

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
January 26th, 2017
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. J. Carpenter, Radford University, Chair; Mr. M. Harvey, Vice-Chair, Montgomery County; Mr. L. Law, Giles County, Treasurer; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. H. Collins, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. G. East, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. Gerald, Floyd County; Mr. W. Kantsios, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. C. Kiwus, Virginia Tech; Mr. K. Marshall, City of Radford; Mr. M. Maslaney, Floyd County; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County; Mr. M. Patton, Town of Floyd; Ms. A. Perkins, Montgomery County, Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. K. Sullivan, Virginia Tech and Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County.

ABSENT: Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Mr. H. Johnson, Town of Christiansburg; Ms. S. Journell, Town of Pearisburg; Ms. H. Lesko, Town of Blacksburg and Ms. C. Newcomb, Town of Blacksburg.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, James Jones, Janet McNew, Elijah Sharp, Patrick O'Brien, Jennifer Wilsie and Julie Phillips.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for November

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

Motion: Mr. Sullivan moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Patton seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report for November and December

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

Motion: Mr. Bopp moved for the approval of the Treasurer's Report. Mr. McCoy seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

1. Pearisburg Sewer System Improvements Project
2. Reissuance of VPDES Permit No. VA0052850 NRV Regional Water Authority WTP
3. NRV Community Services Vehicle Purchase
4. NRV Senior Services Vehicle Purchase

B. Regular Project Review

None

C. Environmental Project Review

1. FY2017-319H Non Point Source Implementation Grant

The consensus of board was to include a comment stating that funding is desired for the Watershed Roundtables in the Southern Rivers areas (non-Chesapeake Bay).

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Carpenter explained Radford University released an Economic Impact report recently which was prepared by the New River Valley Regional Commission along with the Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Commission. Mr. Bopp noted the building previously owned by the Fine Arts Center of the New River Valley in Pulaski was purchased by David Hagan and will be renovated/rebuilt. Mr. Showalter shared the Town of Christiansburg is currently discussing establishing an arts incubator to be located downtown. Mr. McCoy reported Giles County received a POWER implementation grant and as a part of the project is working with the Commission on a River Center.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter reported a GO Virginia meeting was held in December by the state board representatives, Nancy Agee and Haywood Fralin, in Roanoke. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the program to leaders across the three PDC regions. At the meeting, it was announced that Ray Smoot will serve as Chair of the Regional Council. Based on discussion at the November Commission meeting, Mr. Carpenter shared the Commission will be issuing a RFP to perform a compensation study for employees of the Commission. Mr. Harvey reported the December Mayor and Chairs meeting was well attended and noted the group discussed issues the rescue squads are facing across the region. Mr. Harvey also reported on the New River Watershed Roundtable meeting held on December 2nd and shared many project ideas generated during the meeting. Mr. Sullivan added there were discussions about expanding the New River Water Trail beyond Giles County into other communities in the region. Mr. Harvey noted the next New River Watershed Roundtable meeting will be February 22, at the NRV Business Center.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. Mr. Byrd reported the broadband survey in Montgomery County, Blacksburg and Christiansburg has received nearly 2,000 responses and presentations to local governments and the Chamber will take place in February. Following those presentations the Commission will work with the communities and the Chamber to hold a meeting with the internet service providers to share the data from the survey. Mr. Byrd explained HB-2108 Broadband Deployment Act was introduced in the General Assembly and noted the bill limits local government role in internet service delivery. He reported Community Development Block Grant applications are due in March and the Commission is working with Pembroke, Narrows and the Town of Pulaski on substantial downtown improvement grant applications. Mr. Byrd reported the Smart Beginnings NRV Coordinator position should be

filled by March 1st. Lastly, he reported the GO Virginia Statewide board met in December to overview the GO Virginia program with leaders in private sector, higher education, economic development and public sector. Also, Virginia Tech Office of Economic Development will be assisting the Regional Council with populating the rest of the council and distributed an email soliciting names for consideration. The Commission discussed how best to follow up on the call for names and decided to circulate the nomination form to our members and advised Commissioners to contact Kevin Byrd by February 2nd if they would like to be nominated.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. New River Valley Economic Development Alliance Targeted Industries Study

Mr. Jewell gave an overview of the NRV Economic Development Alliance. Mr. Jewell explained the Alliance is a regional economic development organization. They are a non-profit public-private partnership with 26 board members from both the public and private sectors. The Alliance covers the same footprint as the Commission serving Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, and Pulaski Counties and the City of Radford. Mr. Jewell gave examples of some of the companies who have invested in the NRV and shared some of the ways the NRV is marketed to attract businesses. He explained the targeted industries study was used to identify the top three to five industries that should be focused on for the NRV. In broad categories, the industries identified are food processing and agriculture, advanced manufacturing, and unmanned systems.

B. Prices Fork School Reuse – Deed Restriction for Community Kitchen

Ms. Wilsie explained the Commission is the Appalachian Regional Commission grant recipient for the project and therefore is responsible for the deed restriction. She noted this is a standard document, but generally it is a two-party agreement between the owner and ARC. The proposed document is a three-party agreement between the owner, the Commission, and ARC. She explained the Executive Committee has reviewed the document and worked to draft terms that hold the owner ultimately responsible for the financial liability.

Motion: Mr. Patton moved to authorize the Commission to execute the agreement with the terms listed. Mr. McCoy seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Regional Commission Awards – Review Criteria and Process

Mr. Byrd explained the award criteria and previous award recipients were included in the packet and called for any questions or comments.

Mr. Sullivan suggested the award, Champion of the Valley, be rephrased to elected or appointed officials. The consensus of the board was to include appointed officials in the award criteria.

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

L. Joe Carpenter, Chair
New River Valley Regional Commission

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
February 23rd, 2017
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. J. Carpenter, Radford University, Chair; Mr. M. Harvey, Vice-Chair, Montgomery County; Mr. L. Law, Giles County, Treasurer; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. H. Collins, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. Gerald, Floyd 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; Ms. H. Lesko, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. K. Marshall, City of Radford; Mr. M. Maslaney, Floyd County; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County; Mr. M. Patton, Town of Floyd; Ms. A. Perkins, Montgomery County, Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. K. Sullivan, Virginia Tech and Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County.

