



**Central Virginia Planning
District Commission**
828 Main Street, 12th Floor
Lynchburg, VA 24504
Office: (434) 845-3491
cvpdc.org

**Central Virginia Planning District
Commission Regular Meeting Minutes – Draft
November 20, 2025 @ 5:00 PM
Meeting Location: CVPDC Offices
828 Main Street, 12th Floor
Lynchburg, VA 24504**

Members Present:

Richard Conner, Town of Appomattox, Vice-Chairman
Jeremy Bryant, Amherst County
Michael Campbell, Town of Appomattox
Curt Diemer, Lynchburg City Councilor
Robert Hiss, Bedford County
Craig Hughes, Town of Brookneal
Tom Lawton, Campbell County Supervisor
Megan Lucas, Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance
Greg Patrick, City of Lynchburg, proxy for Wynter Benda
Frank Rogers, Campbell County
John Spencer, Appomattox County

Staff Present:

Alec Brebner
Sandy Dobyns
Kelly Hitchcock
Hannah Mitchell
Bruce Vlk

Others Present:

Emmalee Wagner, GO Virginia

1. Welcome

Vice-Chairman Richard Conner called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. and welcomed the board and guests.

2. Consideration of Requests for Electronic Participation

The meeting proceeded with no electronic participants.

3. Special Guest: Emmalee Wagner – GO Virginia Region 2

Emmalee Wagner reviewed the GO Virginia program, which aims to create high-paying jobs in advancing industries through collaborative efforts. She explained the program's priorities and the list of active and completed projects. She expressed readiness to assist with proposal development and noted particular interest in underserved counties: Amherst, Appomattox, and Bedford.

4. Meeting Minutes: Regular Meeting, September 18, 2025

Michael Campbell moved to approve the September 18, 2025, minutes as presented. Frank Rogers seconded the motion. Tom Lawton abstained, and the remaining present members voted in favor. The motion passed.

Jeremy Bryant left the meeting at 5:22 p.m.

5. Public Hearing: Central Virginia Safety Action Plan – Safe Streets for All

Conner opened the session for public comment. With no comments given, Conner closed the session.

Alec Brebner explained that the CVTTC and CVTPO adopted the Safety Action Plan and recommend that the CVPDC do likewise. With adoption, member local governments may qualify for implementation funding.

Frank Rogers moved to adopt the resolution to approve the Central Virginia Safety Action Plan. Robert Hiss seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Central Virginia CDBG Regional Priorities

Brebner reported that the DHCD requested that the PDC complete a priorities document to inform their design of the Community Development Block Grant Program.

Frank Rogers moved to approve the CDBG priorities as presented. Michael Campbell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Member Local Government Contributions

Brebner reported that the PDC requests annual member contributions to use as matching funds for state and federal grants. The rate for FY2025 totaled \$0.675 per capita for each of the counties and Lynchburg City, and a flat rate of \$1,227 from member towns. The staff recommends maintaining these rates. With population growth, revenue would increase from \$185,330 in FY26 to \$186,748 in FY27.

Michael Campbell moved to approve the staff's suggested membership contribution schedule by locality. Curt Diemer seconded the motion. The motion passed.

8. Organizational Reports

- a) Financial Report: Sandy Dobyns stated that there was nothing out of the ordinary within the financial reports. She noted that grant funding has been billed through the quarter ending September 30.
- b) Executive Director's Report
 - a. Brebner reported that the Virginia Association of PDCs will ask the General Assembly for an increased allocation for PDCs. Upon questioning, he explained that additional funds would allow the PDC to support grant applications, maintain a lower indirect rate, and weather uncertainties.
 - b. Brebner informed the board of an upcoming housing event. Senator Luther Cifers and Delegate Wendell Walker would like input from local elected officials about prospective housing legislation. Officials received an email invitation with additional details for the December 4th event.
 - c. Brebner reported that with the adoption of the CVPDC's Regional Resiliency Plan, the Town of Pamplin received a \$55,000 flood preparedness grant. He noted the recent event with Greg Steele, Chief Resilience Officer of the Commonwealth, who encouraged localities to approach with project ideas.

9. Informational Item: Central Virginia Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

Brebner explained the CEDS as a process to pinpoint strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities for economic growth in the region. With designation as an Economic Development District, the region would have an advantage in applying for workforce development and education funds. Brebner reported that the process of selecting an advisory committee has begun and that the board can expect more information next year.

10. Informational Item: Substate Transportation Funding Mechanisms

Bruce Vlk presented information about Virginia transportation authorities. He recommended that the board discuss forming a similar entity to improve the region's competitive position when applying for grant funds.

Campbell informed the board of his experience with transportation authorities and strongly recommended that the board form a similar entity. His reasons include improved competitiveness for grant applications due to matching funds, local control over the region's roads and tax dollars, and a large return on investment.

Rogers questioned the feasibility of requesting funds from an underfunded state system and expressed concern about increasing taxes. Campbell and Vlk explained that each authority may have a different approach, and that a common strategy is to request a portion of the region's gas tax be returned from the state. Campbell added that constituents may approve an additional tax for the sake of improving local road safety.

The board requested that staff research the potential funds available through the "clawback" method of receiving a portion of the region's gas taxes back from the state.

11. Other Business and Regional Roundtable

No other business presented.

12. Adjournment

Reggie Bennett moved to adjourn. Gary Shanaberger seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

X _____
Signature attest

_____ Date