

**NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of the Commission Meeting**  
**held on**  
**May 26, 2016**  
**6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**PRESENT:** Mr. K. Sullivan, Chair, Virginia Tech; Mr. J. Carpenter, Radford University, Vice-Chair; Mr. L. Law, Giles County, Treasurer; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. G. East, Town of Pulaski; Mr. F. Gerald, Floyd County; Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Mr. M. Harvey, Montgomery County; Ms. S. Journell, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. M. Maslaney, Floyd County; Mr. M. Patton, Town of Floyd; Ms. A. Perkins, Montgomery County; Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. M. Sutphin, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. M. Turk, City of Radford, and Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County.

**ABSENT:** Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Mr. W. Kantsios, Town of Rich Creek; Ms. H. Lesko, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County; Ms. C. Newcomb, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. J. Soileau, Virginia Tech and Mr. S. Weaver, Town of Christiansburg.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Christy Straight, and Julie Phillips.

**II. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Approval of Minutes for April**

Mr. Sullivan called for approval of the consent agenda item if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Mr. Bopp moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Turk seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Approval of Treasurer's Report for April**

Mr. Sullivan called for approval of the consent agenda item if there were no questions or changes.

Motion: Mr. Law moved for the approval of the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Bopp seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

**III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS**

**A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)**

1. Town of Pulaski submittal of RD grant application "Fixing Roofs to Fix Business Revitalization"

**B. Regular Project Review**

None

**C. Environmental Project Review**

1. [16-11]-VADEQ 2016-2018 Building Capacity for Protection of Wetland Resources in Virginia-Track One

Mr. Sullivan called for approval of the environmental review.

Motion: Dr. Harvey moved for the approval of the environmental review. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously

2. [16-16] - VADEQ Pollution Prevention Outreach

Mr. Sullivan called for approval of the environmental review.

Motion: Ms. Journell moved for the approval of the environmental review. Mr. Sutphin seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously

3. Revision of 1991 Guidelines of Minimum Requirements for Transmission Line Applications

Mr. Sullivan called for approval of the environmental review.

Motion: Mr. Gerald moved for the approval of the environmental review. Mr. East seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously

#### **IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS**

None.

#### **V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

Mr. Patton reported he was recently reappointed by the Floyd County Board of Supervisors to serve on the New River Community College Board. Mr. Law shared Pembroke Telephone is in the process of a \$2 million upgrade to their system. Mr. Law also explained his concerns about parking at the Cascades and the impact it has on visitors to the area. Mr. Showalter announced the Town of Christiansburg hired a new town manager, Mr. Steve Biggs from Clayton, NC, who will start on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Lastly, Mr. Sutphin noted the Town of Blacksburg recently completed an Economic Development and Growth Indicators Report, which is available on the Town's website.

#### **VI. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Mr. Sullivan reported Go Virginia is moving forward to develop Regional Councils in the first year of the program. Out years that include grant funding for projects will be discussed in the next General Assembly session. Mr. Sullivan also explained the Smart Beginnings New River Valley program is at a transition point and has approached the Commission about potentially serving as fiscal agent. This will come to the Commission for a full discussion before any action is taken, most likely at the June meeting.

#### **VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. Mr. Byrd reported the Virginia Main Street program is hosting their Downtown Intersections conference July 11-13 in Staunton and explained the NRV has access to 10 complimentary registrations plus lodging due to our work with the LEAD program and ReNew the New expansion. Mr. Byrd explained a funding decision regarding the next phase of activity for NRV Passenger Rail, a Rail Modeling Study, should be announced at the June Commonwealth Transportation Board meeting in Richmond. He reported the NRV Mayors and County Chairs bi-annual meeting is scheduled for June 20<sup>th</sup> and

noted that Commission continues to coordinate quarterly local government managers meetings. Lastly, the ReNew the New Steering Committee will meet on May 31<sup>st</sup> to discuss details heading into the August 27<sup>th</sup> clean up event.

## VIII. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Annual Dinner Event Recap/Debrief

Mr. Sullivan reported the annual dinner was attended by 112 people and there has been positive feedback from guests. Ms. Perkins expressed the format allows people from different localities to meet and have discussions. Dr. Harvey said she enjoyed the mobile workshop day-time event. Mr. Sullivan passed around a thank you letter from Radford University President Penelope Kyle after she was awarded Citizen of the Valley. Mr. Sullivan thanked Mr. Byrd and the staff for bringing the event together.

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Overview of RIDE Solutions Program – Connecting the Region’s Commuters

Christy Straight gave a presentation explaining the RIDE Solutions program. Ms. Straight explained the services available for commuters and noted that the program is available for commuters living and/or working within the NRV. Ms. Straight highlighted some of the offerings and benefits available to members of the RIDE solutions program. She also explained community involvement aspect of the program, such as bike month events and the bike shorts film festival.

### B. Consideration of FY17 Proposed Budget

Mr. Byrd overviewed the proposed budget included in the packet and called for any questions following a brief presentation.

Discussion: Mr. Patton asked if the staff will receive an increase in compensation in the proposed budget. Mr. Byrd explained there is an adjustment included in the proposed budget. Mr. Sutphin asked if the Department of Labor changes in how overtime is calculated will affect the budget. Mr. Byrd explained staff is in the process of determining if there will be any changes before the rule goes into effect in December, but noted there are not financial impacts anticipated for the Commission due to the use of compensation time. Mr. Carpenter asked if the increase in the local assessment rate was included. Mr. Byrd noted the increased rate was included.

Motion: Mr. Patton moved to approve the FY17 Budget. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

### C. Commission Officers for FY17 – Slate to be Introduced

Mr. Sullivan announced the nominating Committee proposed the following slate of officers for FY17, Chair, Joe Carpenter-Radford University; Vice-Chair, Michael Harvey-Montgomery County; Treasurer, Leon Law-Giles County; and Member at Larger, Charles Bopp-Pulaski County. Mr. Sullivan called for any nominations from the floor and receiving none, the floor was closed for nominations.

Mr. Sullivan called to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Mr. Patton moved to adjourn. Mr. Bopp seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

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Kevin Sullivan, Chair  
New River Valley Regional Commission