ABSENT: Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. G. East, Town of Pulaski; Ms. S. Journell, Town of Pearisburg and Ms. C. Newcomb, Town of Blacksburg.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Janet McNew, Christy Straight and Julie Phillips.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for January

Mr. Carpenter 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. Gerald seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report for January

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

Motion: Mr. Bopp moved for the approval of the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Kantsios seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

1. James Hardie Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project
2. Giles Health & Family Center Vehicle Purchase
3. [17-17] Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST)

B. Regular Project Review

None

C. Environmental Project Review

1. Municipal Hydroelectric Project (P-1235)
(No comments from the Regional Commission)

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Collins announced Christiansburg High School won the state wrestling championship for the 16th year in a row. Mr. Law reported Pembroke Telephone will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Ms. Lesko added Habitat for Humanity NRV will be celebrating their 30th anniversary this year and will be hosting a luncheon March 16th at the Inn at Virginia Tech. Mr. Carpenter distributed copies of the Radford University economic impact report published in December. He also announced enrollment applications are up 78% and transfer applications are up 28%. Mr. Harvey reported on the New River Watershed Roundtable meeting and discussed the desire to expand the New River Water Trail, as well as several spring clean-up events scheduled across the region in March and April.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter reminded everyone nominations for the annual awards are due March 14th.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. Mr. Byrd reported the Go Virginia Regional Council for our region, chaired by Ray Smoot, is in the process of populating the council. The state board will review and certify the first phase of Regional Councils during their meeting in March. Staff is wrapping up the Building Collaborative Communities project focused on Regional Tourism Models of Collaboration and explained a presentation will be made to the NRV Local Government Managers on 3/31 where next steps will be discussed. The Virginia Outdoor Lover's Expo is scheduled for April 22nd 10:00am-4:00pm at Bisset Park in Radford and 80 vendors are confirmed. The annual NRV Livability Information Exchange is scheduled for 3/2 at 2:30 in Christiansburg at the Event Center and registration is nearly full with 150 attendees. A part-time planner, Aphi Fancon, started with the Commission to support land use planning related projects. Interviews for the Smart Beginnings Coordinator position took place last week with a desire to have a candidate start by March 16th. Lastly, Mr. Byrd provided a presentation detailing survey results from a broadband survey conducted in Montgomery County, Blacksburg and Christiansburg from late October through December, 2016. Partners included the local governments, Virginia Tech, the Blacksburg Partnership and the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Firewise Communities Overview

Ms. Lesko gave a presentation to overview the work of the New River-Highlands Resource Conservation and Development Council (NRHRC&D) as well as one of their key programs, Firewise. Ms. Lesko explained NRHRC&D is offering Firewise education program for groups, citizens and community leaders. She noted the program is available for property owners in the New River Valley and other counties in Southwest Virginia containing US National Forest owned land.

B. Setting Community Development Block Grant Priorities for 2017

Mr. Byrd explained the list of the 2017 priorities based on projects identified by communities across the region was included in the packet. He called for any comments, questions, or additional projects.

Motion: Mr. Patton moved to approve the Community Block Grant priorities for 2017. Mr. McCoy seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Carpenter called to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Mike Harvey, Vice-Chair
New River Valley Regional Commission

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
March 23rd, 2017
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. M. Harvey, Vice-Chair, Montgomery County; Mr. L. Law, Giles County, Treasurer; Mr. H. Collins, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. Gerald, Floyd County; Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Mr. H. Johnson, Town of Christiansburg; Ms. S. Journell, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. W. Kantsios, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. C. Kiwus, Virginia Tech; Mr. K. Marshall, City of Radford; Mr. M. Maslaney, Floyd County; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County; Mr. M. Patton, Town of Floyd; Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg and Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County.

ABSENT: Mr. J. Carpenter, Radford University, Chair; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. G. East, Town of Pulaski; Ms. H. Lesko, Town of Blacksburg and Ms. C. Newcomb, Town of Blacksburg; Ms. A. Perkins, Montgomery County and Mr. K. Sullivan, Virginia Tech.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Janet McNew, Elijah Sharp, Michael Gottfredson and Julie Phillips.

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. 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)

None

B. Regular Project Review

None

C. Environmental Project Review

1. RFAAP Proposed Construction of an Energetic Waste Incinerator & Containment Waste Processor
No comments from the Commission.

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Dr. Harvey reported there was an editorial in the Roanoke Times discussing the federal budget that she suggests everyone read. Mr. Marshall noted the Virginia Outdoor Lovers expo will be held April 22 at Bisset park and encouraged everyone to come out.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Harvey reported the New River Roundtable met and discussed the expansion of both Renew the New and the New River water trail. He also noted the annual dinner is scheduled for May 17th at Doe Creek.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. Mr. Byrd reported the Go Virginia Regional Council was populated and certified by the state board. He explained staff will be submitting three Community Development Block Grants by the end of March for the Towns of Pulaski, Pembroke and Narrows. Mr. Byrd reported the NRV Passenger Rail regional stakeholder group met and received updates from leaders in Roanoke regarding implementation progress along with updates from Christiansburg on their potential site for a station location. Mr. Byrd explained staff will present the Regional Tourism Models of Collaboration to the NRV Local Government Managers on 3/31 where next steps will be discussed. He noted the NRV Livability Information Exchange was held at the Event Center and was at full capacity with 150 people in attendance. Mr. Byrd reported the Commission has two new employees, Aphi Fancon was hired as a regional planner and Anna Harbom was hired as the Smart Beginnings Coordinator. Lastly he reported President Trump's budget was released on March 16th and includes substantial cuts and elimination of programs important to the region and the Commission, he explained he will continue to report to the Commission and noted the final budget will be available in May.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Virginia Tech Transportation Institute Overview/I-81 Corridor Coalition

Mr. Alden provided an overview of the I-81 Corridor Coalition and its mission to improve system reliability and create the "Corridor of the Future" as well as current research and expansion activities at the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute.

B. Rural Transportation Work Program for FY18

Mr. Sharp explained the Virginia Department of Transportation allocates funding each year to the Regional Commission to deliver transportation planning assistance for non-urbanized areas outside the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) boundaries. Mr. Sharp gave a brief presentation covering the proposed work program.

Motion: Mr. Patton moved to approve the Rural Transportation Work Program for FY18. Mr. McCoy seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Commission Awards Program for 2017 Annual Dinner

Mr. Byrd explained the nominee information was included in the packet. The Commission then voted for the award recipients. The Commission voted to award Chris McKlarney as Champion of the Valley, Woody Crenshaw as Citizen of the Valley, and Bill Shelton, DHCD as Friend of the Valley. Mr. Byrd will be contacting the award recipients for recognition at the annual dinner event.

