

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
January 25, 2018
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; Ms. S. Anderson, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. J. Coleman, Floyd County; Mr. H. Collins, Town of Christiansburg; Ms. A. Covey, New River Community College; Mr. G. East, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Mr. S. Fijalkowski, Montgomery 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. M. Maslaney, Floyd County; Mr. K. Marshall, City of Radford; Mr. M. Patton, Town of Floyd; Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg; Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County and Ms. C. Woodring, Virginia Tech.

ABSENT: Ms. S. Journell, Town of Pearisburg and Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County.

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

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.

Discussion: Ms. Anderson noted that Mr. Newcomb in the Chair's Report should read Ms. Newcomb.

Motion: Mr. Patton moved for the approval of the minutes with the amendment. Mr. Bopp seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

Motion: Mr. Kantsios 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. VADEQ FY18 Brownfields Assessment Grant
 - 2. NRVCS Vehicle Purchase
 - 3. NRVSS Vehicle Purchase
 - 4. Giles Health & Family Center Vehicle Purchase
- B. Regular Project Review
None
- C. Environmental Project Review
None

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Carpenter welcomed the five new members to the Commission. Mr. Fijalkowski, Montgomery County; Ms. Anderson, Blacksburg; Ms. Covey, New River Community College; Ms. Woodring, Virginia Tech; and Mr. Coleman, Floyd County. Mr. Law reported the Cascades had many visitors during the colder weather. Ms. Anderson reported the Town of Blacksburg had their Council retreat earlier in the day and it was facilitated by Mr. Byrd. Mr. Carpenter reported Radford University and Jefferson College of Health and Sciences announced their intent to merge.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter reported the executive committee met in both December and January.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported the Town of Narrows received notice of funding for \$699,346 in Community Development Block Grant funds to assist in the revitalization of its downtown. The Town of Narrows also received notice of \$392,588 in funds from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) for work that is complementary to its downtown project. The Commission supported the planning process and prepared grant applications for both awards. The Town of Christiansburg received an ARC award for \$35,000 to conduct downtown visioning/planning activities to support downtown becoming a cultural destination. GO Virginia Region 2 reviewed six projects at its meeting on January 12th and recommended five to the GO Virginia State Board for approval. A second round of regional applications will open shortly with a closing date of February 14th. The Regional + Local Housing Study proposal was submitted to the Virginia Housing Development Authority. The primary feedback was a desire to see matching funds from the region. The Commission is working on this item with the four counties, the city, the towns of Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Pulaski and Virginia Tech. The Commission is in the process of selecting a Finance Technician with an anticipated start date of late February or early March.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Regional Commission FY17-18 Work Program Overview
Regional Commission members provided a 'lightning round' format presentation introducing themselves and the programs/projects at the Commission.

- B. Regional Commission Awards – Review Criteria and Process
Mr. Byrd explained the Commission awards three categories, Champion of the Valley, Citizen of the Valley, and Friend of the Valley each year. The 2018 nomination form is scheduled to go out in early February with awards nominations due by March 13th.

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
February 22, 2018
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; Ms. S. **Anderson**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. C. **Bopp**, Pulaski County; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. J. **Coleman**, Floyd County; Mr. H. **Collins**, Town of Christiansburg; Ms. A. **Covey**, New River Community College; Mr. G. **East**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. S. **Fijalkowski**, Montgomery County; Ms. S. **Journell**, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. H. **Johnson**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. W. **Kantsios**, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. C. **Kiwus**, Virginia Tech; Mr. M. **Maslaney**, Floyd County; Mr. K. **Marshall**, City of Radford; Mr. M. **Patton**, Town of Floyd; Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg; Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County and Ms. C. **Woodring**, Virginia Tech.

ABSENT: Dr. H. **Harvey**, City of Radford; Ms. H. **Lesko**, Town of Blacksburg and Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Anna Harbom, Janet McNew, 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: Ms. Woodring moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Marshall seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Reports for January

Mr. Carpenter 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. Dr. Warren seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

1. NRV Commerce Park Site Work and Road Improvement Project
2. Virginia Tech Holden Hall Renovations

- 3. Submittal of Rural Business Development Grant for the Old School Food Center at Prices Fork
- B. Regular Project Review
 - None
- C. Environmental Project Review
 - 1. VADEQ VPDES IP eReporting Solution Project Grant

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Bopp reported Coltrane Welding in Pulaski will be closing on March 2, 2018.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter reported the date and venue are set for the 2018 Regional Commission Annual Dinner. The event will be held Tuesday, May 15th at Sinkland Farm in Montgomery County. A save the date announcement will be coming out in the coming weeks. The nominations for the annual awards will be open until March 13th. A local artist will be creating the award for this year's recipients.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported the Regional Commission staff prepared a GO Virginia Region 2 application (submitted by Roanoke SBDC) on behalf of the local governments in the region to support expansion of the Small Business Development Center services to include a full-time staff position in the NRV. The GO Virginia Regional Council met in February and advanced two NRV projects: First, grading at the NRV Commerce Park for a prospective industry, and second, a project that spans all three PDC geographies in Region 2 for a workforce initiative to deliver incumbent worker training and marketing of in-demand jobs. This project was approved contingent upon securing an additional \$60,000 in local government matching funds.

