as presented to the Committee. The motion passed unanimously. (Copy of invoices on file.)

D. Cash Management Programs

Larry Padora commented that he thinks the committee should look at private banks to use as a cash management program.

E. Appeals Board

The deadline to approve an Appeals Board is June 1. Tom Oblas made the motion, which was seconded by Leo Schwartz, to approve Wendell Gainer (Washington Twp.), Laine Mack and Mike Lonergan (Orwigsburg Boro) as being on the Appeals Board and that Solicitor Datte would hear the grievances. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Adjournment

Leo Schwartz made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m. Jim Wosochlo seconded the motion which passed by a unanimous vote.

Gail A. Stehr, TCC Secretary