

**NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of the Commission Meeting**  
**held on**  
**September 27, 2018**  
**6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**PRESENT:** Mr. M. Harvey, Chair, Montgomery County; Mr. M. Maslaney, Floyd County, Vice-Chair; 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; Mr. J. Coleman, Floyd County; 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; Ms. S. Journell, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. C. Kiwus, Virginia Tech; Mr. R. Lawson, Town of Pembroke; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County; Mr. M. Patton, Town of Floyd; Ms. C. Potter, Virginia Tech; Mr. J. Radcliffe, Town of Pulaski; Ms. A. Schumaker, Radford University and Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County.

**ABSENT:** Mr. W. Kantsios, Town of Rich Creek and Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Michael Gottfredson, Janet McNew, Patrick O'Brien and Julie Phillips.

**II. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Approval of Minutes for August**

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

Motion: Mr. Horton moved for the approval of the minutes. Ms. Covey seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Approval of Treasurer's Reports for August**

Mr. Harvey 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. Johnson seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

**III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS**

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

1. Reissuance of VPDES Permit VA0062219 for Elliston Lafayette WWTP

**B. Regular Project Review**

1. 19-04 FY2019-FY2023 Performance Partnership Grant
2. Radford University 702-704 Property Acquisition

- C. Environmental Project Review  
None

**IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS**

None

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

Mr. Horton reported the Radford University Highlander fest will be held at Bissett Park on 10/6, the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of Glencoe Museum will be held 10/13, and Radford University homecoming weekend is 10/19-20. Mr. Patton reported there will be a craft fair in Floyd on 10/13-14. Ms. Covey reported the Muddy ACCE race has been rescheduled for 9/29. Ms. Anderson gave updates on the progress of the Terrace View apartments redevelopment project as well as the old Blacksburg middle school and noted the Virginia Municipal League (VML) annual conference will be held 10/30 in Hampton.

**VI. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Mr. Harvey welcomed Mr. Ratcliffe to the Commission as an elected official from the Town of Pulaski serving in the two-year rotating elected official seat. He also welcomed Mr. Peter Stevenson from VML as a visitor. He reported two take away items from the Mayors & Chairs meeting, the lack of available labor force in the New River Valley and supporting the expansion of regional tourism.

**VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported the Commission submitted Community Development Block Grants for downtown improvements in both Rich Creek and Pearisburg last March. Neither community was awarded funds in this round; however, the VA Dept. of Housing and Community Development promptly offered both communities grant funds to further develop their applications for a March resubmittal. The City of Radford worked with the Virginia Main Street staff to host a series of nine input sessions over a two-day period to secure community feedback on the needs of Main Street in Radford. A summary report will focus on short-term action items over the next 6-12 months.

Smart Beginnings NRV is nearing completion of the regional Early Childhood Needs Assessment. The process identified key areas of focus for the region with a multitude of partners involved throughout. A preliminary report will be issued in the coming weeks after the Leadership Council prioritizes the findings and develops strategies. Based on the success of this work to date, the program received notice of additional funding from the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation for an Innovative Partnerships Grant to support the initial steps of aligning partners and agencies to tackle the greatest needs.

A staff retreat will be held October 2<sup>nd</sup> at Hotel Floyd. A Request for Proposals was issued on September 16<sup>th</sup> for architectural services to evaluate the Commission's office space for potential redesign. The process is focused on determining whether the Commission can integrate an internal

collaboration space in the suite for project teams to work together and allocate space for a staff member who currently works outside of the suite due to space constraints. This initiative is a significant goal for staff based on our retreat last year and funds are included in the budget to conduct the architectural evaluation. A planning grant was submitted today that if funded would support a regional broadband plan.

## VIII. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Commission Meeting Time for FY-19 – Survey Results Discussion

Mr. Harvey reported that based on results from the survey, the meeting will remain at 6pm.

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

### A. GO Virginia Region 2 Program Update

Mr. Provo provided an overview of the statewide GO Virginia program along with a review of the projects selected in the past year for funding in Region 2 which covers the New River Valley, Roanoke Valley and Lynchburg regions. He explained a request for proposals was recently issued to solicit projects for the current fiscal year.

### B. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Consumer Version

Mr. O'Brien explained the 'consumer version' of the CEDS provides a user-friendly overview of the CEDS content for public distribution, including information about the CEDS, the region's economic development goals and top-ranked projects, and select regional demographic and economic data. NRVRC staff will begin the next annual update later this fall, reconvening the CEDS committee to update the CEDS to reflect recent economic development trends. This year's CEDS process includes a complete overhaul of the CEDS as required by EDA every five years.

### C. Regional Commission Annual Report for FY18

Mr. Byrd explained the FY18 Regional Commission Annual Report was included in the packet and can viewed online at the Commission's website via [www.nrvrc.org/publications/](http://www.nrvrc.org/publications/). A hard copy will be mailed to every elected official in the region including all local, state and federal representatives. Copies are also mailed to all of our partner agencies and organizations.

Mr. Harvey called to adjourn the meeting at 7:05pm.

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M. Harvey, Chair  
New River Valley Regional Commission