NRV Rail 2020 will host a regional meeting on April 26th at the Aquatic Center in Christiansburg. The NRV Rail 2020 leadership group is also planning a meeting with the recently appointed Secretary of Transportation, Shanon Valentine, for early March. The President's infrastructure plan appears to focus on attracting local and state government investment as well as private investment in certain project areas. There will be a rural program focus with discretion given to Governors and State Directors for USDA-Rural Development.

The 2018 NRV Livability Initiative Information Exchange is scheduled for March 1st 2:30-5:00 at the German Club at Virginia Tech. There will be a lightning round of presenters across the region highlighting projects followed by a panel of leaders creating/supporting change in their communities. Jessica Barrett will be joining the Regional Commission staff as Finance Technician on March 1st. She comes to us from Bland County Schools having served as their Finance Director

and is a CPA. The Regional Commission is in the process of filling two positions, Data Systems Manager/GIS (Zach Swick) and Smart Beginnings NRV Coordinator (Anna Harbom). Both have done a remarkable job advancing their roles at the Commission and have provided enough notice for us to smoothly transition their positions this spring. The Commission office received a fresh coat of paint this month. A sincere thanks to Pulaski County for arranging the work and doing a great job!

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Smart Beginnings NRV Update

Ms. Harbom gave a presentation on the progress of Smart Beginnings NRV since the Commission became fiscal agent/lead agency in January 2017. Major milestones include reconfiguration of the Leadership Council, hiring a Program Coordinator, building the network of partners, relaunching Reading Hour, and securing funds for a regional Early Childhood Needs Assessment. She then provided an overview of the needs assessment that will be conducted through December of this year. Ms. Harbom also shared a need for reading hour volunteers this spring. Anyone interested can contact her for locations and days of the week available.

B. Setting Community Development Block Grant Priorities for 2018

Mr. Byrd explained each year the Regional Commission is asked by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development to submit a list of anticipated local projects for Community Development Block Grant competitive grants within the region. The suggested 2018 priorities are based on projects listed in the packet with input from local governments across the region.

Motion: Mr. Patton moved for the approval of the Community Development Block Grant Priorities for 2018. Dr. Warren 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
March 22, 2018
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. J. **Coleman**, Floyd County; Mr. H. **Collins**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. G. **East**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. S. **Fijalkowski**, Montgomery County; Dr. H. **Harvey**, City of Radford; Ms. S. **Journell**, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. H. **Johnson**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. W. **Kantsios**, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. C. **Kiwus**, Virginia Tech; Mr. M. **Maslaney**, Floyd County; Mr. K. **Marshall**, City of Radford; Mr. M. **Patton**, Town of Floyd; Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg; Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County and Ms. C. **Woodring**, Virginia Tech.

ABSENT: Ms. S. **Anderson**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Ms. A. **Covey**, New River Community College; Ms. H. **Lesko**, Town of Blacksburg and Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County.

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

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for February

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. Collins seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Reports for February

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

Motion: Mr. Kantsios 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)

None

B. Regular Project Review

- None
- C. Environmental Project Review
- None

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Garrett reported Anna's Restaurant in Narrows recently reopened. Mr. Law reported the trees have been cut in Giles County that are in the Mountain Valley Pipeline project area. Mr. Carpenter reported Radford University's Men's Basketball team had their first NCAA tournament victory and the Highlander mascot was the top ranked mascot in the 2018 NCAA tournament. Mr. Carpenter also noted the appearance in the NCAA tournament was the equivalent of \$43 million in advertising.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter reported the executive committee met and discussed the awards process. With the high number of nominations in the Citizen of the Valley category, the committee decided to award two nominees this year, provided the voting secured the required 51% threshold to convey an award. Mr. Carpenter also reported Mr. Byrd will be presenting to the Pembroke Town Council in early April about becoming members of the Commission.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported the GO Virginia project for Small Business Development Center expansion in the New River Valley was directed to a staff-level review process since the request was under \$100,000. The state budget was not passed during the regular session so the total amount of GO Virginia funding for next fiscal year is still unknown.

NRV Rail 2020 leadership met with the Secretary of Transportation, Shannon Valentine, the first week of March. On April 4th there will be a kickoff meeting for the study evaluating station ownership models.

The Regional + Local Housing Study proposal received tentative approval from the funder last week. A full proposal is being submitted via the funders' grant portal. The NRV Livability Initiative Information Exchange held in early March was well attended with approximately 150 people. The Regional Commission will be co-hosting with the Community Foundation of the NRV a Funders Forum on May 3rd at Ignite in Christiansburg. Registration will open next week and will be available for up to 50 attendees. The half-day workshop will include presentations from key state, federal and nonprofit funders. The intention of the event is to help project leaders across the region be successful in securing funds for implementation.

