

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
August 23, 2018
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. M. Harvey, 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. T. Clontz, Town of Pulaski; Ms. A. Covey, New River Community College; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Mr. S. Fijalkowski, Montgomery County; Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Mr. J. Herbein, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. D. Horton, City of Radford; Mr. H. Johnson, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. C. Kiwus, Virginia Tech; Mr. R. Lawson, Town of Pembroke; Ms. C. Potter, Virginia Tech; Ms. A. Schumaker, Radford University; Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg and Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County.

ABSENT: Mr. M. Maslaney, Floyd County, Vice-Chair; Mr. J. Coleman, Floyd County; Mr. G. East, Town of Pulaski; Ms. S. Journell, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. W. Kantsios, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County and Mr. M. Patton, Town of Floyd.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Janet McNew, Julie Phillips, Elijah Sharp, and Jennifer Wilsie.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for June

Mr. Harvey 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. Kiwus seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Reports for June and July

Mr. Harvey 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)

1. Radford University Center for Adaptive Innovation and Creativity
2. VADEQ- State Revolving Fund Capitalization Grant

- 3. VADEQ- Pre-Remedial Assessment/Site Investigation (PASI) Amendment 3
- B. Regular Project Review
None
- C. Environmental Project Review
None

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Harvey welcomed the new representatives to the Commission and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Harvey congratulated Mr. Byrd on receiving the President's Award from the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions at the summer conference in Roanoke. Mr. Harvey reported there will be a survey distributed via email to determine each Commissioner's desired meeting time in the future.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported two applications are under development for POWER funds through the Appalachian Regional Commission. One project seeks to expand the New River Water Trail established in Giles County from the Claytor Lake Dam to the Blue Stone Dam in West Virginia. The second POWER application under development is for rural wireless broadband access. The Commission is working with current internet service providers to determine their interest in advancing projects in the POWER eligible counties of Montgomery, Giles and Pulaski.

The next bi-annual Mayors and Chairs meeting will take place on August 30th at noon. The Commission is providing support to Montgomery County for the Valley to Valley Trail initiative to link Roanoke Valley and the New River Valley via a continuous multi-purpose trail network.

The Commission received the Best Place to Work award in the governmental category from the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce and ranked in the top five best places to work in the mid-sized company category.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. NRV Overview of Select FY19 Regional Commission Initiatives

Mr. Byrd, Mr. Sharp and Ms. Wilsie delivered an overview of the Commission's role in several key regional initiatives. Mr. Byrd provided an update on broadband and passenger rail projects. Mr. Sharp shared information about the Commission's role in transportation, including the rural transportation program. Lastly, Ms. Wilsie discussed the Local + Regional Housing Study.

B. FY19 Program of Work for the Regional Commission

Mr. Byrd explained Mr. Sharp develops this document annually along with staff to serve as a guide to the projects underway at the Commission in the upcoming fiscal year.

Mr. Sharp provided an overview of the FY19 Work Program. He highlighted several projects, including updating Radford University's Hazard Mitigation Plan, administering grant funds that expand infrastructure in the Floyd Regional Commerce Center, grant administration to improve streetscapes and building facades in downtown Narrows, developing compelling visualizations to support Montgomery County's Comprehensive Plan update, creating a new land development guide for the Town of Pulaski and developing an operations and ownership strategy for the future passenger rail station in downtown Christiansburg.

Mr. Harvey called for approval of the FY19 Work Program with corrections/edits received from Commissioners.

Motion: Ms. Anderson moved for the approval of the FY19 Work Program. Mr. Horton seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Montgomery County Smart Scale Project Proposal Resolution Ratification

Mr. Byrd explained Montgomery County recently submitted a VDOT Smart Scale project proposal for intersection improvements at US Route 460 and Alleghany Spring Road. Because this project is outside of the NRV Metropolitan Planning Organization geography and it is along a corridor of statewide significance, the Regional Commission was requested to provide a resolution of support per VDOT Smart Scale policy. Given the Smart Scale project deadline in July and the Commission did not meet, the Executive Committee considered the resolution request and supported the resolution going forward to accompany the application.

Mr. Harvey called to ratify the resolution.

Motion: Mr. Fijalkowski moved to ratify the resolution. Mr. Showalter seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

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

M. Harvey, Chair
New River Valley Regional Commission