Mr. Harvey called to adjourn the meeting.

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

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
April 27th, 2017
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. J. **Carpenter**, Radford University, Chair; Mr. M. **Harvey**, Vice-Chair, Montgomery County; Mr. L. **Law**, Giles County, Treasurer; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. H. **Collins**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. **Gerald**, Floyd County; Dr. H. **Harvey**, City of Radford; Ms. S. **Journell**, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. W. **Kantsios**, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. C. **Kiwus**, Virginia Tech; Mr. K. **Marshall**, City of Radford; Mr. M. **Maslaney**, Floyd County; Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County; Mr. M. **Patton**, Town of Floyd; Ms. A. **Perkins**, Montgomery County; Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. K. Sullivan, Virginia Tech and Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County.

ABSENT: Mr. G. **East**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. H. **Johnson**, Town of Christiansburg; Ms. H. **Lesko**, Town of Blacksburg and Ms. C. **Newcomb**, Town of Blacksburg.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Janet McNew, Aphi Fancon, James Jones, Patrick O'Brien, Jennifer Wilsie and Julie Phillips.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for March

Mr. Carpenter 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. Patton seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report for March

Mr. Carpenter 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. Mr. Kantsios seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

None

B. Regular Project Review

1. Prevention of Significant Deterioration issued by DEQ, Volvo Plant
No comments from the Commission.

- C. Environmental Project Review
 - 1. Virginia Tech Chiller Plant Improvements
No comments from the Commission.

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Patton reported Dr. Pat Huber was selected to become the next President of New River Community College. Mr. Maslaney reported the Tour de Floyd will be held May 20th, a cycling event in Floyd celebrating its 10th year. Mr. Showalter thanked everyone for the support they have shown the Town of Christiansburg during the past month. Mr. Law reported Pemtel received a \$1.8 million grant to expand broadband services in the central portion of Giles County. Dr. Warren reported Phoenix Packaging in Dublin announced a 145-job expansion with \$48 million private investment.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter reported Mr. Garrett agreed to serve as the Commissioner representative on the Nominating Committee alongside the Chair and Treasurer per the Commission bylaws. The committee will bring a slate of officers at the May meeting followed by voting on the officers at the June meeting. Mr. Carpenter noted the Executive Committee met the previous week and discussed plans for the annual dinner and began the Executive Director annual performance evaluation process.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. Mr. Byrd reported the Go Virginia Regional Council will hold a meeting at the New River Valley Business Center on June 29th. A study is scheduled to be released this summer regarding I-73 in Virginia championed by Senator Bill Stanley. The route through the NRV includes I-81 and US Route 460. The Virginia Outdoor Lovers Expo was held April 22 at Bisset park with between 1,500-2,000 people in attendance. The Local Government Planning Commissioner Training was held April 20th with 40 people in attendance. The Commission contracted with a firm to prepare a wage analysis for employees. Results are scheduled to be back in time for building the FY18 agency budget. The Commission helped facilitate a broadband meeting in Montgomery County to share the survey results. There were 13 internet service providers in attendance. The most recent local government managers meeting included discussions about implementing drug court/day report programs throughout the NRV. Mr. Byrd will continue to research this topic and has a meeting set up with James Pritchett, the new Executive Director at New River Valley Community Services, who administers some of these programs with local government partners. Mr. Byrd noted he will be traveling to DC next week as Treasurer of the National Association of Development Organizations executive committee for a series of Hill visits and gave an overview of his meeting schedule. Lastly, he introduced Aphi Fancon, a regional planner who started with the Commission in February. She is currently working on the Town of Pulaski Zoning Ordinance and the Giles County Comprehensive Plan.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. The NRV Regional Commission Role in Convening the Region
Ms. Wilsie gave a presentation overviewing the role of the Commission as a regional convener and facilitator. Ms. Wilsie gave several examples of ongoing meetings or groups that the Commission facilitates and a more detailed look at the collaboration involved with the Prices Fork School Reuse Project.

- B. Regional Tourism Models of Collaboration
Mr. Jones gave a presentation overviewing the strengths and target markets identified by each of the five local government destination marketing organization's (DMOs) tourism offices. Mr. Byrd overviewed the budgets for all five DMOs, their revenue sources and capacity to collaborate. The presentation concluded with details on four models of collaboration the region could pursue which included the pros, cons and costs for each model of collaboration. The models included informal collaboration (current model supported by Commission resources), cost-shared staff position, regional DMO, and a Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Following the presentation, the Commissioners discussed which models made the most sense to pursue given where the communities are with their tourism programs. There was consensus to support revisiting the cost-shared staff position earlier in the local government budget cycle for FY19 so those who want to participate can plan for the expense. Until then, the Commission will continue to support the DMOs in the informal collaboration model whereas the Commission offers staff time to coordinate projects and meetings.

- C. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update
Due to time limitations, this presentation was held for a later meeting.
- D. Update on Commission Annual Dinner for 2017
Mr. Byrd reported the reservations are coming in for the annual dinner and mobile workshop events. He then gave a rundown of the plans for the event.

Mr. Carpenter called to adjourn the meeting.

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

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
May 25th, 2017
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. J. Carpenter, Radford University, Chair; Mr. M. Harvey, Vice-Chair, Montgomery County; Mr. L. Law, Giles County, Treasurer; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. H. Collins, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. G. East, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. Gerald, Floyd County; Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Mr. H. Johnson, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. C. Kiwus, Virginia Tech; Ms. H. Lesko, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. K. Marshall, City of Radford; Mr. M. Maslaney, Floyd County; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County; Ms. C. Newcomb, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. M. Patton, Town of Floyd; Ms. A. Perkins, Montgomery County; Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. K. Sullivan, Virginia Tech and Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County.

