

**Cumberland County**  
**Municipal Advisory Board (MAB)**

Gale Gallo and I attended the quarterly MAB meeting held in Carlisle on January 29<sup>th</sup> 2024 from 6 to 8 pm.

The meeting was well attended in person and via Zoom with about 2/3 of the 33 municipalities present.

**Commissioner's report:**

New commissioner Kelly Neiderer chaired the meeting. She gave some background and update on the County budget deficit and proposed tax increase. She indicated that every line item with a current deficit is related to services delegated by the state but without sufficient reimbursement for increasing costs.

The agenda item for a Short Term Rental tracking software was deferred since it is still under review by the County IT department.

The County will celebrate its 275th anniversary in 2025 and the US its 250th anniversary in 2026. The County is putting together a group to help coordinate plans for these celebrations and is looking for volunteers.

**Municipal Reports - some of the key takeaways were:**

Continuing major new development in Lower and Upper Allen, South Middleton, Middlesex, and especially North Middleton and Silver Spring. Special excitement seemed to accompany each new chicken franchise mentioned.

Carlisle indicated continuing progress of developing the former Masland site in the northwest part of the Borough with new housing, a grocery store and road improvements.

Carlisle and New Cumberland are beginning new CPROS plans. We offered lessons learned to them.

Gale and I discussed the Bottleneck project (open house earlier that day), the completion of our CPROS plan and our work on an EV charging ordinance.

The rural western townships are experiencing issues with farmland disposal of food processing waste, which apparently has been banned in many places, and is a major concern with odors, vectors, and groundwater. The County and other municipalities attending were supportive of working together to get new laws or regulations to control the issue, with the South Bridge tolling as an example of success.

**County Planning Commission**

The 3C program, funded through the \$5 charge on each vehicle registration, has been very successful in fixing many small bridges in the County. The PC is looking to move towards a more general program that would include streets and roads. In that regard they will be asking each municipality to put forth three projects to add to a list for possible funding.

**Public Safety**

There is a training session for elected officials on Emergency Response on Feb 10.

There is a new scholarship program for EMS and EMT training available.

The P25 radio program is continuing. Several towers are up, and major equipment is ordered. Radios should be available to municipalities in the second quarter of 2025. Completion is estimated for end of next year.

***Gene Koontz/Gale Gallo***