The Commission will hold interviews for the Data Systems Manager/GIS position and Smart Beginnings NRV Coordinator the last week of March. Ideally, the positions will be filled by mid-April. The Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions held a Congressional briefing in Washington, DC for members of Congress and their staff. The Floyd Innovation Center project was discussed to highlight federal investments in the region and the impact of federal programs. The Regional Commission Annual Dinner even will be held Tuesday, May 15th at Sinkland Farm in Riner. Mobile workshops will be 4:00-5:30 with the dinner event 6:00-8:00.

The proposed federal budget was released and it includes increased funding for many of the programs the Commission utilizes. Senator Warner introduced a bill in March, the Appalachian Opportunity Program, which would fund public-private partnership projects.

Mr. Byrd explained he will be facilitating a retreat for the Blacksburg Partnership to discuss short, medium, and long-term goals for the Town of Blacksburg, Montgomery County, Virginia Tech, and the business community. Lastly, he distributed a handout containing 2018 population estimates for communities in the region.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. FY19 VDOT Rural Transportation Planning Work Program

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 provided a brief presentation overviewing the proposed work program.

Motion: Dr. Warren moved to approve the Rural Transportation Work Program for FY19. Mr. Patton seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. NRV Regional Tourism Collaboration Report

Mr. Jones gave a presentation detailing the process of the grant program received from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development in 2015 to evaluate models of collaboration for tourism in the New River Valley. He then explained the recommendations for the future of regional tourism.

C. Commission Awards Program for 2018 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 Susan Kidd, Town of Narrows as Champion of the Valley, and David Hagan and P. Buckley Moss as Citizens of the Valley. Mr. Byrd will be contacting the award recipients for recognition at the annual dinner 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
April 26, 2018
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; Ms. S. **Anderson**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. C. **Bopp**, Pulaski County; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. J. **Coleman**, Floyd County; Mr. H. **Collins**, Town of Christiansburg; Ms. A. **Covey**, New River Community College; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. S. **Fijalkowski**, Montgomery County; Dr. H. **Harvey**, City of Radford; Ms. S. **Journell**, Town of Pearisburg; 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. R. **McCoy**, Giles County; Mr. M. **Maslaney**, Floyd County; Mr. M. **Patton**, Town of Floyd; Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County and Ms. C. **Woodring**, Virginia Tech.

ABSENT: Mr. G. **East**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. K. **Marshall**, City of Radford and Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Julie Phillips and Jennifer Wilsie.

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. Patton moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Bopp seconded the motion.
Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Reports for March
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. Ms. Woodring 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

Ms. Lesko reported Giles County hosted a STEM-posium which had over 300 participants and included all hands-on activities. Mr. Johnson reported the Town of Christiansburg recently adopted a noise ordinance. Ms. Anderson reported the Town of Blacksburg passed their budget with a one-cent tax increase. Mr. Kiwus reported Virginia Tech hosted a ribbon cutting event for the drone park, which is the tallest netted facility of its kind. Dr. Harvey reported Radford has an upcoming election on May 1st. Mr. Carpenter reported Radford University announced a partnership with TR Group in which they will be the sole source to deliver competency-based training for their cyber program.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter reported Mr. Byrd and Mr. Law presented to Pembroke Town Council on becoming a member of the Regional Commission. Council should make a decision in early May. An email will go out to all Commissioners on April 27th containing information for the annual performance evaluation for the Executive Director.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported Regional Commission staff recently submitted two Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) for the towns of Pearisburg and Rich Creek. Both projects focus on downtown improvements to facades and small business development to assist with economic transitions.

NRV Rail 2020 hosted a regional meeting on April 26th at the Christiansburg Aquatic Center. The discussion included updates from state/federal legislators, station ownership study process and recent marketing/outreach efforts.

Giles and Pulaski County are eligible for POWER funds, a federal program for coal impacted communities. The Commission is in the early stages of conceptualizing a potential broadband expansion project to provide internet service in rural areas to assist with the delivery of telehealth services. A second project is taking shape to expand the New River Water Trail beyond Giles County.

The Commission will be co-hosting with the Community Foundation of the NRV a Funders Forum on May 3rd at Ignite in Christiansburg. The half-day workshop will include presentations from key state, federal and nonprofit funders.

The Regional Commission staff is providing interim staffing services for Pulaski County in their planning department as the county wraps up its search for a new Community Development Director. Two new employees joined the Regional Commission in late April. Meghan Pfleiderer was hired for the Smart Beginnings NRV Coordinator role. Meghan comes to us with experience in fund development, volunteer management and community engagement with the Children's Home Society of Florida based out of Orlando. She and her family recently relocated to Newport to be closer to family. Over the past year Meghan worked with the Apex Center for Entrepreneurs at Virginia Tech and coordinated its major entrepreneur challenge event. Kristie Warack was hired to be our next Data Systems Manager (GIS). Kristie comes to the Commission after working for Blacksburg Transit as a Data Specialist while also serving as a Naturalist for the City of Roanoke at Mill Mountain. She is currently pursuing a graduate certificate in Geospatial Information Technology at Virginia Tech.

