

**MCAB Board Minutes**  
**From January 13, 2014**  
**By: Peter L. Kuhn (MCAB Secretary)**

| <b><u>Board Member</u></b>        | <b><u>Attendance</u></b> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| David Rassbach (Chairman)         | Present                  |
| Howard Hoffman (Vice Chairman)    | Present                  |
| Peter Kuhn (Secretary)            | Present                  |
| Jerry Denick                      | Present                  |
| Bill Carroll                      | Not present              |
| Jim Kravitz                       | Present                  |
| Jeff Pasquale                     | Present                  |
| Carla Showell Lee (Staff Liaison) | Present                  |
| Greg Waks (Supervisor Liaison)    | Present                  |

**Additional Attendees**

Don Herbert  
Scott Widenhoffer

**Called to order: 7:01 pm**

**I. Pledge of Allegiance**

**II. Board Elections**

Board elections were held. Mr. Pasquale nominated Howard Hoffman as temporary chairman, Mr. Hoffman was unanimously approved. David Rassbach was nominated as Chairman, and was unanimously approved by the board. Jeff Pasquale nominated Howard Hoffman for Vice Chairman, and was unanimously approved by the board. Mr. Hoffman nominated Jim Kravitz for the position of secretary, Mr. Kravitz was unanimously approved.

**III. Approval of Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

**IV. 2014 meeting dates**

Carla present board with proposed meeting dates for the 2014 calendar year.

Meeting Times and Dates 2014

January 14, 2014  
February 10, 2014  
March 10, 2014  
April 14, 2014  
May 12, 2014  
June 9, 2014  
July 14, 2014  
August – NO MEETING

September 8, 2014  
October 13, 2014  
November 10, 2014  
December 8, 2014

## **V. Comments from the Chairman**

The chairman thanked the members of the MCAB for their work during 2013 when Many important issues were addressed. He mentioned that 2014 should be an exciting year for the MCAB.

## **VI. Old Business**

### **A. PennDOT Traffic Camera Links**

Don Herbert reported to the board that after speaking to PennDOT he received a more stable link that will provide JPEG images of traffic jams throughout the township. PennDOT also stated that any camera outages are "out of our hands." They are attempting to keep all cameras online as much as possible. The board feels that we should keep the current links in place at this point. Mr. Rassbach stated that the issue is the reliability of the cameras and it appears that the performance is now better. Don Herbert stated that he will keep on top of notifying PennDOT when he sees that the cameras are not functioning.

### **B. Electronic signage preparations**

Don Herbert reported to the board about preparations being made for the electronic signage to be placed outside of the township building. He stated that Supervisor Jenaway like for the signage to stay within the township code. Keeping the signage within Township code for size would be an approximately savings of \$3,500. Supervisor Jenaway feels that we should lead by example. Supervisor Waks stated the he would like to see the installation completed this summer. Supervisor Waks also stated that he would look into the township code to see how often the sign display can change. Mr. Hoffman raised the question that "if we cannot change the display on the sign fast enough, then why install the sign at all?" More discussions were held as far as the speed of display, brightness, the ability to alter brightness at different times of day, etc. This board requested a copy of the code for us to be able to familiarize ourselves with the township standards. Supervisor Waks also told this board he would provide us with minutes and notes from the other supervisors as to the sign implementation.

It was also agreed that Mr. Kravitz and Mr. Pasquale would attend the March 6 Board of Supervisors workshop meeting to support Don Herbert's presentation to the Board of Supervisors. The presentation will be used by the Board of Supervisors to decide whether to approve the Electronic Signage Board for installation in 2014

### **C. Traffic camera discussions**

Scott Widenhofer attended the meeting to answer the MCAB board questions as to the availability of data from the traffic signalization company. The board discussed the possibility of using this data to develop a more user-friendly mobile type app for the citizens of Upper Merion. The board also discussed the viability of web-based delivery system for traffic information. The question “is this really the appropriate way to deliver this information”? was discussed.

#### **D. Emergency Information**

Carla informed the board that she wants to put more usable information into the residence hands. She feels this would be an improvement to the quality of life for the citizens of Upper Merion Township. Mr. Rassbach and the MCAB board agreed. Carla will continue to research for information sources that are appropriate for the citizenry of Upper Merion. Jim Kravitz asked the question "Where do residents go in case of a catastrophic incident"? This needs to be identified and disseminated to township citizens. Mr. Rassbach asked the question "could we do a program to let people know what to do in a snow emergency"? Mr. Kuhn suggested producing prepackaged winter/flood/tornado/electrical, etc. emergency programs to have in the can, to broadcast on UMGA TV. Mr. Rassbach asked Carla to establish what are we going to communicate, and then how we will deliver that information. Carla stated that she would give the board an update at the February meeting.

#### **E. Municipal Map Update**

Carla presented the new municipal map to the MCAB. Carla is very excited with the way the map came out. The board reviewed the map made a few minor changes and approved the printing of the map.

### **VII. New business**

**A.** No new business was discussed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:04 pm.