



**Rappahannock Rapidan Regional Commission
 December 13, 2017 Regular Meeting
 RRRC Board Room
 420 Southridge Parkway Suite 106, Culpeper VA 22701**

MINUTES

	Culpeper County		Town of Culpeper
	John Coates		Chris Hively
X	Steven L. Walker	X	Meaghan E. Taylor, Treasurer
	Fauquier County		Town of Gordonsville
	Christopher T. Butler	X	Robert K. Coiner, Vice-Chair
X	Paul S. McCulla		Town of Madison
	Madison County	X	Daniel A. Painter
X	Jack Hobbs		Town of Orange
X	Charlotte Hoffman		Martha Roby
	Orange County	X	Greg Woods
X	James P. Crozier, Chair		Town of Remington
X	R. Bryan David	X	Evan H. 'Skeet' Ashby
	Rappahannock County		Town of The Plains
X	Brenda G. Garton	X	Christopher R. Malone
X	Roger Welch		Town of Warrenton
		X	Sean Polster
		X	Jerry Wood
			Town of Washington
			John Fox Sullivan

Others Present: Eldon James, VACo Region 7 Legislative Liaison

Staff Present: Jenny Biché, Joseph Costello, Michelle Edwards, Kristin Lam Peraza, Patrick Mauney, Terry Snead, Cathy Zielinski

1. Call to Order

Chairman Crozier called the meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call & Quorum Determination

The roll was called by the Executive Director. A quorum was present.

4. Agenda Approval

R Coiner moved to approve the agenda as presented, 2nd by B. Garton. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

6. Presentations

a) 2018 Regional Legislative Platform

Eldon James, VACO Region 7 Legislative Liaison, reviewed the regional legislative platform developed over the past several months. This year's platform is a little different in that there are four issues highlighted as priorities for the region, and a listing of other issues of concern for the region. The four priority issues are:

- Children's Services Act
- Allow for increased speed limits on selected non-limited access, multi-lane, divided highways, specifically Routes 3, 17, 207, 211, and 301)
- Smart Scale changes
- Viability of Cash and Off-Site Proffers

Commissioners discussed the priority issues and questioned whether VDOT would need approval from local government before increasing speeds on the roads specified above. Mr. James responded that the legislation would allow VDOT to undertake appropriate engineering studies and raise speeds from 55 to 60 on the specified routes. If local governments were not in favor of the higher speeds, VDOT would not override them. Discussion ensued about the need for legislation to include language regarding local government approval.

Mr. James reviewed the other issues, indicating that these are repetitive issues that are included in the legislative platform almost every year. The issues include tax issues, Chesapeake bay stormwater management, regional jail funding, education funding, economic development, land use authority, mental health services, and substance abuse.

S Walker asked about solar farms and why Department of Environmental Quality does not notify when there are applications for solar farms. There was interest in seeking mandatory notification from the DEQ to notify localities, and question whether this could be added to the platform. Discussion ensued.

P. McCulla moved to endorse the 2018 legislative platform, 2nd by J. Wood. The motion passed unanimously.

B. David referenced potential for regional procurement related to Children's Services Act that may prove beneficial for rural areas with little market competition, and also referenced a bill related to a boundary settlement between Orange County and Spotsylvania County.

7. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Crozier presented the minutes from the October 25, 2017 meeting. P McCulla moved to approve, 2nd by B. Garton. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Intergovernmental Review

a) *Proposed National Park Fee Increases*

Chairman Crozier introduced item 8A – Proposed National Park Fee increases. P Mauney indicated that the deadline for public input was extended to December 22, 2017. To date, Culpeper County, Madison County, Rappahannock County, and the Town of Culpeper have passed resolutions requesting, Culpeper, Madison, & Rappahannock have all adopted resolution requesting the National Park Service reconsider the fees.

Discussion ensued about the fee proposal and impact on the region. S. Walker referenced the issue of capacity and overcrowding at the park during peak season. P. McCulla indicated that while he was supportive of the resolution, the Commission and local governments should be aware about the need to utilize fees for services for management and maintenance purposes.

B. Garton moved to approve the resolution, 2nd by C. Malone. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Financial Reports

a) *FY 2018 YTD Revenues and Expenditures*

Chairman Crozier asked for staff review of item 9A. P Mauney referenced the year to date financial report through November and indicated that revenues and expenses were as expected.

b) *FY 2017 DRAFT AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS*

Chairman Crozier introduced the FY 2017 audit report. P Mauney stated that the Commission reviewed the draft in October and received the report via e-mail in November. In the interim, G Woods asked about a discrepancy on the Summary Statements of Net Position on page 4, and P Mauney referenced that single change from the draft audit in October to the current draft.

