



Central Virginia Planning
District Commission
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**Central Virginia Planning District
Commission Regular Meeting Minutes – Final
May 21, 2026 @ 5:00 PM
Meeting Location: CVPDC Offices
828 Main Street, 12th Floor
Lynchburg, VA 24504**

Members Present:

Chris Adams, Amherst County
Richard Conner, Town of Appomattox, Vice-Chairman
Robert Hiss, Bedford County
Megan Lucas, Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance
Greg Patrick, City of Lynchburg (proxy for Wynter Benda)
Frank Rogers, Campbell County
John Sharp, Bedford County
John Spencer, Appomattox County (proxy for Susan Adams)
Dwayne Tuggle, Town of Amherst, Chairman

Staff Present:

Alec Brebner
Sandy Dobyns
Kelly Hitchcock
Hannah Mitchell

Others Present:

Sarah Lyon Hill, Virginia Tech

Others Present Virtually:

Ellen Cook, PlanRVA
Barbara Jacocks, PlanRVA

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Dwayne Tuggle called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed the board and guests.

2. Guest Presentation: Richmond Regional CEDS

PlanRVA's Ellen Cook and Barbara Jacocks presented their Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) plan update process, completed in November 2025. The plan charted goals, strategies, and actions; identified prospective partners; and outlined how to monitor progress. An ongoing partnership, RVA Rising, will coordinate implementation. Now, PlanRVA is preparing to apply to the US EDA for Economic Development District status. The process includes gathering data to support economic justification and soliciting letters of support.

Chris Adams left the meeting at 5:19 p.m.

Guest Sarah Lyon Hill described the AM2 Initiative, a program supporting advanced and additive manufacturing in New River Valley, Roanoke, Danville, and Lynchburg. The initiative recently received \$4.2 million in funding from GO Virginia and applied for \$44 million from the US EDA. She invited those interested in the project to join the AM2 Consortium, sign up for email updates, or contact her directly with any questions.

Frank Rogers left the meeting at 5:31 p.m.

3. Consideration of Requests for Electronic Participation

There were no requests for electronic participation.

4. Minutes

Richard Conner moved to approve the March 19, 2026, minutes as presented. Robert Hiss seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Robert Hiss moved to approve the April 9, 2026, Executive Committee minutes as presented. Megan Lucas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Central Virginia SMART SCALE Applications – Resolution of Support

The Commission reviewed the list of SMART SCALE applications within the region.

Megan Lucas moved to adopt a resolution of support for the region's SMART SCALE applications. John Sharp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Safe Streets for All Planning and Demonstration Grant Application

Brebner explained that in 2022, the Commission received Safe Streets for All (SS4A) funding to develop the Central Virginia Safety Action Plan, finalized and adopted in 2025. Without projects ready for construction, staff recommends applying for planning and demonstration funds to complete small safety demonstration projects throughout the region. He proposed applying for \$80,000, with \$20,000 in match from CVPDC reserves. Demonstration projects will position the Commission and/or localities to apply for construction funding later.

Richard Conner moved to adopt a resolution to apply for USDOT SS4A grant funding equal to \$80,000, with \$20,000 in match from CVPDC reserves. John Spencer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Fiscal Year 2027 Work Plan & Budget

Brebner presented the draft budget and work program, recommended by the Executive Committee. Highlights include the Long-Range Transportation Plan, Hazard Mitigation Plan, and Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Brebner noted that the only personnel change is hiring a planner who will begin work on July 1, 2026.

The CVPDC Executive Committee, consisting of the chairman and the appointed officials of member local governments, met on April 9, 2026, for the annual budget preparation meeting. The Executive Committee unanimously recommended approval of the FY2027 Work Plan and Budget presented by staff. The Chairman moved to approve the recommendation, which required no second. Board members unanimously approved the FY2027 Work Plan and Budget as presented.

8. Rural Transportation Planning Work Program

Brebner explained that VDOT requires the Rural Transportation Planning Work Program to describe how \$58,000 in state funding will be spent to support rural transportation. The highlight of the program is the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). One LRTP process will produce two plans: one for the urban footprint and one for rural areas. The Transportation Technical Committee recommended the draft for CVPDC approval.

Richard Conner moved to approve the FY2027 Rural Transportation Planning Work Program as presented. Megan Lucas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Organizational Reports

a) Financial Report

Sandy Dobyns reported that most items are normal. She noted that operational costs are under budget for the fiscal year.

b) Executive Director's Report

Brebner reported that the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) plan is partway complete with consultant Short Elliott Hendrickson. The roadmap and projects in the CEDS plan will attract investment, especially after applying/qualifying for US EDA Economic Development District status. Staff expects to present a draft document for the Commission's consideration in September.

Brebner reported that two local organizations recently received GO Virginia funding: Sweet Briar for a Thermal Engineering program and Randolph College for a Mechanical Engineering program.

Brebner noted that other PDCs are considering reforming the Roanoke River Basin Advisory Committee. He plans to monitor their progress.

Brebner described the May water supply plan kickoff meeting. Each locality has a data spreadsheet to populate. The next steps for funding will depend upon the General Assembly's budget.

The next meeting of the CVPDC will take place on July 16, 2026, at which point a new slate of officers will be considered.

10. Other Business and Regional Roundtable

Tuggle noted a recent measles outbreak in Buckingham, VA, and encouraged all to monitor and prepare.

11. Adjournment

Richard Conner moved to adjourn the meeting. Greg Patrick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

X Richard C Conner
Signature attest

7-15-2026
Date