

**NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of the Commission Meeting**  
**held on**  
**June 27, 2019**  
**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. H. Collins, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. J. Coleman, Floyd County; Ms. A. Covey, New River Community College; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Mr. J. Herbein, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. H. Johnson, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. C. Kiwus, Virginia Tech; Mr. R. Lawson, Town of Pembroke; Ms. C. Potter, Virginia Tech; Mr. J. Radcliffe, Town of Pulaski; Ms. A. Schumaker, Radford University and Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County.

**ABSENT:** Mr. T. Clontz, Town of Pulaski; Mr. S. Fijalkowski, Montgomery County; Mr. D. Horton, City of Radford; 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, Patrick O'Brien and Julie Phillips.

Other Attendees: Patrick Giallorenzo, Senator Edwards' Office

**II. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Approval of Minutes for May**

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

Motion: Ms. Anderson moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Approval of Treasurer's Report for May**

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. Radcliffe 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. U.S. Army's Proposed Solvent Propellant Pack-Out Facility at the Radford Army Ammunition Plant in Radford, Virginia
  2. Joint Permit Application No. 18-0609 - Pulaski County Service Authority Water Withdrawals

**IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS**

None

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

Mr. Ratcliffe reported Calfee Park has undergone many upgrades and they hope to move into Single-A baseball by 2020. The Town of Pulaski has several new businesses and restaurants as well as new loft style apartments. Mr. Law reported the Newport Fair will be held August 9-10. Mr. Collins reported the Town of Christiansburg will have vendors setup on Main Street and fireworks in the mall area on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bopp reported the Town of Pulaski will have a parade on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

**VI. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Mr. Harvey received a thank you note from Ray Smoot for receiving the 2019 Citizen of the Valley. The Executive Committee met with Mr. Byrd and conducted his annual performance evaluation.

**VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) announced their grant awards for 2019. Several key projects were awarded in the region, many were developed by the Commission in partnership with the grant recipient.

The Montgomery County/Radford Broadband Assessment survey has over 1,500 responses to date which is a great sample size for evaluation purposes. Negotiations will begin soon with the top firm.

The I-81 Corridor Committee is being populated currently. Mike Harvey, the Commission Chair, will represent the NRV Regional Commission. The gas tax will begin July 1.

VDOT Salem District Engineer, Ken King, called a meeting to discuss the Valley to Valley Trail Initiative with MPO leadership and Regional Commission Executive Directors for both regions. The purpose of the meeting was to provide VDOT administrators with more information on the request for planning funds. The Salem District office will pursue securing funds for the study phase of the initiative.

Given the growth of Virginia Tech and the success of the Virginia Tech-Carilion Research initiatives, a bi-regional meeting of all elected officials in the New River Valley and Roanoke Valley is in the early

planning stages. The meeting will provide an overview of higher-education and medical research growth.

In late May, the Regional Commission decided to terminate a sub-contract with Beans & Rice on the Prices Fork Shared Use Kitchen project. The Commission was the grant recipient for a \$500,000 ARC investment and had a contract with the organization to launch the kitchen and operate it for three years. A path forward is established and moving along to the satisfaction of project funders.

The Summer VAPDC conference will take place in Williamsburg on July 24-26. The Commission has funds budgeted for a Commissioner to attend.

## **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Project Package and Report  
Mr. O'Brien gave an overview of the 2019 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). He explained the goals, objectives, strategies, and the project ranking criteria. He provided details on the top 30 projects ranked by goal areas.

B. Consideration of Commission By-law Amendment  
Mr. Harvey explained the Nominating Committee discussed the absence of the most recent two past Chairpersons due to job transitions that took them away from the region. As a result, the committee membership has been limited to four members on two occasions. To maintain broad input and involvement from the Commission board, the Executive Committee is recommending an amendment to the bylaws to allow for up to two at-large members serving on the committee.

Motion: Ms. Anderson moved to approve the by-law amendment. Ms. Covey seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Consideration of Proposed FY20 Budget  
Mr. Byrd explained the proposed budget was included in the mailout and provided additional details on both the budget and the anticipated revenue.

Motion: Ms. Potter moved to approve the FY20 budget. Ms. Anderson seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

D. Commission Officers for FY20 – Slate Introduced at May Meeting  
Mr. Byrd reported the nominations for the slate of officers for Fiscal Year 2020 are as follows:

Chair: Mike Harvey, Montgomery County

Vice-Chair: Mike Maslaney, Floyd County

Treasurer: Leon Law, Giles County  
At-Large: Steve Fijalkowski, Montgomery County  
At-Large: Catherine Potter, Virginia Tech

Dr. Warren moved to elect the slate of officers as presented. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

- E. July Commission Meeting (Historically it is cancelled due to conflict with VAPDC)  
Motion: Ms. Anderson moved to cancel the July meeting. Mr. Collins seconded the motion.  
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Harvey called to adjourn the meeting at 7:15pm.

---

M. Harvey, Chair  
New River Valley Regional Commission