



**Central Virginia Planning
District Commission**
828 Main Street, 12th Floor
Lynchburg, VA 24504

**January 16, 2020
5:00 pm**

Minutes

Members Present:

Sara Carter, Amherst Town Manager
Waverly Coggsdale, Altavista Town Manager
Jon Hardie, Campbell County Board of Supervisors
Trevor Higgs, Appomattox County Board of Supervisors
Bruce Johannessen, Bedford Town Council
Amanda Kaufman, Bedford County Deputy Administrator, Proxy for Robert Hiss
Megan Lucas, Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance
Dean Rodgers, Amherst County Administrator
Frank Rogers, Campbell County Administrator
Bonnie Svrcek, City of Lynchburg
Mayor Dwayne Tuggle, Town of Amherst, Chair
Mayor Treney Tweedy, City of Lynchburg

Members Absent:

Susan Adams, Appomattox County Administrator
Beverly Dalton, Altavista Town Council
Mayor Paul Harvey, Town of Appomattox
Robert Hiss, Bedford County Administrator
Mark Peake, Senate of Virginia
Gary Shanaberger, Appomattox Town Manager
John Sharp, Bedford County Board of Supervisors
Russell Thurston, Brookneal Town Manager
Bart Warner, Bedford Town Manager

Others Present:

Ben Bowman, Virginia Career Works
Gary Christie, Central Virginia Planning District Commission, Executive Director
Mallory Cook, Central Virginia Planning District Commission
Rosalie Majerus, Central Virginia Planning District Commission

1. Welcome, Moment of Silence, and Introduction of new members

Dwayne Tuggle, Chair, welcomed the Commission and began the meeting with a moment of silence.

The new members: Jon Hardie of Campbell County and Trevor Hipps of Appomattox County, as well as Amanda Kaufman of Bedford County as proxy for Robert Hiss, were all introduced.

2. Selection of a Vice Chair

A motion was made by Sara Carter, seconded by Waverly Coggsdale, to appoint Appomattox Mayor Paul Harvey as Vice Chair of the PDC to serve the balance of the year through June 30, 2020. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Approval of the November 21, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion by Frank Rogers, seconded by Dean Rodgers, the minutes of the November 21, 2019 meeting were approved, with Sara Carter abstaining.

4. Financial Update

a) Audit Report from Matt McLearen of Robinson, Farmer, Cox of Charlottesville, VA

Matt McLearen presented the FY 2019 audit with no issues or findings.

The motion was made by Sara Carter and seconded by Bonnie Svrcek to accept the audit, and was unanimously approved.

b) Year to Date financial update

Rosalie Majerus reported the financials and operating expenses for the PDC for the month of December. The finances are currently tracking slightly better than projections.

5. Strategic Directions: Discussion on next steps to promote advanced manufacturing sector

Gary Christie reviewed the PDC's efforts regarding surveys, meetings with local elected officials, and the November PDC meeting that identified Advanced Manufacturing as the best area for the PDC to focus on in the region for next steps. Three options were presented by staff:

- 1) An examination and review of assets and gaps within the region's advanced manufacturing
- 2) Partnership with community college and support the development of a Career and Technical Education center on campus to help connect businesses with schools
- 3) Working with localities to target appropriate resources at sight-ready facilities

Megan Lucas reported that the first option is already being assessed by the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance through CEDS.

Jon Hardie advised that the resources and agencies needed are already present in the region. The need is in having strategic plans to incentivize more individuals choosing career paths like advanced manufacturing, however, the region lacks the infrastructure to do so. Hiring better teachers, supplying new educational equipment, and partnerships with employers are some of the ways this could be addressed.

The Commission supports prioritizing efforts towards the second option presented with a focus on CTE efforts, additionally focusing on ways to help spread awareness about these resources. In order for businesses to choose this region and rely on the workforce present in the region, it is necessary to create the workforce pipeline for training and recruiting individuals to the field of advanced manufacturing.

Bonnie Svrcek made a motion, seconded by Dean Rodgers, for the PDC to focus their efforts on the second presented option regarding workforce and the CTE, and asking the PDC to come back with a plan including a conversation with school district superintendents, CTE directors and CVCC. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. Other Business from Staff and Members

PDC Chair Dwayne Tuggle suggested contacting the VAPDC to get information on a speaker from the state of Ohio who spoke at the summer conference on the impact of the opioid crisis in the workforce. Bonnie Svrcek suggested that an invitation be extended to law enforcement and mental health officials if this speaker is able to come before the PDC.

Gary Christie reported that the Annual Report is now available to review.

Megan Lucas reported that the Regional Intelligence Report is now available. Megan also reminded the PDC of their invitations to the January 31 basketball game at Liberty University in the President's Box, and for those interested to reserve their tickets.

7. Next Meeting: March 19, 2020

Chairman Tuggle suggested that Executive Director Gary Christie notify the Commission regarding whether the March 19 meeting would be a dinner, as well as the location of the meeting.

Adjourn - There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.