

AGENDA NOTE - HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM #1: MINUTES OF May 19, 2010

Minutes of the May 19, 2010 meeting are attached.

Attachment 1

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approval

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes of May 19, 2010

The Executive Committee Meeting of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission was called to order at 9:32 a.m. at the Regional Boardroom, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia, with the following in attendance:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Bruce C. Goodson, Chairman (JC)
James O. McReynolds, Treasurer (YK)
Alan P. Krasnoff (CH)*
Brenda Garton (GL)
Mary Bunting (HA)
W. Douglas Caskey (IW)
Sharon Scott (NN)*

Anthony Burfoot (NO)
J. Randall Wheeler (PQ)
Douglas L. Smith (PO)
Selena Cuffee-Glenn (SU)
John M. Seward (SY)
William D. Sessoms (VB)
Jeanne Zeidler (WM)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (ABSENT)

June Fleming (FR)
Molly Joseph Ward (HA)
Stan D. Clark (IW)
Joe S. Frank (NN)

Paul Fraim (NO)
Michael W. Johnson (SH)
Tyrone Franklin (SY)

OTHER COMMISSIONERS:

Amar Dwarkanath (CH)
William E. Harrell (CH)
Clifton Hayes (CH)
Ella P. Ward (CH)
Gregory Woodard (GL)*
Neil A. Morgan (NN)*

Regina V.K. Williams (NO)
Gordon C. Helsel (PQ)
Kenneth L. Chandler (PO)
Linda Johnson (SU)*
Harry E. Diezel (VB)
James K. Spore (VB)*
Jackson C. Tuttle II (WM)
Thomas Shepperd (YK)

*Late arrival or early departure.

OTHERS RECORDED ATTENDING:

John Gergely, Henry Ryto, Terri Boothe, Ellis James (Citizens); Earl Sorey (CH); Doug Powell (JC) Keith Cannady, Dianne Randall Foster (HA); Jeff Raliski, Rod Woolard, Bryan Pennington, Stanley Stein (NO); Sherri Neil (PO); Bob Matthias, Courtney Woodward, Mark Schnaufer (VB); Jerri Wilson, Michael King, Herbert H. Bateman, Jr. (NN); George D. Gabriel – WBB Consulting; Aneil Kumar – ASIS/SECCON; Terri Suit – Office of Commonwealth Preparedness; Randy Gilliland - Green Jobs Alliance; Philip Shucet - HRT; Ray Taylor – FHR; John Cosgrove – House of Delegates; Chris Bonney -CNU/HRCCE; Betsy McBride – HRCCE; Peter Huber – Willcox & Savage; Cathy Aiello – Biggs & Fleet; Staff: Dwight Farmer, John Carlock, Rick Case, Nancy Collins, Jennifer Coleman, Kathlene Grauberger, Greg Grootendorst, Richard Flannery, Lisa Hardy, Jim Hummer, Rob Jacobs, Whitney Katchmark, Brett Kerns, Sara Kidd, Benjamin McFarlane, Brian Miller, Kelli Peterson, Camelia Ravanbakht, Jenny Redick, John Sadler, Joe Turner, Jenny Tribo and Chris Vaigneur.

Chairman Goodson called the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission Executive Committee meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENT

One person requested to address the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission.

