Westmoreland County Tax Collection Committee Tuesday, January 24, 2012-Page 1

The Westmoreland County Tax Collection Committee (WCTCC) met on Tuesday, January 24, 2012 in the Commissioners' Public Meeting Room at the Westmoreland County Courthouse, 2 North Main Street, Greensburg, PA.

<u>CALL TO ORDER</u>: The WCTCC Chairperson Scott Sistek called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present constituting a quorum:

WCTCC Chairperson WCTCC Vice Chairperson

-Scott C. Sistek -Peggy Gillespie. -New Stanton Borough
-Kiski Area School District
-East Huntingdon Township,

WCTCC Treasurer

-Diane Figg

Everson Borough-Fayette County Southmoreland School District

WCTCC Secretary
WCTCC Solicitor

-Susan M. Trout

-City of Greensburg

Eileen Navish

-Lawrence Maiello

-Belle Vernon Area School District

Joe Grata

-Belle Vernon Area School District, Washington Township-

Fayette County

James J. Meyer Caprice M. Mills -Greensburg Salem School District

-Donegal Borough, Mt. Pleasant Township, Cook Township,

Donegal Township, Mt. Pleasant Borough, Scottdale Borough

Joe Olszewski

-Avonmore Borough, East Vandergrift Borough, Hyde Park Borough, Oklahoma Borough, Vandergrift Borough, Allegheny

Township, Bell Township, Washington Township-Westmoreland

County

Joe Koluder

-Derry Area School District

Jon Perry
Dan Watson
Jude Abraham

-Franklin Regional School District -Greater Latrobe School District -Hempfield Area School District

Janet Langford Allison Willis

-Jeannette City School District
-Mt. Pleasant Area School District

Mary Perez Robert DePasquale Lucille D'Alfonso -City of Greensburg
-City of Greensburg
-Monessen City

Michael Wrobleski Alexander Graziani -Yough School District
-Latrobe Municipality
-Murrysville Municipality

Diane Heming
Jennifer Callahan

-Lower Burrell City, Burrell School District

Vincent DeCario Thomas Logan

-Derry Township
-Hempfield Township

Mary E. Ralston

-Parks Township-Armstrong County

Ronald D. Martz

-Salem Township

Dan Pergola

-South Huntingdon Township

Jacob Blank

-Unity Township

Joyce A. Ewing

-Upper Burrell Township

Walter Geiger

-Arona Borough

Jeffrey Miller

-Bolivar Borough, Fairfield Township

Andrew Shissler Lori L. Latta Cynthia Delissio

-Derry Borough
-Export Borough

-Delmont Borough

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Peggy Watson Paul A. Fry -Irwin Borough
-Ligonier Borough

Margaret Graham

-New Alexandria Borough

L. Bud Santimyer Paula Mazurek -Scottdale Borough
-Youngwood Borough

Donna J. Bitonti

-Belle Vernon Borough-Fayette County

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Caprice Mills **MOVED** to approve the minutes from the meeting held on October 26, 2011, and Thomas Logan **SECONDED**. No discussion. **Motion carried**.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**-For the record no public comment was presented.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Prior to Diane Figg giving the Treasurer's Report, Scott Sistek reported that the last remaining check from Arona Borough has been received from Walter Geiger in the amount of \$21. Diane Figg reported that, not including the \$21 just received, the only bill outstanding is the legal bill in the amount of \$735 which will need to be approved. So before paying that and depositing the \$21 we have \$37,667.87 in the checking account. Ms. Figg also reported there was no activity other than interest earned since last meeting.

Paul Fry MOVED to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the legal bill in the amount of \$735, and Ronald Martz SECONDED. No discussion. Motion carried.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Transition Committee. No report.

Website Committee. No report.

Solicitor's Report. No report.