Mr. Byrd explained the internal capacity building committee has awarded its first recipient. Michael Gottfredson will be attending an ESRI conference in Charlotte to learn more about how the Commission can improve our communication strategies utilizing GIS. Following the conference Michael will be holding a lunch-n-learn session with Regional Commission staff and will provide a presentation to the Commission at a future meeting.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. NRV Aging in Place Leadership Team Overview and Accomplishments

Jennifer Wilsie, Regional Commission Senior Planner; Tina King, Executive Director of the NRV Area Agency on Aging; and Elisabeth Willis, Senior Housing and Community Development Project Manager for the Town of Blacksburg and NRV HOME Consortium gave a presentation detailing the New River Valley Aging in Place Leadership Team's timeline and initiatives. Two programs were detailed: the New River Valley Timebank which is a neighbor to neighbor network and Age Friendly Community Certification. They also distributed interactive Aging in Place Workbooks to the Commission Board members.

B. 2018 Annual Dinner Event Update

Mr. Byrd explained the invitations for the Annual Dinner were mailed out and RSVP's are due back May 4th. All the details are coming together nicely for the event.

C. Appointment of Nominating Committee

Mr. Carpenter appointed Ricky McCoy to serve as the member-at-large on the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee will bring its nominations for officers to the May meeting.

Mr. Carpenter called to adjourn the meeting at 7:00pm.

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

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
May 24, 2018
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; Ms. S. **Anderson**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. C. **Bopp**, Pulaski County; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Ms. A. **Covey**, New River Community College; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. S. **Fijalkowski**, Montgomery County; Dr. H. **Harvey**, City of Radford; Mr. W. **Kantsios**, Town of Rich Creek; Ms. H. **Lesko**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. K. **Marshall**, City of Radford; Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County; Mr. M. **Patton**, Town of Floyd; Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg; Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County and Ms. C. **Woodring**, Virginia Tech.

ABSENT: Mr. J. **Coleman**, Floyd County; Mr. H. **Collins**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. G. **East**, Town of Pulaski; Ms. S. **Journell**, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. H. **Johnson**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. C. **Kiwus**, Virginia Tech and Mr. M. **Maslaney**, Floyd County.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, Janet McNew, Patrick O'Brien 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. Patton moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Bopp seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Reports for April

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

Motion: Mr. Kantsios moved for the approval of the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Showalter 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. VADEQ FY2018-2019 Pollution Prevention Grant Program
2. Virginia Tech Advanced Design Construction and Smoot Drive Remote Parking
3. Virginia Tech Challenge Course

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Law reported the parking fee at the Cascades was recently increased to \$8. Ms. Woodring reported Catherine Potter has been hired to replace Kevin Sullivan at the Virginia Tech Foundation. Mr. Showalter reported the Town of Christiansburg will start a curbside recycling program in July and they are happy to share lessons learned in establishing the program. Mr. Fijalkowski reported a groundbreaking ceremony for the Riner Volunteer Fire Department took place earlier in the day. Ms. Anderson reported a proposal for the old Blacksburg Middle School was submitted recently and it will go through the review process this summer. Ms. Covey reported New River Community College received a Virginia Tobacco Commission grant for Floyd County to fully fund their ACCE program for the next year.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter reported the Annual Dinner went well and thanked the staff for their efforts. There will be five new Board members in July. The board leadership and staff will organize an orientation for the new members prior to the first meeting they attend. Mr. Carpenter thanked the Board for providing feedback for the Executive Director's annual evaluation.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) expansion in the New River Valley that was slated for GO Virginia funding is still progressing. The application was moved from State Council review to a staff review because the funding was under \$100,000. The Commission is continuing to work with the Roanoke SBDC and VT Office of Economic Development to secure the funds for the fiscal year beginning July 2018.

The NRV Regional + Local Housing Study funding was announced at the NRV Funders Forum earlier this month. The Commission recently executed a contract with the Virginia Housing Development Authority to fund the effort. The project will kick-off formally this summer.

Montgomery County and the City of Radford were recently designated as eligible for POWER funds for coal-impacted communities. They will be invited to participate with any proposals being developed for the New River Water Trail Expansion and rural broadband deployment. Applications are due at the end of August for the second round of POWER funding.

The first NRV Funders Forum was held in early May. More than 65 attendees participated in the half-day event. Eight funding agencies participated which included a mix of community development, housing, tourism, arts and infrastructure.

An outcome of the NRV Local Government Managers May meeting was a request to coordinate a regional job fair for seasonal employees and public works staff. New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Development Board staff offered to coordinate a job fair in the coming weeks and participation appears strong among local governments.

