



**Central Virginia Planning
District Commission**
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cvpdc.org

**Central Virginia Planning District Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes - Final
July 17, 2025 @ 5:00 PM**

**Meeting Location: CVPDC Offices
828 Main Street, 12th Floor
Lynchburg, VA 24504**

Members Present:

Reggie Bennett, Mayor of the Town of Altavista, CVPDC Chairman
Dwayne Tuggle, Mayor of the Town of Amherst
Jeremy Bryant, Amherst County
Drew Wade, Amherst County Supervisor
Gary Shanaberger, Town of Altavista
John Spencer, Appomattox County
Robert Hiss, Bedford County
Curt Diemer, Lynchburg City Councilor
Richard Conner, Mayor of the Town of Appomattox
Michael Campbell, Town of Appomattox
Barbara LaPrade, Mayor of the Town of Brookneal (arrived at 6:10 p.m.)

Members Joining Virtually:

Tom Lawton, Campbell County Supervisor

Staff Present:

Alec Brebner
Sandy Dobyns
Patti Lassiter

Others Present:

Trent Warner

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chairman, Reggie Bennett, convened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed Commissioners and guests alike.

2. Consideration of Requests for Electronic Participation

Chairman Bennett recognized Tom Lawton, Campbell County Supervisor, as a member of the Commission participating virtually. The Chairman asked for a motion to approve Supervisor Lawton's electronic participation, which was made by Dwayne Tuggle and seconded by Gary Shanaberger. A voice vote to approve the motion was unanimous. The motion passed.

3. Special Guest: Ryan Price – Virginia Association of Realtors

Ryan Price, chief economist for the Virginia Association of Realtors, presented an overview of the Lynchburg region's economy and housing market. He highlighted the region's strong service-based economy, with significant employment in healthcare, education, manufacturing, and local government. Ryan noted that while the region has experienced job growth in sectors like leisure and hospitality, healthcare, and construction, there is a growing mismatch between wage levels and housing affordability. He also discussed the impact of federal job reductions on the region, noting that Lynchburg has very few federal workers, making it less susceptible to direct federal impacts.

The meeting began with a briefing on the housing summit, where Ryan Price presented on affordable housing and development challenges. Trent Warner shared his experience as a participant, highlighting the value of the summit and the need for local governments to be prepared for development. The group discussed the importance of reducing red tape and regulations to facilitate housing projects.

4. Meeting Minutes: Regular Meeting, May 15, 2025

Chairman Bennett asked if Commissioners had reviewed the May 15, 2025, meeting minutes. Mayor Tuggle noted that he departed the meeting at 5:45 and was erroneously attributed with the motion to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Bennett asked for a motion to approve the minutes pending a correction to be made by staff upon review of the meeting recording regarding the motion for adjournment. Mayor Tuggle made the motion to conditionally approve the minutes; Mr. Shanaberger seconded it. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

5. CVPDC Virtual Meeting and Participation Policies

Alec explained that the CVPDC is required to re-up or revise its policies regarding virtual meetings and virtual participation in meetings by individual members each year. Mayor Conner moved to approve the policies. Supervisor Wade seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

6. Central Virginia Comprehensive Transportation Safety Action Plan

Amanda Poncy, a consultant with EPR, was introduced to present on the Central Virginia Comprehensive Transportation Safety Action Plan.

Amanda presented the draft Central Virginia Safety Action Plan, highlighting the region's high rate of preventable deaths and injuries. She explained the plan's requirements and goals, including reducing speeding, improving infrastructure, and strengthening enforcement. Mark Herman of Kimley-Horn, a subconsultant on the SSA project, discussed safety countermeasures, distinguishing between systemic and site-specific improvements, and presented a prioritization matrix to guide implementation. The duo emphasized the need for community engagement and collaboration to address safety issues effectively.

The presentation covered several key topics, including SS4A program funding for 2026, which will be the final round unless renewed, and the importance of early planning for potential funding applications. Amanda outlined next steps for the safety action plan, including a public comment period from August 4th to September 5th and a presentation to the TPO for adoption on September 18th. Alec discussed the extension of their grant with USDOT to December 2025, allowing more time for localities to review and adopt the safety plan.

7. Water Supply Planning

Alec provided the Commission an update on progress to fund a regional water supply plan. A pre-application to VDEM was successful. A full application, including commitment of matching dollars, is due on July 18.

8. Organizational Reports

Staff provided the Commission with updates on finances, the imminent start of the annual audit of finances, and the recent workforce development grant. The Commission had pledged to match a \$100,000 grant application to Virginia Works for an LPN training program. The application was not awarded funding.

Mayor Tuggle announced that the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions, for which he is president, will convene its annual meeting at CVPDC offices in Lynchburg August 7-8. VAPDC will present its President's Award to former CVPDC Executive Director Gary Christie to recognize him for his career achievements and introduction of Mayor Tuggle to the organization. The award will be presented at a dinner on Thursday, the 7th, and Central Virginia Planning District Commissioners are welcome to attend.

9. Selection of Officers for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Alec explained that the CVPDC rotates the offices of Chairman and Vice-Chairman in alphabetical order of locality and that the Treasurer is the manager/administrator for the local government of the chairman. The slate of officers proposed is as follows:

- Chairman: Dwayne Tuggle, Mayor of the Town of Amherst
- Vice-Chairman: Richard Conner, Mayor of the Town of Appomattox
- Treasurer: Sara McGuffin, Amherst Town Manager

Drew Wade made the motion to approve the slate of officers as presented. Gary Shanaberger seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

10. Adjournment

Chairman Bennett asked if there was any further business to come before the Commission. Hearing none, he entertained a motion to adjourn. Mayor Tuggle moved to adjourn. Supervisor Wade seconded it. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

x Richard C Conner
Signature attest

September 18, 2025
Date