

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
June 28, 2018
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. J. Carpenter, Radford University, Chair; Mr. L. Law, Giles County, Treasurer; Ms. S. Anderson, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. H. Collins, Town of Christiansburg; 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 ; Mr. M. Maslaney, Floyd County; Mr. K. Marshall, City of Radford; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County; Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County and Ms. C. Woodring, Virginia Tech.

ABSENT: Mr. M. Harvey, Vice-Chair, Montgomery County; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. J. Coleman, Floyd County; Ms. A. Covey, New River Community College; Mr. G. East, Town of Pulaski; Ms. S. Journell, Town of Pearisburg; Ms. H. Lesko, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. M. Patton, Town of Floyd and Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg.

Staff Attendees: Jessica Barrett, Kevin Byrd, Michael Gottfredson, Patrick O'Brien, Meghan Pfeleiderer, Julie Phillips, Elijah Sharp, Christy Straight, Kristie Warack, and Jennifer Wilsie.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for May

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 minutes. Mr. Kiwus seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Reports for May

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

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

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

None

B. Regular Project Review

None

C. Environmental Project Review

1. FY2019-2020 Wetlands Program Development Grant
2. Virginia Tech Student Athletic Performance Center
3. Reissuance of VPDES Permit – Blacksburg Country Club WWTP

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Fijalkowski reported Montgomery County and the Town of Christiansburg held a joint meeting earlier in the week. One key item from the meeting was a discussion about establishing trail connections with the Roanoke greenway system, as well as the opportunities to expand southwest toward the New River Trail State Park. He also reported he attended a federal conference at the White House along with other board of supervisor members from Virginia. Ms. Anderson reported the Town of Blacksburg recently finished the public input process for their downtown strategic plan and they are moving into the next phase of plan development. She also shared three out of four murals are complete on storm drains in the downtown area. Mr. Carpenter reported freshman orientation is underway at Radford University. The university hosted the American Legion Boys State last week which featured remarks by Governor Northam and Lieutenant Governor Fairfax. Mr. Carpenter also shared Mr. Alvarez, a previous Commissioner representing Radford University, recently retired from his position as Chief Financial Officer for the university.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter welcomed Joel Herbein from the Town of Blacksburg, who will be filling the citizen appointment starting July 1, 2018. Mr. Byrd introduced new staff members, Jessica Barrett, Finance Technician; Meghan Pfleiderer, Smart Beginnings NRV Coordinator; and Kristie Warack, Data Systems Manager. Mr. Carpenter congratulated Christy Straight on 10 years of service with the Commission and presented her with a certificate. Lastly, he thanked the outgoing Commissioners, Mr. Collins, Ms. Lesko (in absentia), and Mr. Marshall for their service and presented them with an item containing their dates of service on the Commission. Mr. Byrd presented Mr. Carpenter with a token of appreciation for his service as Chair.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported the Department of Housing and Community Development-Virginia Main Street Program conducted downtown visits in several communities across the region. The visits included local government leadership, regional commission staff and organizations that support downtowns in each community. The intended outcome is increased engagement with the Virginia Main Street program and its resources.

VDOT held a public input meeting on developing an I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan. The Corridor Improvement Plan will: identify segments for improvement; identify targeted sets of improvements for each segment; identify truck parking needs; include corridor-wide incident management;

evaluate concepts to minimize local route impacts; assess economic impacts on the corridor from tolling only heavy commercial trucks. More information can be found at www.VA81Corridor.org as well as a platform to provide online comments.

The NRV Housing Study is underway internally with technical staff preparing a two-page overview of the effort to share with key partners as a regional consortium is being established to guide the process.

This month three Commissioners will be transitioning off the board: Holly Lesko, Town of Blacksburg; Keith Marshall, City of Radford; and Harry Collins, Town of Christiansburg. Staff met with Mr. Collins prior to the meeting to conduct a video interview about his experiences serving on the board.

The Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions (VAPDC) will be holding the annual summer conference in Roanoke this year July 25-27 at the Hotel Roanoke. Given the close proximity, the Executive Committee would like to have good representation from our region.

Earlier in the day a ground-breaking ceremony was held in Giles County at a new public boat landing in Eggleston.

Mr. Carpenter added the NRV Rail 2020 passenger rail legislative reception will be held September 12th at 5:30 pm at the Great Road on Main in downtown Christiansburg.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. roam NRV – Bike Share Program Overview
Andrew Warren, Town of Christiansburg Planning Director, delivered a presentation overviewing the roam NRV program. He explained how the system works, membership types, user fees, as well as future plans for expansion.

- B. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Project Package and Report
Patrick O'Brien gave an overview of the 2018 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). He explained the goals, objectives, strategies, and the project ranking criteria. The 2018 CEDS report includes a resiliency section that primarily addresses vulnerability to market changes across industry sectors in the region.

Motion: Dr. Warren moved for the approval of the CEDS report. Mr. Collins seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Consideration of the Proposed FY19 Budget

Mr. Byrd explained the proposed budget was included in the mailout and provided an overview presentation of the budget with highlights in the memo. Following the overview presentation Mr. Byrd called for any questions.

Motion: Mr. McCoy moved to approve the FY19 budget. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

D. Commission Officers for FY2019 – Slate Introduced at May Meeting

Mr. Carpenter reported the nominations for the slate of officers for Fiscal Year 2019 are as follows:

Chair: Mike Harvey, Montgomery County

Vice-Chair: Mike Maslaney, Floyd County

Treasurer: Leon Law, Giles County

At-Large: Larry Clevinger, Town of Pulaski

Mr. Kantsios moved to elect the slate of officers as presented. Mr. McCoy seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

E. July Commission Meeting (Historically it is cancelled due to conflict with VAPDC)

Motion: Mr. Garrett moved to cancel the July meeting. Mr. Law seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Carpenter called to adjourn the meeting at 7:35pm.

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