Mr. Byrd distributed and explained a save the date for a leadership retreat to visit Winston-Salem, NC coordinated by the Coalition for Economic Development. The coalition is primarily comprised of agencies and organizations in the Roanoke Valley while New River Valley leadership participates as available. The focus of the trip will be about the Innovation District established in Winston-Salem. Mr. Byrd anticipates participating with the fall leadership retreat and will share more information with the Commissioners once it is available.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Habitat for Humanity of the New River Valley Overview
Shelley Fortier, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of the New River Valley, delivered a presentation overviewing Habitat for Humanity's programs, homebuyer qualifications, and funding sources. She detailed many of their accomplishments from 2017 and discussed the challenges and opportunities facing the agency and the region in the future.

B. Town of Pembroke Membership with the Regional Commission
Mr. Byrd explained the Town of Pembroke has expressed intent to join the Commission effective July 1, 2018.

Dr. Warren moved to formally extend an invitation to the Town of Pembroke to become a member of the New River Valley Regional Commission. Mr. Patton seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update
Patrick O'Brien gave an overview of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). He explained the goals, objectives, strategies, and the project ranking criteria. This year's CEDS report will incorporate a resiliency section that will primarily address vulnerability to market changes across industry sectors in the region.

D. Commission Officers for FY2019 – Slate Introduced
Mr. McCoy delivered the Nominating Committee report for the officers for Fiscal Year 2019, specifically: Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Member at-Large. The nominations are for terms

beginning July 1, 2018, for a one-year duration, and voted upon during the Commission's regularly scheduled June meeting.

The nominations include:

Chair: Mike Harvey, Montgomery County

Vice-Chair: Mike Maslaney, Floyd County

Treasurer: Leon Law, Giles County

At-Large: Larry Clevinger, Town of Pulaski

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

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

Mr. Carpenter called to nominate the following as the slate of officers for Fiscal Year 2019:

Chair: Mike Harvey, Montgomery County

Vice-Chair: Mike Maslaney, Floyd County

Treasurer: Leon Law, Giles County

At-Large: Larry Clevinger, Town of Pulaski

Ms. Lesko moved to nominate the slate of officers as presented. Mr. Fijalkowski seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Carpenter called to adjourn the meeting at 7:10pm.

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

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
June 28, 2018
6:00 p.m. – New River Valley Business Center, Fairlawn

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Mr. J. Carpenter, Radford University, Chair; Mr. L. Law, Giles County, Treasurer; Ms. S. Anderson, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. L. Clevinger, Town of Pulaski; Mr. H. Collins, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. T. Garrett, Town of Narrows; Mr. S. Fijalkowski, Montgomery 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; Mr. K. Marshall, City of Radford; Mr. R. McCoy, Giles County; Dr. D. Warren, Pulaski County and Ms. C. Woodring, Virginia Tech.

ABSENT: Mr. M. Harvey, Vice-Chair, Montgomery County; Mr. C. Bopp, Pulaski County; Mr. J. Coleman, Floyd County; Ms. A. Covey, New River Community College; Mr. G. East, Town of Pulaski; Ms. S. Journell, Town of Pearisburg; Ms. H. Lesko, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. M. Patton, Town of Floyd and Mr. H. Showalter, Town of Christiansburg.

Staff Attendees: Jessica Barrett, Kevin Byrd, Michael Gottfredson, Patrick O'Brien, Meghan Pfeleiderer, Julie Phillips, Elijah Sharp, Christy Straight, Kristie Warack, and Jennifer Wilsie.

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. Kantsios moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Kiwus seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Reports for May

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

Motion: Mr. Johnson moved for the approval of the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Kiwus seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

None

B. Regular Project Review

None

C. Environmental Project Review

1. FY2019-2020 Wetlands Program Development Grant
2. Virginia Tech Student Athletic Performance Center
3. Reissuance of VPDES Permit – Blacksburg Country Club WWTP

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Fijalkowski reported Montgomery County and the Town of Christiansburg held a joint meeting earlier in the week. One key item from the meeting was a discussion about establishing trail connections with the Roanoke greenway system, as well as the opportunities to expand southwest toward the New River Trail State Park. He also reported he attended a federal conference at the White House along with other board of supervisor members from Virginia. Ms. Anderson reported the Town of Blacksburg recently finished the public input process for their downtown strategic plan and they are moving into the next phase of plan development. She also shared three out of four murals are complete on storm drains in the downtown area. Mr. Carpenter reported freshman orientation is underway at Radford University. The university hosted the American Legion Boys State last week which featured remarks by Governor Northam and Lieutenant Governor Fairfax. Mr. Carpenter also shared Mr. Alvarez, a previous Commissioner representing Radford University, recently retired from his position as Chief Financial Officer for the university.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Carpenter welcomed Joel Herbein from the Town of Blacksburg, who will be filling the citizen appointment starting July 1, 2018. Mr. Byrd introduced new staff members, Jessica Barrett, Finance Technician; Meghan Pfleiderer, Smart Beginnings NRV Coordinator; and Kristie Warack, Data Systems Manager. Mr. Carpenter congratulated Christy Straight on 10 years of service with the Commission and presented her with a certificate. Lastly, he thanked the outgoing Commissioners, Mr. Collins, Ms. Lesko (in absentia), and Mr. Marshall for their service and presented them with an item containing their dates of service on the Commission. Mr. Byrd presented Mr. Carpenter with a token of appreciation for his service as Chair.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported the Department of Housing and Community Development-Virginia Main Street Program conducted downtown visits in several communities across the region. The visits included local government leadership, regional commission staff and organizations that support downtowns in each community. The intended outcome is increased engagement with the Virginia Main Street program and its resources.