#### **AGENDA**

1. Discussion with Berkheimer. Susan Trout reported she has received emails regarding collections and some concerns with the process. Some folks are concerned that some businesses are remitting to the wrong collector or to a real estate appointed collector for the municipality. Shawn Perry responded that for the most part employers that continue to file at the wrong place, once they receive their quarterlies from Berkheimer in March, if they don't send them in by April 30<sup>th</sup>, they will begin to receive delinquents. Once they start getting delinquents they'll probably pay more attention to what they're doing. As far as the collectors working together, if they do accidentally send it to another collector, they will forward it onto us. Mr. Perry explained there is a verbal agreement between the tax collectors to get it to the right place. They'll also be notified so they can correct their books. Residency Verification forms went out to all employers and they

were instructed to have the employees complete the forms and keep them on file; this way they should know where the money is going to go and the code should already be in place. That should catch a great majority of them. If the smaller real estate collectors receive the payments, they can contact us and we will make sure we notify that employer who sent it incorrectly. The smaller businesses out there who didn't file in the past will get caught on the State list, which has moved up to a year instead of two years as it is now. They would have been notified, so we should essentially catch up with everybody. We're the only company that sent forms to both the employer and the taxpayer to make sure if we didn't reach the business the taxpayer would have the form to bring in to their employer so they would have it. That should be a big help as far as reaching all the employers. Peggy Gillespie was concerned that some businesses don't want to comply. Mr. Perry reiterated that once the quarterlies go out and they are delinquent they will be fined under Act 32 for being delinquent. And just because they sent it to someone else will not exclude them from that. As Mr. Perry mentioned before at a previous meeting the first and second quarter collections may be a bit low because of some of those employers. By the third quarter everything should be good to go. A question arose concerning when to expect distribution and Mr. Perry responded that payments aren't due until April 30<sup>th</sup> so you'll start seeing them come in April; full force in May. Another concern was brought up regarding receiving packets from Central Tax and Keystone informing those employers they should be sending the tax payments to their offices. Mr. Perry reminded everyone that if you have any employers who say they received a letter from a tax collector stating you have to file with them, tell them definitely not; you file with your County's collector and we'll send the money on from there.

2. Selection of 2012 Operating Board. Scott Sistek reported the requirement is to have five members representing the school districts and five members representing the cities, boroughs and townships. Additionally, you cannot have more than two members from within a school district's boundaries. Mr. Sistek commented that he would remain on the Board and addressed the current Board members about their desire to remain a member with the following responses: Peggy Gillespie, no, but will remain on the Transition Committee; Susan Trout, no; Diane Figg, yes; Caprice Mills, yes; Paul Fry, yes; James Meyer, no; John Wilson, no, per email sent to Ms. Trout; Jennifer Callahan, no, but will remain on Website Committee; and Greg Primm, yes. The following members were nominated and accepted their nominations: Eileen Navish; Diane Heming; Jude Abraham; Jon Perry; and Mike Wrobleski.

Thomas Logan MOVED to close the nominations, and Jacob Blank SECONDED. No discussion. Motion carried.

# 2012 Operating Board

Diane Figg, Southmoreland School District Eileen Navish, Belle Vernon School District Jude Abraham, Hempfield School District Jon Perry, Franklin Regional School District Mike Wrobleski, Yough School District Scott Sistek, New Stanton Borough Paul Fry, Ligonier Borough Caprice Mills, Mt. Pleasant Township Greg Primm, East Allegheny Township Diane Heming, Murrysville Municipality

Mr. Sistek thanked each member for volunteering to be a member of this Board.

#### **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/CONCERNS**

lusar m. Shout

- a. Bud Santimyer asked if the new Secretary could send attachments in PDF. He received the meeting reminder via email but the attachments were blank pages.
- **b.** Joe Koluder thanked the 2011 Operating Board members for all their hard work in the past year.
- **c.** Scott Sistek announced the 2012 Operating Board will meet this evening immediately following the conclusion of the WCTCC meeting to organize the Board.

<u>ADJOURNMENT:</u> Bud Santimyer MOVED to adjourn the meeting. SECONDED: Ronald Martz.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Trout

WCTCC Secretary