



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

**September 17, 2020
5:00 pm**

Minutes

Members Present:

Susan Adams, Appomattox County Administrator
Sara Carter, Amherst Town Manager
Mayor Richard Conner, Town of Appomattox
Jon Hardie, Campbell County Board of Supervisors
Trevor Higgs, Appomattox County Board of Supervisors
Robert Hiss, Bedford County Administrator
Megan Lucas, Lynchburg Regional Economic Alliance
Dean Rodgers, Amherst County Administrator
Frank Rogers, Campbell County Administrator
Gary Shanaberger, Appomattox Town Manager
Mayor Dwayne Tuggle, Town of Amherst, Chair
Reid Wodicka, City of Lynchburg

Members Absent:

Jimmy Ayers, Amherst County Board of Supervisors
Waverly Coggsdale, Altavista Town Manager
Beverley Dalton, Altavista Town Council
Bruce Johannessen, Bedford Town Council
Mark Peake, Senate of Virginia
John Sharp, Bedford County Board of Supervisors
Russell Thurston, Brookneal Town Manager
Treny Tweedy, City of Lynchburg
Bart Warner, Bedford Town Manager

Others Present:

Ben Bowman, CVPDC Workforce Development Director
Gary Christie, Central Virginia Planning District Commission, Executive Director
Kelly Hitchcock, Central Virginia Planning District Commission
Ada Hunsberger, Central Virginia Planning District Commission
Rosalie Majerus, Central Virginia Planning District Commission

Welcome, Moment of Silence, and Introduction of New Members

PDC Chair Mayor Dwayne Tuggle welcomed the Commission and led a moment of silence. Sara Carter returned to the meeting after several months' absence recovering from an accident and was warmly welcomed.

1. Approval of the July 16, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion by Frank Rogers, seconded by Megan Lucas, the minutes of the July 16, 2020 meeting passed unanimously as presented.

2. Financial Update

Rosalie Majerus reported on both the FY 20 Year to Date numbers and July of FY 21. The PDC ended FY 20 with more expenditures than revenue by \$11,165. However, much of those funds can be recaptured in FY 21 and is reflected in the FY 21 budget. Rosalie reported \$722,305 in the Commission reserve accounts.

3. Vote on proposed CVPDC Bylaws Amendment regarding Chair's eligibility to serve successive terms

The Commission discussed whether to change the Bylaws to allow the Chair to serve successive terms, similar to the other officers.

Several member voiced oppositions, preferring the current method of rotation among the jurisdictions. Sara Carter suggested that having someone serve successive terms allows for more experienced leadership both at the Commission and on statewide boards.

Upon a motion by Sara Carter, seconded by Dean Rodgers, the motion to amend Article V, Section 3 of the bylaws was defeated 9-3.

4. Discussion about unmet needs due to COVID-19

Several jurisdictions reported that the CARES Act expenditures, while good to have, is a challenge to administer and is to some degree taking the focus of work away from issues at the local level. Several jurisdictions commented on the pressures of the December 31 deadline. It was reported that use of business grants was not going as quickly as expected.

Robert Hiss noted that child care has become a problem in Bedford County. Megan Lucas said she was working with CENTRA in regular meetings with schools and businesses. Several mentioned broadband and the change in education as issues jurisdictions are dealing with.

5. Report on Amherst County National Park Service Planning Services

Kelly Hitchcock reported that Amherst County has been selected by the National Park Service – Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA) to receive planning services to develop a vision to expand access and protection for the James River in the Amherst/Lynchburg section, approximately Scotts Mill Dam to Amherst boundary. Kelly

indicated this project directly aligns with CEDS Initiative 10 – Rivers and Communities. She indicated that there will be stakeholder focus group and project participation opportunities, anticipated for early 2021.

6. PDC Dues for 2021-2022

Gary Christie noted that it has been many years since the PDC has had a dues increase and offered two options: first, a five cent increase and second, an increase based on the cost of living increase, or \$0.01.

Jon Hardie asked why Towns were charged at all, since the county was paying their per capita. Gary replied that Town membership is optional, and Towns pay the fee to have voting Commissioners. Pamplin in Appomattox County is an example of a Town who chooses not to pay the fee and not to participate on the Commission.

Upon a motion by Reid Wodicka, seconded by Mayor Richard Conner, the Commission unanimously agreed that the dues rate for FY 21-22 would be \$0.585 for cities and counties and \$1,063 for Towns.

7. Resolution of appreciation for Scott Smith and update on PDC Staffing

Upon a motion by Megan Lucas, seconded by Jon Hardie, the Commission thanked W. Scott Smith for his service and offered a resolution of appreciation for Scott's work with the Commission.

8. Review of Officers for 2020-2021

Upon a motion by M. Lucas, seconded by J. Hardie, the following officers were selected for 2020-2021:

- Chair, Mayor Richard Conner, Appomattox
- Vice Chair, John Sharp, Bedford County
- Gary Shanaberger, Appomattox Town
- Gary Christie, Secretary

9. Other Business from Staff and Members

Megan Lucas reported that work is progressing on the Development Plan for the Training Center. There will be a press announcement on October 1 at 11 a.m. She offered to give a more detailed report at the next PDC meeting.

Megan Lucas also noted the passing of Stan Goldsmith, who led the Region 2000 Economic Development Council for a time.

Gary Christie asked members to submit suggestions for the 2021 Legislative Priorities list.

Adjourn - There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.