



Central Virginia Planning
District Commission
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cvpdc.org

**Central Virginia Planning District
Commission Regular Meeting Minutes – Draft
July 16, 2026 @ 5:00 PM
Meeting Location: CVPDC Offices
828 Main Street, 12th Floor
Lynchburg, VA 24504**

Members Present:

Wynter Benda, City of Lynchburg
Reggie Bennett, Town of Altavista
Jeremy Bryant, Amherst County
Michael Campbell, Town of Appomattox
Richard Conner, Town of Appomattox, Chairman
Curt Diemer, City of Lynchburg
Tom Lawton, Campbell County
Frank Rogers, Campbell County
Gary Shanaberger, Town of Altavista
Nathan Simpson, Appomattox County
John Spencer, Appomattox County

Members Present Virtually:

Sara McGuffin, Town of Amherst

Staff Present:

Alec Brebner
Sandy Dobyms
Nathan Gregory
Kelly Hitchcock
Hannah Mitchell

Others Present Virtually:

Jerry Lovelace, Virginia Roanoke River Basin Advisory Committee
Andy Wells, Southside PDC

1. Welcome

Richard Conner called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

2. Consideration of Requests for Electronic Participation

Curt Diemer moved to approve electronic participation. Reggie Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Special Guests: Jerry Lovelace and Andy Wells, Southside PDC

Jerry Lovelace described the Roanoke River Basin Advisory Committee's state-funded work counseling DEQ and legislators on issues affecting the basin. Previous committee members have requested that the state reactivate the group and allow PDCs to reappoint members. Andy Wells noted that of the 6 affected PDCs, 3 offered resolutions of support. He asked the CVPDC to consider a similar resolution.

4. Selection of PDC Officers for 2026-2027

Conner reviewed the FY27 slate of officers, including himself as Chair, John Sharp as Vice-Chair, and Michael Campbell as Treasurer.

Frank Rogers moved to approve the slate of officers as presented. Gary Shanaberger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Regular Meeting Minutes: May 21, 2026

Curt Diemer moved to approve the May 21, 2026, minutes, with a correction to note Greg Patrick as a proxy for Wynter Benda. Reggie Bennett seconded the motion. 10 members voted in favor, with 1 abstention by Tom Lawton. The minutes were approved.

6. CVPDC Virtual Meeting and Participation Policies

Alec Brebner presented the annual virtual meeting and participation policies.

Tom Lawton moved to adopt the CVPDC Virtual Meeting and Participation Policies as presented. Gary Shanaberger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Debris Management Planning – Grant Agreement with Va. DEQ

Brebner reported that Virginia DEQ invited PDCs affected by Hurricane Helene to apply for grant resources to develop debris management plans, a prerequisite for FEMA debris management reimbursement. Appomattox and Bedford Counties qualify for the program and may receive up to \$30,000 each, plus \$20,000 for the PDC, with no local match required. Brebner requested authorization to enter into a grant agreement. When asked, Brebner offered to follow up with details on appropriate uses and confirmed that legal counsel will review the contract before signing.

Frank Rogers moved to authorize Alec Brebner to enter into a grant agreement with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality on behalf of the CVPDC. Michael Campbell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Childcare Data Analysis – Grant Agreement with VECF

Brebner reported that the Richmond region PDC, PlanRVA, has been collaborating with the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation (VECF) on childcare data analysis. They requested the CVPDC's support to gather data for the CVPDC region and 8 additional

counties. The project would take about 3 months and have a \$12,000 budget. Brebner requested authorization to enter into a grant agreement.

Frank Rogers moved to authorize Alec Brebner to enter into a grant agreement with VECF and PlanRVA. Michael Campbell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Organizational Reports

a) Financial Report

Sandy Dobyns reported nothing out of the ordinary with the financials. Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates will conduct the annual audit in August.

b) Executive Director's Report

Brebner introduced new regional planner, Nathan Gregory.

Brebner invited all to attend an August 12th VAPDC regional training event, Finding Funding for the Future.

Brebner described an upcoming conference in Lynchburg with the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's Center for Faith to discuss opportunity zones, including recent legislative changes.

Brebner noted receiving a survey from the Virginia Economic Development Partnership that seeks localities' input on opportunity zone tract prioritization.

Brebner reported on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Short Elliot Hendrickson is leading the update and is currently developing the strategic direction and action plan section. Brebner provided an overview of strengths and weaknesses outlined through public outreach efforts. The Commission may expect a draft for their review in September.

Jeremy Bryant left the meeting at 5:49 p.m.

10. Other Business and Regional Roundtable

Richard Conner opened discussion of ValleyLink's impact on the Central Virginia region.

11. Adjournment

Tom Lawton moved to adjourn the meeting. Gary Shanaberger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

X _____
Signature attest

Date