P. McCulla moved to approve the FY 2017 Audit Report, 2nd by B. Garton. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Executive Director's Report

Chairman Crozier asked P Mauney to provide the Director's report. P Mauney referenced the report in the agenda packets, and highlighted that staff are working on a regional workshop focused on solar farms and solar installations in residential/commercial areas with a focus on best practices and development considerations. The Commission will also host two meetings on December 15th – a land cover GIS workshop in the morning and a regional housing study discussion in the afternoon. The GO Virginia state board met last Friday and approved five projects, each of which was submitted from Northern Virginia or Hampton Roads area.

11. Staff Updates

a) *Purely Piedmont/Food council Update*

Chairman Crozier asked M Edwards to update the Commission on item 11A. M Edwards reported that the Purely Piedmont program has made great progress, including release of a food label program in November, development of rack cards for visitor centers and other locations in the region, additional advertising, and outreach to farmers and buyers with grant partners at Piedmont Environmental Council. Over the past year, the USDA Farmers Market

grant has helped partners reach over 160,000 buyers, farmers, and consumers. M Edwards provided the Commission members with copies of the rack cards for distribution and sharing with their boards and councils.

b) Economic Development Planning

Chairman Crozier asked P Mauney to report on item 11B. P Mauney indicated that he has followed up on the October discussion related to economic development planning with contact with Economic Development Administration staff. A Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) plan remains a possibility, but there are other grant opportunities including through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. He requested guidance from the Commission members on their opinions of whether staff should continue to investigate funding options.

D. Painter noted that a regional economic development plan was needed, including for transportation funding purposes through Smart Scale. B. David referenced that the region has several plans that could be used to develop a comprehensive plan and that a CEDS process may not be the best fit. J. Hobbs indicated that it was important to push for local buy-in.

P. Mauney indicated that he would follow up at a future meeting with other funding options, as well as with potential match amounts from existing Commission funds or other sources.

12. New Business

a) RRRRC Application to DRPT for FY 2019 New Freedom Grant Funding

Chairman Crozier asked J. Biché to review item 12A. J. Biché indicated that the Commission serves as the applicant for Section 5310 grant funding to support mobility management in the region and for the Foothills Express transit service between Culpeper, Madison, and Charlottesville. The Department of Rail and Public Transportation has announced that it will limit funding to two full-time equivalent positions for mobility management, and thus staff is looking for other sources to offset the loss of funding for one-half position that is currently housed at the One-Call Center.

R. Coiner moved to approve the request, 2nd by S. Walker. The motion passed unanimously.

b) RRRRC Application to DRPT for FY 2019 Rideshare Grant Funding

Chairman Crozier asked T. Snead and K. Lam Peraza to review the FY 2019 Rideshare request. T. Snead reviewed the program requirements, and use of funds for staff support, marketing, and advertising.

R. Coiner moved to approve the request, 2nd by B. Garton. The motion passed unanimously.

c) RFP for On-Call Consultant Services

Chairman Crozier asked P. Mauney to review item 12C. P Mauney noted that several other Regional Commissions have an on-call consultant program that enables access to consultants by the Commission, as well as local governments as needed. Discussion ensued regarding such a program. The Commission asked P Mauney to develop a draft RFP for review at a future meeting.

d) *Appointment of Nominating Committee*

Chairman Crozier announced that the tradition is for the Executive Committee to serve as an ad hoc Nominating Committee for officer terms beginning March 1st. There are currently no members on the Executive Committee representing the County or Towns in Madison and Rappahannock, and Chairman Crozier asked for volunteers from those counties or towns. C. Hoffman volunteered to serve on the nominating committee from Madison County, in addition to the standing Executive Committee members.

13. Closed Session

No closed session was held.

14. Upcoming Meetings

Chairman Crozier referenced upcoming meetings, including the February 28, 2018 Regional Commission meeting, and GIS Land Cover workshop and regional housing study meeting on December 15th.

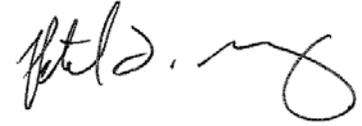
15. Regional Roundtable

Commissioners discussed items of interest from their localities.

16. Adjournment

R. Welch moved to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by C. Malone.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Patrick L. Mauney
Secretary & Executive Director

(Drafted by Kristin Lam Peraza)