Ellis W. James

Thank you Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, my name is Ellis James. I'm a resident of Norfolk, Virginia, and have been all my life. The tragedy that I called to your attention previously in the Gulf is now well documented. As some of you know, Ellis James doesn't usually get up to speak, but when he does, he tries to pull up the information that tells you what's really going on. BP refineries account for most of the violations. BP was told safety issues existed on another rig and it goes on and on and on. For those of you who don't receive the Virginian-Pilot, you'd be in our way. That's the front page. A report from the Pentagon talking about lease sale 220 and what the complications could be for the United States Navy. Some of us are fighting hard to keep a carrier from being carried to Florida and certainly this kind of situation won't help. I hope that each of you has had the opportunity over these last weeks since the 20th of April when the tragedy struck and the blowout occurred, have had an opportunity to look at the excellent investigative reporting that's being done by the Wall Street Journal, the Daily Press, sometimes the Virginian-Pilot with their wire services stories compiled so that you have a feel for the fact that this is not an idle tragedy and problem of the moment that will disappear and go away. Let me finish with just this one point. For those of you who do not know what the loop current is, it is the Gulf Stream. As of yesterday and the evening before, huge globs of oil have now showed up at Key West, and that is simply because once the oil gets, whether on top of the water or below the surface, once it gets into the loop current, it goes down around Florida, the Gulf Stream pulls it up; next stop the East Coast. This is one of the reasons that some of us who oppose offshore drilling for the eastern seaboard are trying to get your attention. And I know from talking with some of you that you have been paying close attention, and I hope that you will continue to do so. This is a huge issue, and if you have read the reports from the gulf, you know that the tourist industry and the fishermen and many other groups have now begun to realize how devastating this environmental incident is. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items:

Minutes of April 21, 2010

Treasurer's Reports

Regional Reviews

A. PNRS Items Review

Forest Heights Road Neighborhood Improvement

King William – Scotland Landing Acquisitions

Lynnhaven Oyster Restoration and Estuary Protection

FY 11-12 VADEQ Technical Review and Services for Defense Environmental Restoration Program Activities at Active DoD Facilities and Environmental

B. Environmental Impact Assessment/Statement Reviews

Proposed Student Center Building – Tidewater Community College; Virginia Beach Campus

Briton Trace, Hampton, USHUD

On Site Housing Construction Project, SE VA Training Center

FY 2010 Operating Budget Amendment

Commissioner Zeidler Moved to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Commissioner Smith. The Motion Carried.

Assistant to the Governor for the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness

Chairman Goodson introduced Ms. Terrie Suit, Assistant to the Governor, from the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness.

(Commissioner Morgan arrives)

Ms. Suit gave the Commission a quick overview of the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness (OCP), and stated that she is the Governor's Direct Liaison to the local First Responders, and they are working very hard to strengthen relationships in the area of emergency management and planning and preparedness. Ms. Suit indicated the office is broken down into two components, statutorily and there are fourteen duties that the office carries out. Some of those duties include being the state's liaison to the Department of Homeland Security and managing all of the grants. Ms. Suit stated the Governor also asked her to review how they were prioritizing where that money goes so they can ensure it is going where there is the highest risk and the highest threat. There is also a grant working group that is evaluating and looking at how grant monies are distributed.

Ms. Suit indicated work is being done on critical infrastructure. A data call was recently completed and it will be given to the Department of Homeland Security, identifying the most critical assets in Virginia. Ms. Suit stated her deputy assistant, Mr. Mike McAllister, specifically concentrates on homeland security areas and he has a national reputation in critical infrastructure. Mr. McAllister is working on a pilot program in Hampton Roads with the Planning District Commission & Richard Flannery on credentialing. Work continues with first responders according to the homeland security guidelines. The OCP is also working with the buffer zone protection grants. These are zones around the areas that have been identified as critical infrastructure.

(Commissioner Scott arrives)

On the non-statutory side, the Governor has asked Ms. Suit to concentrate on military relations as it is very important in Hampton Roads. Twenty percent of the jobs in Virginia are direct DOD hires. The Governor's vision for Virginia is to increase jobs, the economy, safety and security as well as the quality of life for citizens. Ms. Suit indicated that she has been tasked with working with the Military and is looking for opportunities to help expand the military, DOD and the federal facilities presence here in Virginia.

Chairman Goodson thanked Ms. Suit for briefing the Commission.

