

**North Middleton Township Board of Supervisors  
September 24, 2009**

The workshop meeting of the North Middleton Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Township Municipal Building, 2051 Spring Road, Carlisle PA on September 24, 2009. Chairman Robert Reisinger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board members present were Vice Chairman Harry Kelso, Supervisor Robert H. Shearer, Supervisor Richard A. Bucher, Supervisor James E. Hare, Solicitor Mark Allshouse, Manager Deborah A. Ealer, and Recording Secretary Lori A. Coleman.

Visitors: see attachment #1.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag opened the meeting.

**Bobby Pine- Cumberland Goodwill EMS**

Robert Pine introduced Brian Metzger and Edward Katona to the board. Mr. Pine was before the board to discuss the advanced life support services for North Middleton Township. For background history, Mr. Pine stated the organization has been operational for 75 years providing basic life services to the greater Carlisle area. Patient care has been their number one priority. They provide basic life support services, advanced life support services, rehab services to the fire departments, bariatric services, community based training, and EMS training to other EMS organizations. Mr. Pine noted CGEMS (Cumberland Goodwill EMS) has been a licensed service provider since 1997. The advanced life support (ALS) services have been contracted out to WSEMS (West Shore EMS). In the last 2 ½ years, Mr. Pine explained that CG and WS have begun to grow apart as each organization has grown. Mr. Pine noted the partnership still existed, but each organization has a different vision of the future. Mr. Pine added WS was a regional based organization servicing over 80 municipalities whereas CG was a locally based organization servicing 8 municipalities. Mr. Pine stressed CG could provide a higher standard of service and care since they would be only servicing 8 municipalities. They anticipate having 13 full-time paramedics. Mr. Pine added CG feels they can have better control and provide better service if it's all under one company. In addition, CG would be able to reponse to the growing needs of the community. Patient care should increase since CG will have local direction from Dr. Anthony Guarracino, who serves as director of the emergency room at Carlisle Regional Medical Center and has tentatively signed on to be CG's medical director. Mr. Pine noted CG transports about 80% of patients to Carlisle Hospital. He noted this would provide immediate feedback. Mr. Guarracino agreed to spend a day in the field once a month interacting with patients and providers to assure the level of care is the best possible. Mr. Pine added patient outcomes would be tracked.

Cumberland Goodwill would be servicing all the municipalities from the 519 S. Hanover St location. The average reponse time to NMT was anywhere from 4-8 minutes. The organization currently operates 6 ambulances, and has 2 advanced life support squads, 4 sets of advanced life support gear, and new heart monitors. Mr. Pine noted they hope to begin on January 1, 2010 pending all the municipalities' approvals.

Supervisor Hare verified CG would like to cease the agreement with the WS EMS, and then pick up the advanced life services locally. Mr. Pine agreed. Supervisor Hare asked what the financial

difference between the current operation is and what Mr. Pine was proposing. Mr. Pine noted there would be no increase in cost to the residents or the township. He said WS receives about 58% of the funds from the membership program. With the change, CG would keep 100% of the funds. Mr. Pine added CG currently has a new station with 6 ambulances and multiple support vehicles. Mr. Pine noted the mutual aid agreement would remain in effect which meant WS would still provide coverage if all 6 CG ambulances were out on calls, and vice versa. Mr. Pine noted he felt WS would still compete on ambulance coverage. He stressed that CG feels they could provide better coverage than WS. Yet, Mr. Pine stated it was the board's decision. Supervisor Bucher inquired why it was happening now. Over the past two years, Mr. Pine noted various management problems and disagreements between the two organizations. With the change from a financial standpoint, CG would be able to apply for various grants, and receive the full amount of the fee from the membership drive instead of splitting it with the WS. Supervisor Bucher verified that CG intends to end the agreement with the WS with no cost increase and no service decrease. Mr. Pine agreed. He added that CG was seeking passage of a resolution stating that CG would be the preferred advanced life support supplier for the township.

Supervisor Shearer questioned CG's financial situation and who was auditing their books. Mr. Pine stated Smith, Elliot and Kearns was their auditing firm and Groups Tax and Payroll was their bookkeeper. Supervisor Bucher asked if they were willing to share their audit. Mr. Pine agreed. Supervisor Reisinger questioned if it was a full audit. Mr. Pine agreed. Supervisor Hare asked if they were a for profit organization. Mr. Pine stated they were a nonprofit organization. Mr. Pine explained CG took their plan to an EMS consultant for review and evaluation. He reviewed the staffing, operational and financial information and determined that no issues should exist. Supervisor Reisinger inquired if the membership would be honored if he was out of the area. Mr. Pine noted they would honor another member's service. Supervisor Hare asked if they saw any negatives with the change. Mr. Pine noted he did not see any downfalls right now. Overall, he felt NMT was better served from the Borough of Carlisle location. Mr. Metzger noted CG has many systems in place that would allow it to operate for many years even if leadership changes. Supervisor Reisinger asked how the calls are answered now. Mr. Pine noted calls are handled by how the box cards are implemented via the fire department. Fire Chief Shawn Brickner noted the box cards are usually handled by the line officers but the final decision is made by the fire chief. Mr. Metzger added they would coordinate the box cards with the fire chief to assure the systems were in place upon his support of the agreement. Supervisor Reisinger asked if Mr. Brickner had any comments. Mr. Brickner noted they would submit a letter of recommendation from the fire department. He noted the fire department would have to review box cards first and make any necessary changes. Supervisor Bucher verified the resolution would permit the county to call CG first before the WS. Mr. Pine added the presentation was their first for the municipalities involved. Supervisor Hare asked what would happen if they did not go along with the resolution. Mr. Pine felt the service would be continued to be provided by the West Shore. Either way, coverage would be provided to the patients.