VDOT held a public input meeting on developing an I-81 Corridor Improvement Plan. The Corridor Improvement Plan will: identify segments for improvement; identify targeted sets of improvements for each segment; identify truck parking needs; include corridor-wide incident management;

evaluate concepts to minimize local route impacts; assess economic impacts on the corridor from tolling only heavy commercial trucks. More information can be found at www.VA81Corridor.org as well as a platform to provide online comments.

The NRV Housing Study is underway internally with technical staff preparing a two-page overview of the effort to share with key partners as a regional consortium is being established to guide the process.

This month three Commissioners will be transitioning off the board: Holly Lesko, Town of Blacksburg; Keith Marshall, City of Radford; and Harry Collins, Town of Christiansburg. Staff met with Mr. Collins prior to the meeting to conduct a video interview about his experiences serving on the board.

The Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions (VAPDC) will be holding the annual summer conference in Roanoke this year July 25-27 at the Hotel Roanoke. Given the close proximity, the Executive Committee would like to have good representation from our region.

Earlier in the day a ground-breaking ceremony was held in Giles County at a new public boat landing in Eggleston.

Mr. Carpenter added the NRV Rail 2020 passenger rail legislative reception will be held September 12th at 5:30 pm at the Great Road on Main in downtown Christiansburg.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. roam NRV – Bike Share Program Overview
Andrew Warren, Town of Christiansburg Planning Director, delivered a presentation overviewing the roam NRV program. He explained how the system works, membership types, user fees, as well as future plans for expansion.

- B. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Project Package and Report
Patrick O'Brien gave an overview of the 2018 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). He explained the goals, objectives, strategies, and the project ranking criteria. The 2018 CEDS report includes a resiliency section that primarily addresses vulnerability to market changes across industry sectors in the region.

Motion: Dr. Warren moved for the approval of the CEDS report. Mr. Collins seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Consideration of the Proposed FY19 Budget

Mr. Byrd explained the proposed budget was included in the mailout and provided an overview presentation of the budget with highlights in the memo. Following the overview presentation Mr. Byrd called for any questions.

Motion: Mr. McCoy moved to approve the FY19 budget. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

D. Commission Officers for FY2019 – Slate Introduced at May Meeting

Mr. Carpenter reported the nominations for the slate of officers for Fiscal Year 2019 are as follows:

Chair: Mike Harvey, Montgomery County

Vice-Chair: Mike Maslaney, Floyd County

Treasurer: Leon Law, Giles County

At-Large: Larry Clevinger, Town of Pulaski

Mr. Kantsios moved to elect the slate of officers as presented. Mr. McCoy seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion: Mr. Garrett moved to cancel the July meeting. Mr. Law seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

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

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

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for June

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

Motion: Mr. Bopp moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Kiwus seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

Motion: Mr. Johnson moved for the approval of the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Kiwus seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)

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

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

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

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

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

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

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

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

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

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. NRV Overview of Select FY19 Regional Commission Initiatives

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

B. FY19 Program of Work for the Regional Commission

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

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

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

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

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Montgomery County Smart Scale Project Proposal Resolution Ratification

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

Mr. Harvey called to ratify the resolution.

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

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

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

M. Harvey, Chair
New River Valley Regional Commission

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 20th 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 2nd at Hotel Floyd. A Request for Proposals was issued on September 16th 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 be viewed online at the Commission's website via 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.

M. Harvey, Chair
New River Valley Regional Commission

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
October 25, 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; Ms. S. **Anderson**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. C. **Bopp**, Pulaski County; Mr. L. **Clevinger**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. **Clontz**, Town of Pulaski; Mr. T. **Garrett**, Town of Narrows; Mr. S. **Fijalkowski**, Montgomery County; Dr. H. **Harvey**, City of Radford; Mr. D. **Horton**, City of Radford; Ms. S. **Journell**, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. W. **Kantsios**, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. R. **Lawson**, Town of Pembroke; Mr. M. **Patton**, Town of Floyd; Mr. J. **Radcliffe**, Town of Pulaski and Ms. A **Schumaker**, Radford University.

ABSENT: Mr. L. **Law**, Giles County, Treasurer; Mr. J. **Coleman**, Floyd County; Ms. A. **Covey**, New River Community College; Mr. J. **Herbein**, Town of Blacksburg; Mr. H. **Johnson**, Town of Christiansburg; Mr. C. **Kiwus**, Virginia Tech; Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County; Ms. C. **Potter**, Virginia Tech; Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg and Dr. D. **Warren**, Pulaski County.