ABSENT: Mr. W. Kantsios, Town of Rich Creek and Ms. S. Journell, Town of Pearisburg.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Janet McNew, Michael Gottfredson, Anna Harbom and Julie Phillips.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for April

Mr. Carpenter 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. Bopp seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report for April

Mr. Carpenter 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. Mr. Collins seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

1. Reissuance of VPDES Permit No. VA0024040-Riner WTP
2. VA Tech Burrows-Burleson Tennis Center Renovations
3. AEP 2017 Proposed Claytor Lake Drawdown Plan

B. Regular Project Review

None

C. Environmental Project Review

1. Reissuance of Permit No. VA0054780 Radford WTP
No comments from the Commission.

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Carpenter reported Radford University had 1,800 graduates this spring and Coach Frank Beamer gave the commencement address. Both Frank Beamer and George Harvey were conveyed honorary degrees from the university during the ceremony. Mr. Collins reported Pulaski had many areas flood this week including stormwater damage at the Pulaski Yankees baseball stadium.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter reported the executive committee met via conference call before the annual dinner and discussed final preparatory items for the event as well as setting the agenda for the May meeting.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. Mr. Byrd reported the Go Virginia Regional Council will hold a meeting at the New River Valley Business Center on June 29th and explained anyone interested in participating in the working groups can sign up online until 5/29. Mr. Byrd explained the Federal FY 17 budget included additional POWER funds for both ARC and the U.S. Economic Development Administration. Staff will be reaching out to Giles and Pulaski Counties to discuss project opportunities since they are the only two eligible coal-impacted counties in the region. Smart Beginnings NRV submitted an Innovation grant application to the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation in partnership with the school superintendents to prepare information regarding kindergarten readiness in the region. Mr. Byrd introduced Anna Harbom, the recently hired Smart Beginnings NRV Coordinator, to the Board. Ms. Harbom provided an overview of her staffing activities during the past two months in the position. The NRV Hazard Mitigation Plan update is wrapping up and counties are currently hosting open houses to receive public input on the strategies identified by the working groups. Lastly, Mr. Byrd discussed possible FY18 budget impacts to the Commission and the region if the President's budget is passed as proposed.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update

Mr. Byrd gave an overview of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and progress made on the annual update. He also provided an update on the top ten projects identified in 2016. Eight of the ten projects are advancing whether through implementation or study efforts. Next fiscal year the CEDS will be moving to an online format.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Overview of Drug Courts and Day Reporting in the NRV
Mr. James Pritchett, Executive Director of New River Valley Community Services, began with a background on the agency and services they deliver in the community. He then introduced Ms. Lori Trail, Drug Court Coordinator, who gave a presentation overviewing the Drug Court program. Ms. Trail explained the purpose, mission, roles, and eligibility requirements for the program. She also detailed five phases of the program. Lastly, Ms. Trail shared the estimated cost savings Drug Court programs can provide a local government when comparing the cost of incarceration against a tax-paying citizen.
- B. Recap/Debrief Commission Annual Dinner for 2017
Mr. Byrd reported the 2017 annual dinner was held at Doe Creek Fam on May 22nd. There were 110 attendees and 1/3 of the attendees participated in one of the three mobile workshops offered during the day. Numerous positive comments were shared regarding the venue and the attendees' experiences in Giles County.
- C. Commission Officers for FY2018 – Slate to be Introduced
Mr. Garrett delivered the Nominating Committee report for the officers for Fiscal Year 2017-18, specifically: Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Member at-Large. The nominations are for terms beginning July 1, 2017, for a one-year duration, and voted upon during the Commission's regularly scheduled June meeting.
The nominations are:
Chair: Joe Carpenter, Radford University
Vice-Chair: Mike Harvey, Montgomery County
Treasurer: Leon Law, Giles County
At-Large: Michael Maslaney, Floyd County

On behalf of the Committee, Mr. Garrett called for any nominations from the floor for the officer positions.

Hearing none, he called for a motion to close the floor to nominations.

Motion: Ms. Lesko moved to close nominations. Mr. Collins seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Mr. Garrett moved to nominate the following as the slate of officers for Fiscal Year 2017-18:

Chair: Joe Carpenter, Radford University

Vice Chair: Mike Harvey, Montgomery County

Treasurer: Leon Law, Giles County

At-Large: Michael Maslaney, Floyd County

Mr. Collins seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried, four abstentions, Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Harvey, Mr. Law, and Mr. Maslaney.

Mr. Carpenter called to adjourn the meeting.

L. J. Carpenter, Chair

New River Valley Regional Commission

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
June 22nd, 2017
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. J. **Carpenter**, Radford University, Chair; Mr. M. **Harvey**, Vice-Chair, Montgomery County; Mr. L. **Law**, Giles County, Treasurer; Mr. C. **Bopp**, Pulaski County; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. **Gerald**, Floyd County; Dr. H. **Harvey**, City of Radford; Ms. S. **Journell**, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. W. **Kantsios**, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. C. **Kiwus**, Virginia Tech; Mr. M. **Maslaney**, Floyd County; Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County; Ms. C. **Newcomb**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. M. **Patton**, Town of Floyd; Ms. A. **Perkins**, Montgomery County and Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County.

ABSENT: Mr. H. **Collins**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. G. **East**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. H. **Johnson**, Town of Christiansburg; Ms. H. **Lesko**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. K. **Marshall**, City of Radford; Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg and Mr. K. **Sullivan**, Virginia Tech.

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

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. Patton moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Bopp seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report for May

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

Motion: Mr. Bopp moved for the approval of the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Kantsios seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

1. Virginia Tech Rural Road Expansion Project
2. Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Park – Blacksburg, VA
3. VA Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services Pesticide Performance Partnership Grant Application FY18-21
4. FY 2017 EPA Community-Wide Brownfields Assessment Grant Proposal

B. Regular Project Review

- C. Environmental Project Review
None

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

None

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter reported the executive committee met and discussed the FY18 budget. Mr. Carpenter and Mr. Byrd presented certificates of appreciation to Jennifer Wilsie for ten years of service and Julie Phillips for five years of service.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. Mr. Byrd reported the NRV members of the Go Virginia Regional Council will be meeting 6/23/2017 and the entire Regional Council will meet 6/30/2017 at the NRV Business Center. New River Community College will be receiving funds from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) to support the Access to Community College Education (ACCE) program for graduates from Radford City Schools. Grant applications for FY18 ARC funds are due in September. The Regional Commission is providing technical support to the NRV Metropolitan Planning Organization to update and review the Traffic Analysis Zones for projections to 2045. The NRV Hazard Mitigation final plan is being developed and will be submitted to the VA Dept. of Emergency Management in July. The NRV Economic Development Alliance introduced a lifestyle brand for the New River Valley in June and an organizational brand for the Alliance is forthcoming. Lastly, he explained the audit engagement letter from Robinson, Farmer, Cox was distributed for the Board to review.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. VDOT – Arterial Preservation Program and Construction Projects Update
Mr. Michael Gray, Salem District Planning Manager, explained the Arterial Preservation Program is intended to preserve the functionality of long-distance highways such as U.S. Route 11, serving as community and statewide connections for commerce. He overviewed the goals of the Arterial Preservation program. He then discussed some of the alternative intersections used throughout the country that help preserve the functionality of the arterial system. Lastly, Mr. Gray shared the next steps associated with the program including working with the development community in the Fall timeframe.

