



**Virginia's Region 2000
Local Government Council**
828 Main Street, 12th Floor
Lynchburg, VA 24504

**November 16, 2017
5:00 pm**

Minutes

Members Present:

Susan Adams, Appomattox County Administrator
Carl Bogges, Bedford County Administrator, Treasurer of Council
Kenneth Campbell, Amherst County Board of Supervisors
Waverly Coggsdale, Altavista Town Manager
Mayor Joan Foster, Lynchburg City Council, Chair of Council
Mayor Paul Harvey, Town of Appomattox
Dean Rodgers, Amherst County Administrator
Frank Rogers, Campbell County Administrator
Bonnie Svrcek, Lynchburg City Manager
Mayor Dwayne Tuggle, Town of Amherst

Members Absent:

Mayor Phyllis Campbell, Town of Brookneal
Del. Ben Cline, Virginia House of Delegates
Bruce Johannessen, Town of Bedford
Megan Lucas, Lynchburg Regional Economic Alliance
Mayor Mike Mattox, Town of Altavista
Bryan Moody, Appomattox County Board of Supervisors
Sen. Mark Peake, Virginia Senate
Michael Rousseau, Campbell County Board of Supervisors
John Sharp, Bedford County Board of Supervisors
Russell Thurston, Brookneal Town Manager

Others Present:

Ben Bowman, Local Government Council
Margaret Carmel, News and Advance
Gary Christie, Local Government Council, Executive Director
Susan Cook, Local Government Council
Christine Kennedy, Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance
Rosalie Majerus, Local Government Council, Deputy Director of Finance
W. Scott Smith, Local Government Council

1. Welcome and Moment of Silence

Mayor Foster, Chair, welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. with a moment of silence.

2. Approval of Minutes of the October 19, 2017 Meeting

Upon a motion by Carl Boggess, and seconded by Bonnie Svrcek, the minutes of the October 19th meeting were approved as presented.

3. Financial Update

- a) Rosalie Majerus reviewed the financials that were included in the meeting packet. She noted that under Direct Project Revenues for Old Town Madison Heights there is a negative \$3,700.00 revenue. This is because she billed them twice last year, and it has been corrected.
- b) Gary Christie presented a resolution for the VML/VACo Investment Program. This program would give the LGC a choice for longer term investments.

A motion was made by Waverly Coggsdale, and seconded by Bonnie Svrcek, to approve the resolution. The motion carried unanimously by those present.

- c) Dean Rodgers gave an update on the CVTC. He advised that last year the General Assembly directed \$260,000 for an environmental assessment on the Training Center. This was a Phase II assessment on specific sites that were known sites of waste, etc. This resulted in a list of work that needed to be done, which would amount to an expense of \$570,000.00. This does not include removal and disposal of surface debris, or include any improvements that may be required to supplement the existing landfill caps, and did not address asbestos and lead. More money will be needed later, as there will be more findings.

At this point, Mr. Rodgers stated that he is not asking for more money from the LGC, and doesn't know if a lobbyist is needed at this time.

Frank Rogers suggested making funds available, not to exceed \$30,000, from the available fund balance to expedite communications with the general assembly when needed. He also advised setting up a line item in future budgets for legislative advocacy.

Dean Rodgers made a motion to authorize spending up to \$30,000.00 for legislative advocacy, from the available fund balance, to continue with work on the Central Virginia Training Center. The motion was seconded by Mayor Paul Harvey, and carried unanimously by members present.

- d) Gary Christie advised the Council that he would like to use \$2500.00 to co-sponsor a speaker with the Alliance, on December 14 when they present an economic report on the region. The speaker this year will be Dr. Stephen Farnsworth, from Mary Washington University. This was approved by consensus from the Council.

4. Creation of a Non-Profit organization to supplement the Workforce Development Board

Gary Christie explained that the Workforce Development Board has recommended that a 501-C-3 be established so that money and resources can more easily come through a foundation rather than through the Local Government Council. The Workforce Board would serve as the foundation's Board, and the foundation would use the Local Government Council to do its personnel management and financial record keeping.

Ben Bowman explained that by establishing a 501-C-3 there would be opportunities to bring in additional funding that would enable the Workforce to do a better job of career pathway development.

The Workforce Development Board would also act as the Board for the foundation.

Bonnie Svrcek suggested that Mr. Bowman proceed with establishing the non-profit organization. The Local Government Council was in agreement.

5. GO Virginia Workforce Grant Application Support

Gary Christie asked for a motion to support a grant application to the Region 2 GO Virginia Board for Workforce Development. The Local Government Council would serve as the fiscal agent and administrator for this grant project.

The motion was made by Carl Boggess, and seconded by Frank Rogers, to support this grant application. The motion was unanimously approved by members present.

6. Taxation and Streaming Videos

Bonnie Svrcek asked the Council to drop her suggestion of taxation of streaming videos from the list of items suggested for the legislative agenda.

A motion was made by Bonnie Svrcek to call on Regional Commissions and Councils throughout the Commonwealth to encourage the General Assembly to begin dialogue between local and state officials on a comprehensive reshaping of the Commonwealth's tax code. The motion was seconded by Carl Boggess, and approved unanimously.

7. Office Space

Gary Christie asked the Council to voice pros and cons they have concerning a move to the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance location, and to talk about setting up a date for the ad hoc committee to look at the space there.

- Parking - Council was advised that there is a city-owned parking lot in close proximity.
- Renovations – Mr. Christie reported that this cost is currently at \$280,000.00, which is probably a high estimate. The thought is that we would renovate space and negotiate with the Alliance to recapture some of the renovation cost in terms of a reduced rate. Currently the mark is at \$15.00, \$9.00 for the space, and \$6.00 for operations.

- Current lease – Mr. Christie advised that the current lease in the Bank of the James is on a month to month basis.
- Staff would be working in reduced space, although there would be some flexible space.

Gary Christie suggested the managers have their December lunch meeting at the Alliance to see the space and talk about options.

Mr. Christie was asked to speak to the landlord at the Bank of the James about buying the floor at the current location.

8. Strategic Planning

Mr. Christie advised that he does not yet have the report showing commonalities among all of the regional plans, but expects to have it ready for the January meeting.

Mr. Christie explained that in next year's budget he would like to budget for a group called the SouthEast Regional Directors Institute to lead the Council in a 360 Organizational Assessment. The cost would be \$4500.00 for their services and \$3,000.00 for travel, not to exceed \$7,500.00.

Council suggested that someone from one of the planning districts who have used this service come to the January meeting to provide information.

9. Meeting Schedule for 2018

Meeting Schedule for consideration for 2018:

- i. January 18 - MPO & LGC
- ii. March 15 – LGC
- iii. April 19 - MPO, LGC
- iv. May 17 – LGC (Dinner Meeting?)
- v. June 28 – Meeting with Roanoke Regional Commission in Roanoke area
- vi. September 20 – LGC
- vii. October 18 – MPO & LGC Dinner Meeting
- viii. November 15 – LGC

Council decided to meet with the Roanoke Regional Commission, for a dinner meeting in May. The June meeting will be scheduled if needed.

10. Other Business

Kenneth Campbell stated that he is unable to access the Central Virginia Training Partnership Program Development Survey shown in the meeting packet. Mr. Christie advised that this would be taken care of.

Ben Bowman reported that on November 30 at 10:00 The Talen Solutions Team and CEOs from manufacturers in the region will meet in Merritt Hall at CVCC to present their electrical needs. Elected officials in the region are also being invited.

11. Next Meeting: January 18, 2018

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:25.

Approved by: _____

Date: _____