Supervisor Reisinger verified that as of January 1, 2010 CG would no longer be associated with WS. Mr. Pine agreed. Since the WS provides service to the county special response teams, Supervisor Kelso asked if CG would provide the service. Mr. Pine and Mr. Metzger noted they would provide the service if needed. Mr. Katona noted he was a 19 year paramedic with WS

EMS. He loved his position and left to serve in the military. He was recently offered a position at CG and did not hesitate to become a part of the team. Mr. Pine noted their goal was to have highly trained personnel that could provide the best patient care. Supervisor Kelso asked why they waited so long to proceed with the change. Mr. Pine noted the system worked well up until 3-4 years ago, and then friction between the organizations began. CG wanted to make sure everything was running smoothly from their 2002 issues, and assure they had a good facility in place to assist in the move. Supervisor Reisinger stressed the board would like to see their latest audit. Mr. Pine noted he would get a copy for the board to review. After some discussion, the board decided to wait until WS completed their presentation to the board, before making a final decision.

### **Subdivision and Land Development**

No issues were presented.

### **North Middleton Authority**

#### **a. Minutes**

Supervisor Reisinger presented the minutes.

#### **b. Manager's Report**

Supervisor Reisinger presented Manager Lee Koch's report.

### **Solicitor**

#### **a. Email**

Solicitor Allshouse mentioned an email concerning Third Pine Floor. He asked how the board would like to handle the matter since it could be easily changed and forwarded.

Supervisor Bucher felt if it was not signed with a name, then it should be considered junk mail. Solicitor Allshouse noted all unsolicited emails could be placed in the deleted file.

Supervisor Reisinger said as soon as it hits the inbox, it should be considered part of the open records policy.

### **New Business**

#### **a. Board Expirations**

Ms. Ealer presented the board with a list of individuals whose terms from serving on the various boards would expire. Ms. Ealer noted she could have Annette contact the individuals to see if they would be interested in serving another term. The board agreed with the suggestion.

#### **b. Meeting Dates**

Ms. Ealer presented the projected 2010 meeting dates for the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, Zoning Hearing Board and Recreation Board. She asked the board to review the dates. Supervisor Reisinger asked if NMA could advertise their meeting dates with the Township to save on advertising costs. Ms. Ealer noted she would contact Mr. Koch.

#### **c. Budget Books**

Ms. Ealer asked the board to turn in their budget books, and inquired if the board wanted all the backup detail included in their budget books. Supervisor Bucher had no issues

with not having all the information, as long as Ms. Ealer could make sure the information was accessible on her end.

**d. Workshop Meeting**

Supervisor Reisinger noted he would not be present for the October 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Old Business**

**a. Task List**

- Supervisor Reisinger questioned the RFP's for the subdivision and land development zoning ordinance. Ms. Ealer noted Rettew did call with two minor questions.
- Supervisor Hare asked if the restrooms were completed at North Middleton Park. Ms. Ealer noted they were getting closer to completion.

**b. Storm water requirements**

Supervisor Shearer recommended an early morning meeting to discuss the North Ridge runoff and how it is being dumped into the tributary.

**c. Residential concerns**

Supervisor Kelso asked about Nobye Sheller's concern from the September 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Supervisor Reisinger stated he was in the process of contacting her. Supervisor Hare inquired about David Wilson's concern from the August 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ms. Ealer noted Lobar was not quite ready to do the final grading in that area.

**d. MMO Review**

Ms. Ealer presented her MMO explanation via her September 22, 2009 memo to the board.

**e. Comp Plan**

Supervisor Kelso asked when the RFP's for the Comp Plan needed to be in. Ms. Ealer replied in October.

**f. Shrubbery**

Supervisor Shearer noted the shrubbery in front of the building should be trimmed.

**g. Rt. 34 bridge**

Supervisor Bucher stated the beams were set up on the bridge. Ms. Ealer noted the project was on schedule.

**Adjournment**

Supervisor Shearer moved to adjourn the September 24, 2009 workshop meeting of the Board of Supervisors at 7:20 p.m. Supervisor Bucher seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Deborah A. Ealer  
Township Secretary

Lori A. Coleman  
Recording Secretary