- B. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Project Package and Report
Mr. Byrd explained the project package and report were included in the mailout and called for any questions. Mr. Harvey expressed his appreciation how Mr. O'Brien updated the employment data so university employees would be classified as educational services rather than government. He also noted that educational services is the largest industry in the region. Dr. Warren noted on P. 9 there is a typo, there are two State Parks in the region. He also asked if there is still a foreign trade zone at the NRV airport. Mr. Byrd explained there is still a foreign trade zone; however, there is not a local staff person, so a customs staff member must travel from another area to assist.

Motion: Mr. McCoy moved for the approval the CEDS report with the noted changes. Dr. Warren seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Consideration of the Proposed FY18 Budget
Mr. Byrd explained the proposed budget was included in the mailout and provided an overview of the budget with highlights supported in the memo. Following the overview presentation, Mr. Byrd called for any questions.

Motion: Ms. Newcomb moved for the approval the FY18 budget. Mr. McCoy seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

- D. Commission Officers for FY2018 – Slate Introduced at May Meeting
Mr. Carpenter explained the nominations introduced at the May meeting are:

Chair: Joe Carpenter, Radford University
Vice-Chair: Michael Harvey, Montgomery County
Treasurer: Leon Law, Giles County
At-Large: Michael Maslaney, Floyd County

Motion: Mr. Patton moved to approve the slate of officers as presented. Mr. Kantsios seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried, four abstentions, Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Harvey, Mr. Law, and Mr. Maslaney.

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

Motion: Mr. McCoy moved to cancel the July 2017 meeting. Mr. Patton seconded the motion. Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Carpenter called to adjourn the meeting.

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

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
August 24th, 2017
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. J. **Carpenter**, Radford University, Chair; Mr. M. **Harvey**, Vice-Chair, Montgomery County; Mr. C. **Bopp**, Pulaski County; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. H. **Collins**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. G. **East**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. **Gerald**, Floyd County; Dr. H. **Harvey**, City of Radford; Mr. H. **Johnson**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. C. **Kiwus**, Virginia Tech; Mr. M. **Maslaney**, Floyd County; Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County; Mr. K. **Marshall**, City of Radford; Mr. M. **Patton**, Town of Floyd; Ms. A. **Perkins**, Montgomery County; Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg and Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County.

ABSENT: Mr. L. **Law**, Giles County, Treasurer; Ms. S. **Journell**, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. W. **Kantsios**, Town of Rich Creek; Ms. H. **Lesko**, Town of Blacksburg; Ms. C. **Newcomb**, Town of Blacksburg and Mr. K. **Sullivan**, Virginia Tech.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Janet McNew, Christy Straight, Elijah Sharp and Julie Phillips.

Mr. Carpenter called for the agenda to be amended to allow item IX. A to be moved after item II.

Motion: Mr. McCoy moved to amend the agenda as stated. Mr. Harvey seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for June

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

Motion: Mr. Patton moved for the approval of the minutes. Dr. Harvey seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

Motion: Mr. Bopp moved for the approval of the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

None

- B. Regular Project Review
 - 1. Capitalization Grants for Clean Water & State Revolving Loan Fund
 - 2. Assistance Proposal for Superfund CORE
- C. Environmental Project Review
 - None

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Carpenter read the resolution adopted by the Commission in April, 2015 recognizing Mr. W. Scott Weaver as Treasurer Emeritus of the Commission as a memorial to Mr. Weaver given his recent passing.

WHEREAS, the New River Valley Regional Commission was established by the local governments within the region on September 15, 1969, and

WHEREAS, Mr. W. Scott Weaver has dutifully served the Commission since the charter was established nearly 46 years ago, and

WHEREAS, Mr. W. Scott Weaver was first appointed to the Commission as a member of the Town Council representing the Town of Christiansburg, and has subsequently served terms as a citizen representative since completing his service to the town as an elected official, and

WHEREAS, Mr. W. Scott Weaver has served 44 years as Treasurer of the Commission and two years as Chair of the Commission from 1988-1990, and

WHEREAS, the Commission has benefited greatly from his career in finance serving both Virginia Tech and Radford University, and

WHEREAS, the Commission financial position has remained strong throughout his four decades of service as Treasurer, and

WHEREAS, the Commission will remain forever grateful for the countless hours Mr. W. Scott Weaver has volunteered and represented the citizens of Christiansburg, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Commission hereby recognizes Mr. W. Scott Weaver as Treasurer Emeritus, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Mr. W. Scott Weaver's famous Treasurer Report phrase, "We are still solvent", hereby be documented, remembered and celebrated.

The resolution was adopted April 23, 2015

Mr. Carpenter also reported the students have returned to both Radford University and Virginia Tech. There is an 8% increase in the freshman class at Radford University. Lastly, he noted Governor McAuliffe will be on campus at Radford University on September 8th to announce a new Competency Based Education Program.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter reported the Executive Committee met the previous week and following the meeting he and Mr. Law visited with the auditors while they were on site. He also shared the regional Mayor's and Chair's meeting is scheduled for August 25. Mr. Clevinger reported on attending the VAPDC Summer conference. He provided an overview of the presentations including the Port of Virginia and the future of autonomous vehicles.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. Mr. Byrd reported the GO Virginia Region 2 Regional Council will be releasing a draft of the Economic Growth and Diversification Plan. The Southwest Virginia Cultural Heritage Foundation selected their new Executive Director, Chris Cannon. Appalachian Regional Commission grants for 2017 will be due October 18th. Smart Beginnings NRV is kicking off the Reading Hour program and volunteer recruitment is underway. The ReNew the New clean-up will take place August 26th with clean up locations in each county and the City of Radford. This month Senator Warner and other leaders in Virginia announced the Southwest Virginia Mountain Brew Trail. Planning is taking place for the 2017 staff retreat. The preliminary ARC budget appears to have a slight increase from last fiscal year and the EDA budget is not complete, although the Senate version held core programs and planning at level funding. The Radford Army Ammunition Plant will be doing air quality testing with funds from DEQ. Lastly, he noted there will be a passenger rail legislative reception at Radford University on September 20th.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. National Weather Service (NWS/NOAA) – Blacksburg Station

This portion of the agenda was moved after item II as noted earlier.