Staff Attendees: Kevin Byrd, James Jones, Janet McNew and Julie Phillips.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for September

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. Mr. Garrett seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Reports for September

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

Motion: Mr. Kantsios moved for the approval of the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Horton 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. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program -- Safe Drinking Water Act

- C. Environmental Project Review
None

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Kantsios reported some of the flooding in Rich Creek in September was caused by debris in stormwater drainage ditches. He encouraged everyone to work with VDOT to proactively clean out the stormwater ditches regularly. Mr. Radcliffe noted the Town of Pulaski uses inmate labor to help clean out ditches in their community. Mr. Fijalkowski reported the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors will be hosting a regional trails forum on November 29th at the county government center in Christiansburg from 9:30-12:00. Ms. Anderson reported there will be a kickoff meeting for affordable housing and green building in Blacksburg on October 29th. Mr. Harvey reported there was an article in the Roanoke Times about the Regional Housing Study and encouraged everyone to take the survey referenced in the article. Mr. Patton reminded everyone to vote on November 6th.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Harvey explained he recently attended the NADO annual training conference. He gave updates on some of the sessions he attended including future visioning, opioid prevention and broadband planning.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported Ray Smoot, Union Bank President and retired VT administrator, was recently appointed by Governor Northam to serve as the Salem District representative on the Commonwealth Transportation Board. This appointment marks the first NRV leader to serve in this role. He explained the Commission will arrange a day for local governments in the region to meet with Mr. Smoot and discuss local transportation issues.

VDOT recently held its fall public meeting where staff shared the SMART SCALE projects received and distributed information on the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. The last half of the meeting shifted to an update session on the I-81 Study.

In early October, the NRV Rail 2020 committee working on station ownership and operations reviewed three site design scenarios provided by Hurt & Proffitt. The committee is scheduled to select its preferred site design at its meeting on November 7th which will be accompanied by an order of magnitude of cost to develop the site.

The Commission issued a press release for the Regional Housing Study. The release included a survey link for the general public to provide input on their home buying or renting experiences in

the region. In the coming weeks, kick-off meetings for the Leadership Team and the larger Consortium group will be scheduled.

The Commission staff retreat was held at the Hotel Floyd on October 2nd. Outcomes include direction for celebrating the Commission's 50th anniversary in 2019, along with work program goals for the communications and technology committees. Staff wrapped up the day with a tour of downtown Floyd provided by town manager, Kayla Cox.

The Commission received four responses to the office redesign RFP issued in late September. Staff and the Executive Committee reviewed the proposals and will be contacting the selected firm in the near future.

Mr. Byrd reported that beginning November 1st, Meghan Pfleiderer will be going full time. The primary funder, Virginia Early Childhood Foundation (VECF), recently awarded additional funds to the NRV program for an innovative partnership program which builds off the early childhood assessment. Given the continued investment in the program the Commission is able to offer the full-time status.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Pathways to the American Dream Project (Workforce)

Ms. Jenny Bolte, Project Manager for the Pathways to the American Dream project, provided an overview of the program. The highly competitive \$6.0 million national grant award was provided to the New River-Mount Rogers Workforce Development Board from the US Department of Labor to help disadvantaged workers across Southwest Virginia get the training and jobs they need. She explained the project plans to create a regional workforce strategy for sector partnerships in manufacturing, healthcare and information technology industries. She noted the program plans to serve 1,100 individuals by December 2020.

B. Consideration of Resolution Supporting Improvements to I-81

Mr. Byrd explained the I-81 resolution for consideration was included in the packet. He explained the resolution would encourage the General Assembly to adopt a corridor plan and designate funding for implementation, although it does not recommend specific funding strategies.

Mr. Harvey called for approval of the Resolution Supporting Improvements to I-81

Motion: Mr. Horton moved for the approval of the Resolution Supporting Improvements to I-81. Ms. Anderson seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. FY20 Per Capita Assessment Rate (Commission Dues)

Mr. Byrd explained the current assessment rate is \$1.29 per capita based on 2015 Census figures. The FY20 proposed rate of \$1.29 is unchanged from FY19. The Commission typically adjusts the rate every two years and last year was the second year the rate was applied to the 2015 Census which represented a net positive to the Commission because of overall population increase in the region. FY20 will be the third year using the 2015 population with the \$1.29 rate established in FY17, and no adjustment is recommended at this time.

Mr. Harvey called for approval of the FY20 Per Capita Assessment Rate to be set at \$1.29.

Motion: Mr. Horton moved for the approval of the FY20 rate at \$1.29. Ms. Anderson seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

D. Set November Commission Meeting Date

Mr. Byrd explained the regular Commission meeting date for November falls on the Thanksgiving holiday. Historically, the Commission has opted to move the meeting to the third Thursday. This year November has five Thursdays, so the Executive Committee is recommending moving the meeting to Thursday November 29th at 6:00pm.

Mr. Harvey called for approval of holding the meeting November 29th, at 6:00pm.

Motion: Mr. Patton moved to hold the meeting November 29, 2018. Mr. Fijalkowski seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Harvey called to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm.

