



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

Large Conference Room
September 15, 2016
5:00 pm

Minutes

Members Present:

Carl Boggess, Bedford County Administrator, *Treasurer of Council*
Kenneth Campbell, Amherst County Board of Supervisors
Joan Foster, Lynchburg City Council
Philipp Gabathuler, Appomattox Town Manager
Mayor Paul Harvey, Town of Appomattox
Jack Hobbs, Amherst Town Manager
Bryan Moody, Appomattox County Board of Supervisors
Dean Rodgers, Amherst County Administrator
Bonnie Svrcek, Lynchburg City Manager
Russell Thurston, Brookneal Town Manager

Members Absent:

Susan Adams, Appomattox County Administrator
Kenneth Bumgarner, Amherst Town Council
Mayor Phyllis Campbell, Town of Brookneal
Waverly Coggsdale, Altavista Town Manager
Delegate T. Scott Garrett, Virginia House of Delegates
Stacey Hailey, Bedford Town Council
Charles Kolakowski, Bedford Town Manager
Megan Lucas, Lynchburg Regional Economic Alliance
Mayor Mike Mattox, Town of Altavista
Frank Rogers, Campbell County Administrator
Michael Rousseau, Campbell County Board of Supervisors
John Sharp, Bedford County Board of Supervisors, *Chair of Council*

Others Present:

Margaret Carmel, News & Advance
Gary Christie, Local Government Council, *Executive Director*
Susan Cook, Region 2000
Sam Gerstemeier, Centra
Rosalie Majerus, Local Government Council, *Deputy Director of Finance*

Meeting Minutes

1. Selection of Vice Chair

Paul Harvey nominated Joan Foster for the office of Vice Chair. The nomination passed unanimously by those present.

2. Welcome/Moment of Silence

Joan Foster, in Chairman John Sharp's absence due to a work related commitment, proceeded with the meeting by asking everyone to observe a moment of silence.

3. Appreciation of Mayor Harvey for Service as FY 16 Chair

On behalf of the LGC, Mayor Foster expressed appreciation to Paul Harvey for his service as Chair for FY 2016.

4. Approval of Minutes: July 21, 2016

Carl Boggess made a motion to approve the minutes of July 21, 2016 as presented. Bonnie Svrcek seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

5. Financial Report

- A. Rosalie Majerus reported that operational expense has been slightly less than planned. The two grants having the most activity for the first two months of the FY year are Campbell County Rte. 29, which is being fully reimbursed, and the EDA CEDS. The LGC is receiving a 50% match for that from the Dept. of Commerce.

Gary Christie reported that three additional revenue source grants:

- 1) Appomattox Tornado Recovery – grant amount is \$30,000 of which \$15,000 will be retained by the LGC for administrative staff.
- 2) Pamplin Water Tank Repair, \$15,000 – 16,000 from the Virginia Dept. of Health
- 3) Town of Amherst, from the Virginia Dept. of Health

- B. Presentation and Discussion on Dues Increase

Gary Christie asked to Council to have a discussion regarding raising dues, and explained that these funds are important as steady revenue. When asked about the fund balance, Rosalie Majerus answered that the policy is for three years of non-recurring expenses, or about \$600,000. At present we are over that amount by \$300,000.

Bonnie Svrcek stated that without a strategic direction or need an increase in dues would be difficult for her to support.

Following discussion by Council members, Ms. Svrcek made a motion that dues remain the same for FY 2017. Russell Thurston seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Discussion of Legislative Agenda and GoVirginia

Gary Christie asked Council to think about items they would like taken to the General Assembly. Items suggested:

- Bryan Moody – storm water
- Russell Thurston – over regulation
- Dean Rodgers – dam safety rules
- Joan Foster – threat of losing historic tax credits
- Dean Rodgers – future of the Central Virginia Training Center

Mr. Rodgers advised that Sen. Newman has proposed meeting with the entire legislative delegation, and the Alliance is setting up this meeting. To this date, the LGC, the Alliance, and Amherst County have each passed resolutions addressed to the state legislature requesting funds be applied to the Training Center that would be used by the Dept. of General Services to conduct a Level 1 and Level 2 environmental study, to pay for a development plan, and to pay for the razing of the derelict buildings. Amherst County is looking for support for contributing to this effort, as it is a regional sized entity.

Dean Rodgers made a motion that the Local Government Council pledge \$20,000 for this effort. The motion was seconded by Bryan Moody, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Rodgers said that he would approach his Board for additional funds, and Bonnie Svrcek said that she would address her EDA. Mr. Rodgers will also send an email to each of the localities, to present to their Boards, for possible additional help.

Gary Christie explained that GoVirginia is an economic development incentive program that is coming from the state. It has been suggested that this region be included with Roanoke and New River Valley. Roanoke and New River Valley PDCs would like to join with this group and send a recommendation that the three PDCs serve as the regional conveners to encourage and help the state form this regional council.

7. Update to CEDS Plan Update

Mr. Christie explained that the new CEDS will be approved at the October 1 meeting by the CEDS committee, and there will be a roll-out of the CEDS at the October meeting of the LGC, which will be held at the CAER. At this meeting there will be five stations set up to talk about the five initiatives proposed in the document.

One specific issue the LGC will address is the placement of a comprehensive One-Stop Career Center, as required by law, on the CVCC campus. Ben Bowman explained that one of the first things to look at is a feasibility study to determine the needs and cost, and other options for location.

Gary Christie informed the Council that they have a proposal to use some reserve funds to share in the cost of the Workforce Board with \$5,000 to hire an engineer for a feasibility study.

A motion was made by Bryan Moody, with a second by Carl Boggess, to use \$5,000 of reserve funds for this purpose. The motion was unanimously approved.

8. Introduction of Samuel Gerstemeier, Government Relations, Centra

Gary Christie introduced Samuel Gerstemeier, Government Relations Mgr. with Centra. His duties will include dealing with the General Assembly, and he will also interact at the local level. Mr. Gerstemeier said that as one of his responsibilities he will be the registered liason at the state level for the Central Virginia Training Center. He will also have interactions with the other Chambers throughout the region.

9. November Selection of General Assembly Members

Gary Christie asked the Council for thoughts on selection of General Assembly Members. The by-laws call for General Assembly members to rotate. No offers will be made until after the election. If the Council goes by rotation in selection, offers would go to Ben Cline and Steve Newman.

10. Matters from the Council

Paul Harvey asked if anyone knew the status of the Healing Center, which is a recovery center. Dean Rodgers said that his understanding is that they are still trying to solicit \$10,000 from each locality to accumulate \$100,000. As far as he knew, a location for the center had not been determined.

Bryan Moody reported that Appomattox County is trying to bring back their local holding cell, as they don't have enough staff to cover the county and also transport people to the Blue Ridge Jail facility.

Gary Christie added that Ruth Hendrick has asked for feedback on how they are doing with the Small Business Development Center.

11. Adjourn

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Signed: _____

By: _____, _____ (title)