Mr. Peter Corrigan, Senior Service Hydrologist with the National Weather Service (NWS), presented on the NWS and the activities of its Blacksburg forecast office. Mr. Corrigan gave an overview presentation of the NWS operations, including some of the community based services provided, the roles of the weather forecast offices and the roles of the National Centers including River Centers, and the National Water Center. Mr. Corrigan also explained the Weather Ready Nation Initiative and explained the NWS is looking for Weather Ready Nation Ambassadors. Details can be found on the NWS website www.weather.gov

B. NRV Hazard Mitigation Plan

Ms. Straight presented on the NRV Hazard Mitigation Plan. She explained FEMA requires every locality to maintain a hazard mitigation plan and update it every five years. Local governments in the region choose to meet FEMA's requirements through regional collaboration and submits one plan. The Commission began the update in September 2016. The Commission staff applied for grant funding and facilitated the stakeholder and community contributions to the plan.

The Commission invited representatives from participating localities as well as regional, state, and federal agencies who have expertise in hazard mitigation to join the steering committee to oversee the plan development process. Working groups met during the plan development process to more fully evaluate the data and prepare the plan details. A series of five open houses were held throughout the New River Valley to encourage citizen involvement in the plan. The plan is currently in review by VDEM and FEMA, with final adoption by localities anticipated in the last half of 2017.

C. FY18 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. He noted corrections to the work program were sent to staff after the packet was distributed. An updated version will be distributed electronically with the draft minutes from this meeting.

Mr. Sharp provided an overview of the FY18 work program. He highlighted three program areas that are either expanding or relatively new for the Commission, Finance Services, Smart Beginnings NRV, and Visualizing Data.

Mr. Carpenter called for approval of the FY18 Work Program with the noted corrections.

Motion: Mr. Patton moved for the approval the FY18 work program. Mr. Harvey seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Carpenter called to adjourn the meeting.

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

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
September 28th, 2017
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. J. **Carpenter**, Radford University, Chair; Mr. M. **Harvey**, Vice-Chair, Montgomery County; Mr. L. **Law**, Giles County, Treasurer; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. H. **Collins**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. G. **East**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. **Gerald**, Floyd 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; Ms. H. **Lesko**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County; Mr. K. **Marshall**, City of Radford; Ms. C. **Newcomb**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. M. **Patton**, Town of Floyd; Ms. A. **Perkins**, Montgomery County; Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. K. **Sullivan**, Virginia Tech and Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County.

ABSENT: Mr. C. **Bopp**, Pulaski County and Ms. S. **Journell**, Town of Pearisburg.

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

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for August

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

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

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report for August

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

Motion: Mr. East moved for the approval of the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Kantsios seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

1. Reissuance of VPDES Permit No. VA0025992 Floyd-Floyd County PSA WWTP

C. Regular Project Review

None

D. Environmental Project Review

1. FY2018 Water Quality Management Planning Program

2. Reissuance of VPDES Permit No. VA0075361 Mountain Lake Biological Research Station WWTP
3. Municipal Hydroelectric Project – City of Radford
4. Construction of three new buildings at Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Ms. Newcomb reported the Town of Blacksburg received a development plan to rezone the old middle school property. She also noted the Town's public assembly permit process is being reviewed by the Police Chief and County Sheriff. Dr. Harvey shared an ABC book created by Giles County with the intention of increasing early childhood literacy along with awareness of assets in their community. She explained the Smart Beginnings NRV program is applying for ARC funding to create ABC books for the remaining counties and the city. The Giles County ABC books can be purchased on Amazon. Mr. Patton reported Floyd will be hosting a craft fair September 30-October 1, and it is the 50th year the fair has been held in Floyd. Mr. Carpenter reported the Radford University freshman class enrollment is up 100 students, out of state student enrollment is up 22%, and the freshman class has the highest GPA since 1996. On September 9th, the Governor visited Radford University to announce the competency-based education program in cyber security. Radford University's homecoming will take place October 6-7. Mr. Marshall reported the Highlander Festival will be held October 21st. Mr. Kiwus reported Virginia Tech President Sands will hold a State of the University event on Friday September 29. Also, ESPN College Game Day will be on campus Saturday, September 30 for the home football game which will serve as a draw to the area and national media coverage of the community.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter reported the NRV Rail 2020 Legislative Reception was held at Radford University on September 20th with strong participation from local, state and federal elected officials. The NRV Mayor's and Chair's meeting hosted by the Regional Commission was well attended and the topic of convening Public Information Officers from each locality was discussed. Lastly, he congratulated Mr. Byrd on being elected as the Second Vice President of the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO).

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported the GO Virginia Region 2 Regional Council is currently accepting Letters of Interest for projects. Appalachian Regional Commission grants will be due October 18th and Smart Beginnings NRV is submitting a grant for the ABC books mentioned earlier in the meeting. Mr. Byrd congratulated the Town of Pulaski for receiving a Community Development Block Grant implementation award. The Regional Commission staff will continue to work with the towns of Narrows and Pembroke to either resubmit their applications in the next cycle and/or pursue alternative funding programs.

The ARC contract between the Regional Commission and the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development for the Prices Fork School Reuse project was signed in September. The Regional Commission will be hosting Mr. Court Rosen, the Commonwealth Transportation Board member for Rural-at-Large, on October 11th for local governments to meet one-on-one and discuss transportation projects. Smart Beginnings NRV is kicking off the revamped Reading Hour program next week and a coordinator is still needed for Floyd County. This is the first year the program will be offered in Pulaski County. Lastly, NRV Rail 2020 will begin planning for the next steps regarding station ownership, operation, and maintenance.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. New River Community College Membership with the Commission

Mr. Byrd explained in 2014 the Regional Commission Board of Directors invited New River Community College to become a full member of the Commission. At that time, the College declined due to financial considerations; however, the Commission left the option for membership open should the College wish to pursue it in the future. Recently, Dr. Huber expressed a desire to join the Commission and requested information on the process.

