

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
March 28, 2019
6:00 p.m. – New River Community College Mall Site, Christiansburg

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. M. Harvey, Chair, Montgomery County; Mr. M. Maslaney, Floyd County, Vice-Chair; Mr. L. Law, Giles County, Treasurer; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. Clontz, Town of Pulaski; Mr. H. Collins, Town of Christiansburg; Ms. A. Covey, New River Community College; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Mr. D. Horton, City of Radford; 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; Ms. A. Schumaker, Radford University and Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County.

ABSENT: Ms. S. Anderson, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. J. Coleman, Floyd County; Mr. S. Fijalkowski, Montgomery County; Mr. J. Herbein, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. H. Johnson, Town of Christiansburg; Ms. S. Journell, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. W. Kantsios, Town of Rich Creek and Mr. J. Radcliffe, Town of Pulaski.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Janet McNew, Meghan Pfleiderer, Julie Phillips and Elijah Sharp.

Other Attendees: Hannah Close

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for February

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

Motion: Mr. McCoy moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Collins seconded the motion.
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report for February

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

Motion: Mr. Patton moved for the approval of the Treasurer's Report. Ms. Potter 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. US Army's Proposed Chemical Grind and Caustic Cleaning Replacement Project at RAAP
 2. Application Number 18-0555 City of Radford Municipal Hydroelectric Project Notification

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Horton reported the City of Radford is currently going through a rebranding process called Refresh Radford. Also, there will be a Native American Heritage Festival on April 13th, an Earth Day Festival on April 20th and the 2nd annual Food Truck Rodeo on April 27th. All events will be held at Bisset Park.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Harvey reported the office space committee was appointed following the last Commission meeting and is comprised of Mike Maslaney, Leon Law, Catherine Potter, Hil Johnson, Mike Patton, Helen Harvey and Jamie Radcliffe. The committee held its first meeting on March 22nd. The charge of the committee is to gain further understanding of the current office space utilization; familiarization of the Commission's presence at the NRV Business Center; identify criteria when examining external office space; review/visit external options; and deliver a recommendation to the Board for its consideration.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported a handout was distributed with a response from DEQ after the Commission's comments were submitted on the VPDES Federal Mogul Powertrain permit application review. The towns of Rich Creek and Pearisburg held their contract negotiation meetings with the Dept. of Housing and Community Development on 3/25. Montgomery County issued a RFP for a Broadband Infrastructure Assessment to include the City of Radford.

The Governor introduced an amendment to the I-81 study legislation that would shift the bill language to a funding proposal for I-81 improvements. The Trucking Association announced its support for the proposal.

Nicole Hersch was hired to fill the regional planner position. She will start in mid-May. The National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) held its annual policy conference in Washington, DC in late March. In conjunction with the conference, the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions hosted a congressional briefing with Hill staff on 3/19. The Commission's Annual

Dinner event will be held May 22nd at Virginia Tech's Lane Stadium in the South End Zone. Lastly, Mr. Byrd shared he was recently invited by NADO to testify before a House Committee on the reauthorization of the US Economic Development Administration. The hearing will take place on April 9th.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Access to Community College Education (ACCE) Program Update

Ms. Covey gave an update on the ACCE program. She explained how the program works with articulation agreements in place for both Radford University and Virginia Tech when a participant chooses to pursue a four-year degree. The ACCE program started in Giles County four years ago, two years ago in Floyd County and the City of Radford and Montgomery County is one year into the program. A key component of the program includes a community service requirement for students receiving scholarships. To date, over 11,000 hours of community service have been performed by ACCE students in the region. Hannah Close, a participant in the ACCE program from Christiansburg, shared her story on how the ACCE program has impacted her life.

B. Resolution of Support for the Valley to Valley Trail Funding Request to VDOT

Mr. Byrd explained the background for the resolution included in the packet.

Motion: Mr. Horton moved for the approval of the resolution. Dr. Warren seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. 2019 Regional Commission Awards

Mr. Byrd explained the voting process and nominee information was included in the packet. The Commission then voted for the award recipients. Mr. Byrd will be contacting the award recipients to invite them to attend the annual dinner event so they may be recognized for their contributions to the region.

M. Harvey, Chair
New River Valley Regional Commission