M. Harvey, Chair
New River Valley Regional Commission

NEW RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION
Minutes of the Commission Meeting
held on
November 29, 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. W. **Kantsios**, Town of Rich Creek; Mr. R. **Lawson**, Town of Pembroke; 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. H. **Johnson**, Town of Christiansburg; Ms. S. **Journell**, Town of Pearisburg; Mr. C. **Kiwus**, Virginia Tech; Mr. R. **McCoy**, Giles County and Mr. H. **Showalter**, Town of Christiansburg.

Staff Attendees: Jessica Barrett, Kevin Byrd, Aphi Fancon, Michael Gottfredson, Janet McNew, Patrick O'Brien, Meghan Pfleiderer, Julie Phillips, Elijah Sharp, Christy Straight, Kristie Warack and Jennifer Wilsie.

Other Attendees: Doug Janarena, Greg Feldman, Meredith Hundley and Ed Lawhorn.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes for October

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 minutes. Ms. Anderson seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Treasurer's Reports for October

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 Treasurer's Report. Mr. Fijalkowski seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMONWEALTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

- A. Projects (Signed-off by the staff)
 - 1. Reissuance of Town of Pulaski Water Treatment Plant's VPDES Permit
 - 2. Loan Application for acquisition of building and land for Town of Floyd business expansion
- B. Regular Project Review
None
- C. Environmental Project Review
None

IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS

None

V. REVIEW OF MUTUAL CONCERNS AND COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Mr. Fijalkowski reported the first Valley to Valley Regional Trail meeting was held earlier in the month with good turnout from the Roanoke Valley, New River Valley and Mount Rogers areas.

VI. CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Harvey explained he recently attended the quarterly New River Watershed Roundtable meeting. The group began the planning discussions for this year's ReNew the New river clean-up event. Mr. Harvey also gave a partial presentation of "The Future of the Regions" presentation shared at the NADO conference in October.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Byrd began by asking each staff member to introduce themselves and highlight one of their current projects.

He provided a summary report in the Commission agenda packet. He reported Commission staff is hosting Ray Smoot, the recently appointed Commonwealth Transportation Board member for the Salem District, on December 10th so members can meet one-on-one with Mr. Smoot to review their transportation needs.

The Commission provided staff support to the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors for the Regional Trails Forum which was well attended and attracted coverage by television and newspaper media.

The Regional Broadband Plan update planning grant request submitted by the Commission with Montgomery County in the applicant role was funded by the VA Dept of Housing and Community Development. The Regional Housing Study Leadership Team met for the first time in November and the group provided great insight at this early stage of the project. The first Consortium meeting will take place on December 12th. The Commission, Community Foundation of the NRV and Onward NRV are co-hosting a livestreaming Learning Exchange hosted by Virginia Community Capital on December 13th.

The Commission's 50th anniversary will take place in 2019. During the annual staff retreat we began identifying ways to recognize the milestone. One item included a General Assembly Resolution which was sent earlier this month to Delegate Rush for pre-filing in the 2019 session. The office space redesign project will be conducted by Colley Architects based in Blacksburg. The process is expected to kick-off in December and take about two months for the schematic design phase to be complete. Staff will be involved through a survey and will have the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the preliminary designs provided by the architect.

Mr. Byrd reported there will be a workshop in February, in the afternoon before the Commission meeting, to learn about Opportunity Zones. Staff from the VA Department of Housing and Community Development will support a workshop in the afternoon to be held at the Montgomery County Government Center followed by a presentation that evening at the February Commission meeting. Lastly, earlier in the month he facilitated an abbreviated retreat meeting for the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors and offered to provide this service to any Commission member that may have a need.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Valleys Innovation Council

Mr. Doug Juanarena provided an overview of the Valleys Innovation Council (VIC). VIC launched in January 2018 with board members comprised of regional leaders supporting innovation and entrepreneurship in the New River and Roanoke Valleys. By connecting, communicating, and collaborating with regional stakeholders in higher education, government, industry, and community organizations, VIC works to align regional assets and strengthen the region's innovation economy.

B. FY18 Audit Report

Mr. Byrd explained the Audit Report was included in the agenda packet.

Mr. Harvey called for approval of the FY18 Audit Report.

Motion: Mr. Horton moved for the approval of the FY18 Audit Report. Ms. Anderson seconded the motion.

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Composition

Mr. O'Brien explained the proposed CEDS Committee list for 2018-19 was included in the packet.

Mr. Garrett suggested the CEDS plan should support VIC initiatives and committee participation should include VIC representation. Ms. Anderson and Dr. Harvey suggested

additional members be considered to serve on the committee to ensure engaged participation.

Mr. Harvey noted additional members will be added to the CEDS committee and the list will be brought back to the Commission at the January meeting for review.

D. December meeting traditionally cancelled

Mr. Byrd explained the December Commission meeting is historically cancelled due to holiday conflicts.

Mr. Harvey called for approval of cancelling the December meeting.

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

Action: Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Harvey called to adjourn the meeting at 7:20pm.

M. Harvey, Chair
New River Valley Regional Commission