Regional Bacteria Source Tacking Study

Chairman Goodson introduced Ms. Jenny Tribo to present the Regional Bacteria Source Tracking Study. Ms. Tribo stated that bacteria is the most common impairment for water quality in the area and almost every locality has a water body that is not meeting water quality standards due to too much bacteria in the water. DEQ is developing total maximum daily load (TMDL) studies for these water bodies to quantify the load reductions necessary to meet the water quality standards. These studies will provide an idea of where the major sources are coming from; whether they are coming from human sources such as leaking sewer systems or failing septic tanks or stormwater runoff, pet waste or wildlife run off from the buffers or from agriculture. The implementation planning phase of the TMDL program is to figure out how to make the reductions that were identified in the TMDL plan. Since the sources are not known, common sense management actions are being applied. Ms. Tribo explained it would be helpful to have more definitive techniques to identify where these sources are coming from, and it would be useful to the stormwater programs in identifying their roles and responsibilities in cleaning up their watershed.

Ms. Tribo indicated three study areas in Virginia Beach, Suffolk and York County were selected in the region by a subcommittee of local government and HRPDC staff. The case study overview will include Mill Dam Creek; Shingle Creek, an older portion of Suffolk; and Moore's Creek, mostly low density residential, newer redevelopment. Mill Dam Creek and Shingle Creek are a mixture of sewer and parcels that are septic and agricultural. Moore's Creek is primarily horse farms.

Ms. Tribo stated that hopefully by next summer the final report will be complete and that the techniques used were helpful in this area. It is hoped other localities and DEQ will use the techniques in the future.

Mr. Sheppard inquired as to how locations were selected and if a base line was being established.

Ms. Tribo indicated the initial locations were selected for access to collect the samples. Then branches of the creeks were then identified as well as the land use data. It was then determined from where to collect the data – such as downstream from a horse farm or downstream of a pump station - and see if there are any potential sources. Regular indicator bacteria, E-coli and Enterococcus, do not indicate the source, they indicate concentration. Those locations will be examined to determine if there are high counts of regular bacteria or general bacteria where those concentrations are located.

(Commissioner Woodard arrives)

Federal Clean Water Legislation – Reauthorization of the Chesapeake Bay Program

Chairman Goodson introduced Mr. John Carlock to present the Federal Clean Water Reauthorization and the possible effects on Hampton Roads.

Mr. Carlock reminded the Board that staff had already addressed the issues previously at the January meeting. The results of that discussion were for the HRPDC staff to work in conjunction with members of the Stormwater Committee to determine the appropriate comments on the Federal legislation. Those comments and the revisions to the letter were being presented to the Commission for approval. Mr. Carlock noted some primary events that are happening currently:

- Reauthorization of the Chesapeake Bay Program
- A consent agreement between the EPA, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and other environmental organizations
- The Obama administration's Chesapeake Bay strategy

The events have an overall impact on Hampton Roads and the future outlook on Stormwater permits in each of the localities.

The Reauthorization of the Chesapeake Bay legislation was spearheaded by Senator Cardin and Representative Cummings from Maryland. The proposed legislation would require the TMDL to be instituted into statutes instead of continuing as a TMDL implementation plan. A change would make it more difficult to modify if staff felt it was needed. The Federal government would also have the authority to have individual states enact an implementation plan and complete the required reductions by the year 2025.

In late April, a revised letter was submitted to the HRPDC Stormwater Ad Hoc Subcommittee for review. Comments received from that committee, along with changes in regards to the current legislation, have been drafted into the letter the HRPDC is asking the Commission to approve.

Currently, the revised letter addresses three major concerns:

- Front loaded implementation requirement by 2017/2025
- If there is adequate state funding available
- Appropriations of \$1.5 billion for Stormwater Management activities

Staff was concerned that the front loaded implementation requirement achievement rate of sixty percent was too extreme for the beginning part of the process. Economic hardships on localities would make the adequate state funding requirement unobtainable. New legislation along with new EPA rules for establishing TMDLs will affect what the state of Virginia does.

HRPDC staff recommends the Commission approve the letter and grant permission to the Chairman to send it to the Congressional Delegation. Staff will continue keeping the Commission updated on the progress of this throughout the following months.

