

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
January 25, 2018
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. J. **Carpenter**, Radford University, Chair; Mr. M. **Harvey**, Vice-Chair, Montgomery County; Mr. L. **Law**, Giles County, Treasurer; Ms. S. **Anderson**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. C. **Bopp**, Pulaski County; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. J. **Coleman**, Floyd County; Mr. H. **Collins**, Town of Christiansburg; Ms. A. **Covey**, New River Community College; Mr. G. **East**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. S. **Fijalkowski**, Montgomery County; Dr. H. **Harvey**, City of Radford; Mr. H. **Johnson**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. W. **Kantsios**, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. C. **Kiwus**, Virginia Tech; Ms. H. **Lesko**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. M. **Maslaney**, Floyd County; Mr. K. **Marshall**, City of Radford; Mr. M. **Patton**, Town of Floyd; Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg; Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County and Ms. C. **Woodring**, Virginia Tech.

ABSENT: Ms. S. **Journell**, Town of Pearisburg and Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Aphi Fancon, Michael Gottfredson, Anna Harbom, James Jones, Janet McNew, Patrick O'Brien, Julie Phillips, Elijah Sharp, Christy Straight, Zach Swick, and Jennifer Wilsie.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for November

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

Discussion: Ms. Anderson noted that Mr. Newcomb in the Chair's Report should read Ms. Newcomb.

Motion: Mr. Patton moved for the approval of the minutes with the amendment. Mr. Bopp seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Reports for November and December

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

Motion: Mr. Kantsios moved for the approval of the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

- A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)
 - 1. VADEQ FY18 Brownfields Assessment Grant
 - 2. NRVCS Vehicle Purchase
 - 3. NRVSS Vehicle Purchase
 - 4. Giles Health & Family Center Vehicle Purchase
- B. Regular Project Review
 - None
- C. Environmental Project Review
 - None

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Carpenter welcomed the five new members to the Commission. Mr. Fijalkowski, Montgomery County; Ms. Anderson, Blacksburg; Ms. Covey, New River Community College; Ms. Woodring, Virginia Tech; and Mr. Coleman, Floyd County. Mr. Law reported the Cascades had many visitors during the colder weather. Ms. Anderson reported the Town of Blacksburg had their Council retreat earlier in the day and it was facilitated by Mr. Byrd. Mr. Carpenter reported Radford University and Jefferson College of Health and Sciences announced their intent to merge.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter reported the executive committee met in both December and January.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported the Town of Narrows received notice of funding for \$699,346 in Community Development Block Grant funds to assist in the revitalization of its downtown. The Town of Narrows also received notice of \$392,588 in funds from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) for work that is complementary to its downtown project. The Commission supported the planning process and prepared grant applications for both awards. The Town of Christiansburg received an ARC award for \$35,000 to conduct downtown visioning/planning activities to support downtown becoming a cultural destination. GO Virginia Region 2 reviewed six projects at its meeting on January 12th and recommended five to the GO Virginia State Board for approval. A second round of regional applications will open shortly with a closing date of February 14th. The Regional + Local Housing Study proposal was submitted to the Virginia Housing Development Authority. The primary feedback was a desire to see matching funds from the region. The Commission is working on this item with the four counties, the city, the towns of Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Pulaski and Virginia Tech. The Commission is in the process of selecting a Finance Technician with an anticipated start date of late February or early March.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Regional Commission FY17-18 Work Program Overview
Regional Commission members provided a 'lightning round' format presentation introducing themselves and the programs/projects at the Commission.

- B. Regional Commission Awards – Review Criteria and Process
Mr. Byrd explained the Commission awards three categories, Champion of the Valley, Citizen of the Valley, and Friend of the Valley each year. The 2018 nomination form is scheduled to go out in early February with awards nominations due by March 13th.

Mr. Carpenter called to adjourn the meeting.

L. J. Carpenter, Chair
New River Valley Regional Commission