With the addition of a non-elected official representing the College, the Commission will fall below the required 51% elected officials on the Board. At least one more elected official will be needed in order to accomplish the 51% representation. Mr. Byrd explained the Commission may choose to re-engage and extend membership to the three eligible local governments that are not current members or exercise an option available in the Commission Charter to add a rotating elected official. This will ensure a 51% majority of elected officials on the Board and will keep the organization in line with the Charter agreement and Virginia State Code.

The Community College's membership will become official once an appointed representative is identified and dues are paid. It is anticipated their membership will become effective in January, 2018.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. ReNew the New River Clean-up Recap

Mr. Gottfredson gave an overview presentation of the regional ReNew the New Clean-up held on August 26th, 2017. This was the second regional clean-up and the event was held at five separate locations across the New River Valley. There was a total of 475 volunteers, 12 tons of trash and tires removed from over 30 miles of waterway, streambank, and road. The steering committee will meet in October to discuss lessons learned and begin planning for next year's event.

B. CEDS Consumer Version

Mr. O'Brien explained the Regional Commission completed the annual update to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), and submitted the full report to the US Economic Development Administration (EDA) in June 2017. The 'consumer version'

of the CEDS provides a user-friendly overview of the content for public distribution. This includes information about the region's economic development goals and top-ranked projects along with select regional demographic and economic data.

C. Regional and Local Housing Study Proposal

Mr. Byrd explained the need for a regional and local housing study in the New River Valley has become apparent to Regional Commission staff following projects with several communities across the region. The topic was discussed at the recent NRV Mayors and Chairs meeting along with the Local Government Managers. It was apparent there was support from both groups to pursue the study. Preliminary conversations have taken place with the Virginia Housing Development Authority and the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development regarding funding for a study. He asked the Commissioners to identify topics they would like explored on a regional and/or local basis. Responses discussed included an evaluation whether housing options align with salaries provided by local employers; housing options for aging populations (ie-patio homes); strategies for housing updates/remodeling for older housing stock; affordability, particularly for first-time home buyers; and the desire to conduct a survey of the homebuyer's experience in the past 12-24 months in the regional marketplace.

D. FY17 Annual Report for the Regional Commission

The FY2017 Annual Reports were distributed to the Commission members. A copy will be mailed to every elected official in the New River Valley in the coming weeks.

Mr. Carpenter called to adjourn the meeting.

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

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
October 26th, 2017
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. J. **Carpenter**, Radford University, Chair; Mr. M. **Harvey**, Vice-Chair, Montgomery County; Mr. C. **Bopp**, Pulaski County; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. H. **Collins**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. **Gerald**, Floyd County; Mr. H. **Johnson**, Town of Christiansburg; Ms. S. **Journell**, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. W. **Kantsios**, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. C. **Kiwus**, Virginia Tech; Mr. M. **Maslaney**, Floyd County; Ms. H. **Lesko**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. K. **Marshall**, City of Radford; Ms. C. **Newcomb**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. M. **Patton**, Town of Floyd; Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. K. **Sullivan**, Virginia Tech and Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County.

ABSENT: Mr. L. **Law**, Giles County, Treasurer; Mr. G. **East**, Town of Pulaski; Dr. H. **Harvey**, City of Radford; Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County and Ms. A. **Perkins**, Montgomery County.

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

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for September

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

Motion: Ms. Lesko moved for the approval of the minutes. Ms. Newcomb seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report for September

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

Motion: Mr. Sullivan 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)

None

B. Regular Project Review

None

C. Environmental Project Review

1. Construction of New Intern Building at the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (no comments from the Commission)

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Sullivan reported he accepted a position with VCU in Richmond and will be finishing his 11-year service to the Commission at the end of December. His replacement on the Commission will be Ms. Carrie Woodring from the Virginia Tech Foundation. He will ask Ms. Woodring to attend the November meeting so she can be introduced. Ms. Newcomb announced she accepted a position as a Planner with Roanoke County and will not be seeking re-election to the Blacksburg Town Council with her term ending this December, so the town will make an appointment in January. Mr. Carpenter announced Radford University received their largest academic grant to date. The grant will serve 5,000 K-12 educators, with the primary goal of increasing the number of highly effective educators in K-12 high-need schools in rural Appalachia, including Virginia, Tennessee and West Virginia by building educators' knowledge and skills in evidence-based practices through CBE learning models.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter thanked Mr. Sullivan and Ms. Newcomb for their service to the Commission.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported the Planning District Commissions, Workforce Development Boards, Community Colleges and several partners in GO Virginia Region 2 submitted a letter of intent for a workforce development program focusing on incumbent worker training as well as marketing of the careers currently available in the region. The Regional Commission is also working with Pulaski County on an application to establish the Pulaski County version of the ACCE program which they are calling Access to Industrial Manufacturing Education (AIME) program. The application would also seek funding to monitor the career paths of those who utilize the ACCE programs in the region for a period of up to 5-years to determine whether students are remaining in the region and filling in-demand occupations. Regional Commission staff submitted Appalachian Regional Commission grants for the towns of Christiansburg, Pembroke and Narrows as well as one for Smart Beginnings NRV. The Regional + Local Housing Study discussed at the Commission meeting last month is moving forward with an application submittal planned for late October/early November. The annual staff retreat was held on October 6th with outcomes focused on goal development for staff as it related to project/program development for members of the Commission. The regional destination marketing organizations (DMO) meeting was held in Pulaski with a guest from Bike Virginia who explained the group will be coming through the region June 22-27 with camp locations in Bisset Park and Claytor Lake.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Small Business Development Center (SBDC) services in the region
Ms. Jody Keenan, Managing Director of the Mason Enterprise Center at George Mason University and State Director of the Virginia Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) Network, presented to the Commission regarding the SBDC program in the New River Valley. She explained the SBDC network is a partnership between the US Small Business Administration, George Mason University and 14 other organizations, including institutions of higher education, chambers of commerce, and economic development organizations across Virginia. Ms. Keenan discussed the transition of the New River Valley SBDC services from Radford University to the SBDC program hosted at the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce. She explained there is a business advisor on-call weekly to serve the NRV as well as workshops held throughout the area. Mr. Bart Smith, Director of the Roanoke Regional SBDC, detailed two success stories from NRV clients within the last year.

B. FY19 Per Capita Assessment Rate (Commission Dues)
Mr. Byrd explained the current assessment rate is \$1.29 per capita based on 2015 Census figures. Last October, the Commission decided to use the 2015 population estimates from the Census for the FY18 assessment rather than waiting until 2020 for updated population figures. This approach provided for smaller adjustments rather than a large adjustment that may come with a 10-year population factor. The FY19 proposed rate of \$1.29 is unchanged from FY18.

