



**Central Virginia Planning
District Commission**

**VIP Room – Drysdale Student Center
University of Lynchburg**

August 08, 2019 | 1:00 pm

Executive Committee Minutes

Members Present:

Sara Carter, Amherst Town Manager
Waverly Coggsdale, Altavista Town Manager
Dean Rodgers, Amherst County Administrator
Gary Shanaberger, Appomattox Town of Manager
Bonnie Svrcek, Lynchburg City Manager
Russell Thurston, Brookneal Town Manager
Mayor Dwayne Tuggle, Town of Amherst
Bart Warner, Bedford Town Manager

Members Absent:

Susan Adams, Appomattox County Administrator
Robert Hiss, Bedford County Administrator
Frank Rogers, Campbell County Administrator

Others Present:

Gary Christie, CVPDC Staff
Lou O’Boyle, Zelos, Inc.
Matt Perkins, CVPDC Staff

Welcome

Mayor Tuggle welcomed the committee and commenced the meeting at 1:04 pm. On a motion by Sara Carter, seconded by Bonnie Svrcek, the Executive Committee minutes of May 3, 2019 were approved as presented.

Introduction of Lou O’Boyle of Zelos, Inc.

After introductions, Lou began by asking for consensus on the purpose of the meeting with local elected officials on October 17.

“Engage local government officials and stakeholders in setting strategic direction for the Central Virginia Planning District Commission by identifying an area of focus that will advance the region.”

Later in the meeting it was agreed to delete Commission from the statement so that the process is to develop a focus for the region, not just the organization.

Bonnie Svrcek stated that she felt the managers and administrators should make an effort to listen as the elected officials drove this process and to refrain from jumping in to solve problems or steer the conversation. She noted they would risk not having buy-in from the elected officials if the managers and administrators drove the process. There was agreement among those present on this point.

It was agreed that there could be several areas of focus, however, the Committee thought it best to keep the areas narrowed to a couple instead of a long list.

It was generally agreed that we would keep our focus and resources on the area(s) selected for roughly five years and then evaluate.

Mayor Tuggle noted that at the VAPDC Conference he heard of an example of economic expansion because certain roads had been planned and signed for interstate designation.

It was agreed that we would seek to prioritize the list of areas identified, through a voting system. It was agreed that we would have small working groups during the October 17 session and they would be organized by area of focus.

Mayor Tuggle reported that he and Lynchburg Mayor Tweedy would visit other jurisdictions to invite them to the session.

It was agreed that there would be a pre-event survey with this question:

“In setting a strategic direction for the Central Virginia Planning District, please identify what you believe to be an area of focus that has the greatest potential to advance our region.”

It was suggested that Mayor Tuggle welcome the attendees. It was suggested that Gary Christie develop remarks about the interconnectedness of the region and the Lou O’Boyle provide some examples of the benefits of regional thinking, especially showing examples of spillover benefits from regional initiatives.

It was agreed that we use the Alliance building for the meeting on October 17.

It was suggested that we link our prioritization back to the CEDS plan.

There was a discussion about weighted voting or voting by jurisdiction. In the end, it was agreed that anyone who attends has a vote, regardless of their jurisdiction.

It was agreed that invitations/notices would be sent to:

- PDC Members
- Local Elected Officials
- Local Planning Commissioners
- Economic Development Staff and EDA/IDA Chairs and Vice Chairs

Bonnie suggested that every jurisdiction set a goal to bring five people of influence, even if they were not on this above list.

There being no further business to discuss and upon a motion by Bonnie Svrcek, duly seconded by Dean Rodgers, Dwyane Tuggle adjourned the meeting at 2:25 pm.

DRAFT