Mr. Carpenter called for approval of the FY19 Per Capita Assessment Rate to be set at \$1.29.

Motion: Dr. Warren moved for the approval the FY19 rate at \$1.29. Mr. Showalter seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Delegation of Specific Duties to the Regional Commission Executive Committee
Mr. Carpenter explained the role of the Executive Committee has evolved into a monthly 1-hour to 1.5-hour meeting a week prior to the full Commission meeting. The Executive Committee often dives deep into details of the agency and advises the Executive Director on a regular basis and more frequently as needed with a weekly phone call scheduled with the Commission Chair. Since 2009, it has been the practice of the Chair, with input from the Executive Committee, to set the annual compensation of the Executive Director. The process includes feedback on the Executive Director's performance provided by the full board as requested from the Chair. The Executive Committee would like to secure clarity from the Commission regarding their duties in establishing the

terms of employment with the Executive Director. Mr. Carpenter then called for any discussion.

A discussion took place to clarify the duties of the Executive Committee. It was reaffirmed employee compensation is included in the annual budget, which the full board approves each year.

Ms. Lesko moved, in line with the New River Valley Regional Commission Bylaws, Article IX, Section 1. Executive Committee; that the Executive Committee be empowered to determine all elements of compensation, salary, and other relevant terms of employment with the Executive Director. Mr. Patton seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried; 16 ayes, 3 nays.

D. Set November Commission Meeting Date

Mr. Carpenter explained the November board meeting falls on Thanksgiving, so the Executive Committee proposes moving the meeting to the third Thursday November 16, 2017.

Motion: Mr. Patton moved to hold the meeting November 16, 2017. Mr. Showalter seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Carpenter called to adjourn the meeting.

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

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
November 16th, 2017
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. J. Carpenter, Radford University, Chair; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. H. Collins, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Mr. F. Gerald, Floyd County; Dr. H. Harvey, City of Radford; Mr. H. Johnson, Town of Christiansburg; Ms. S. Journell, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. C. Kiwus, Virginia Tech; Ms. H. Lesko, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. K. Marshall, City of Radford; Mr. M. Patton, Town of Floyd; Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. K. Sullivan, Virginia Tech and Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County.

ABSENT: Mr. M. Harvey, Vice-Chair, Montgomery County; Mr. L. Law, Giles County, Treasurer; Mr. G. East, Town of Pulaski; Mr. W. Kantsios, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County; Mr. M. Maslaney, Floyd County; Ms. C. Newcomb, Town of Blacksburg and Ms. A. Perkins, Montgomery County.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Aphi Fancon, Michael Gottfredson, Anna Harbom, James Jones, Janet McNew, Julie Phillips, Elijah Sharp, Christy Straight and Zach Swick.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for October

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

Motion: Mr. Patton moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Garret seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Report for October

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

Motion: Mr. Bopp 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)

None

- B. Regular Project Review
None
- C. Environmental Project Review
None

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Sullivan welcomed Carrie Woodring to the meeting and announced she will be replacing him as a representative for Virginia Tech. Mr. Garrett reported the Narrows girls' volleyball team will be playing for the state title in Richmond on Saturday November 18th. Mr. Gerald reported it would be his last meeting and thanked the board for allowing him to serve for 19 years.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter thanked Ms. Newcomb, Ms. Perkins, Mr. Gerald, and Mr. Sullivan for their service to the Commission. He then presented Mr. Gerald and Mr. Sullivan with plaques recognizing their service and explained Ms. Newcomb and Ms. Perkins' will be mailed to them because they were unable to attend the meeting. Together, the four members represent 55 years of service to the Commission with three serving as Chair of the Commission during their tenure.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported the GO Virginia Region 2 is currently accepting Letters of Interest for projects and the Commission submitted two letters of interest for potential projects on behalf of members. The NRVMPD is contracting with the Regional Commission to conduct a Passenger Rail Station Ownership/Maintenance Study. The project will focus on the ownership models to include the pros, cons, and costs for each model. The NRV Rail 2020 region-wide committee met earlier in the week to discuss the Ownership/Maintenance Study along with key objectives coming up in 2018. An update on VDOT construction projects was given: Southgate/460 Interchange project will be open to traffic in December, 2017 with residual project completion activities 6-8 months following; the I-81 northbound bridge deck in Radford is on track for spring/summer 2019 open to traffic, with fall 2020 construction complete; North Main Street/460 interchange in Blacksburg is scheduled for a winter advertisement with spring/summer 2018 construction; the I-81 bridge decks over Route 8 are under contract with design/build, construction scheduled for spring 2019. The Regional Commission will be hosting a Census Training workshop on November 28th for the local governments in Southwest Virginia. Training will focus on Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) which serves a critical role in the census process. The Regional + Local Housing Study proposal was submitted earlier this month to the Virginia Housing Development Authority and the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. Staff is preparing a position description/advertisement for a Finance Technician to provide support for the increased volume of financial activity moving through the agency, primarily associated with Workforce Development programs.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Virginia Tech Campus Master Plan Presentation
Mr. Jason Soileau, Assistant Vice President for Planning and University Architect, provided an overview of the 2017 Campus Master Plan. After the presentation, he shared additional information about the 2017 Campus Master Plan can be found at the following website <https://www.facilities.vt.edu/planning-construction/campus-master-plan/about.html>.

- B. FY17 Audit Report
Mr. Byrd explained the audit report was included in the packet. He explained the audit report found all Commission programs were in compliance and did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that the auditor would consider to be material weaknesses.

Mr. Carpenter called for approval of the FY17 Audit Report.

Motion: Ms. Lesko moved for the approval the FY17 Audit Report. Dr. Harvey seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Composition
Mr. Byrd explained the proposed CEDS Committee list for 2017-18 was included in the packet and highlighted new members for consideration.

Mr. Carpenter called for approval of the proposed CEDS Committee.

Motion: Dr. Warren moved for the approval the proposed CEDS Committee. Mr. Showalter seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

- D. December Commission Meeting Cancellation
Mr. Carpenter explained the December board meeting is traditionally cancelled due to holiday schedules and called for approval of the cancellation.

Motion: Mr. Patton moved to cancel the December meeting. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Carpenter called to adjourn the meeting.

L. J. Carpenter, Chair