Commissioner Harrell Moved to approve the letter; seconded by Commissioner Jones. The Motion Carried.

Green Jobs Alliance Grant Proposals To Department of Energy

Chairman Goodson introduced Councilman Randall Gilliland to present Green Jobs Alliance (GJA) Grant Proposals to the Department of Energy.

Councilman Gilliland thanked the Commission and localities that supported the Green Jobs Alliance over the past couple of years. Councilman Gilliland stated the Department of Energy's Ramp-Up Through Retrofit Grant Application the Commission endorsed several months ago was approved. Million dollar weatherization and energy efficiency grant was submitted on behalf of STOP, which is the local community action agency that works on foundations for energy efficiency and GJA is currently working at the federal level to support funding for VCERC and Virginia Tech for offshore wind and coastal energy research.

Councilman Gilliland stated there are two resolutions in support of two Department of Energy Grant Applications. One is The State Energy Program which is part of the regular Department of Energy competitive grant process. This would award \$2 million at a minimum, \$5 million at a maximum, and would serve to accelerate the regional energy alliance and home performance with Energy Star Program. The GJA is teaming with the National Association of State Energy Officials and the Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance for this grant application and it includes localities and regions in Virginia, Alabama, Georgia, Washington, Oregon and Massachusetts. There is a need to demonstrate regional support for this application. The GJA is requesting the Commission's approval of the resolution, and a letter will be emailed to your staff that needs to be signed by the Chief Administrative Officer, Mayor or Board Chair.

Commissioner Smith Moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Zeidler. The Motion Carried.

Chairman Goodson stated that we would move on to the next resolution.

Councilman Gilliland stated that this Resolution is for Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program, Weatherization Innovation Pilot Program with awards up to \$3 million. The Green Jobs Alliance, along with the local Energy Alliance Program in Charlottesville would lead this program at the request of the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy. The partners in this program will include our local weatherization providers, Williamsburg and James City County, Community Action Agencies, STOP, and the Office for Human Affairs. The goal of this grant is to develop and test innovative technologies, materials and processes to weatherize more homes at lower costs. Approval of the resolution is being requested, and a letter will be emailed to each locality.

Commissioner Jones Moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Commissioner Caskey. The Motion Carried.

(Commissioners Spore and Johnson arrive)

U.S. HUD Sustainability Grants Program

Chairman Goodson stated that Mr. Carlock would present the U.S. HUD Sustainability Grants Program.

Mr. Carlock indicated the sustainable community planning grant program is a new initiative. It is a combination of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Department of Transportation; the funding is through the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The federal government supports regional planning and integrated issues dealing with housing, environmental, transportation and land use. Funding for this project is \$150 million nationwide; there is a maximum of \$5 million dollars of grant money for large regions and there is a reduced level for smaller regions. Hampton Roads is considered a large region.

Mr. Carlock stated that HUD released its advance notice and requested comments back in February. The HRPDC staff commented on the advance notice, particularly looking at the timing because proposals were due in early June. Comments focused on the match requirement, which was set at twenty percent of the funding, and the eligibility encouraging a regional comprehensive agency like the HRPDC would remain eligible for funding. Mr. Carlock indicated the HRPDC had completed the process and is officially registered as a potential applicant.

This program has potential regional opportunities for increased regional cooperation, to integrate the planning process across the region, and to build on previous planning efforts from the long range transportation planning work of the Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) to the Regional Green Infrastructure Plan and the Vision Hampton Roads that was just completed by the Hampton Roads Partnership.

Mr. Carlock stated that both HRPDC and HRTPO staffs have talked to the Joint Environmental Committee, public works and planning, Transportation Technical Advisory Committee, southside regional planners to discuss inter-jurisdictional planning issues. Comments from those groups were needed to work on integrating planning to analyze options and scenarios for future growth in the region and identifying common goals and principles that could be worked toward. Staff is in the process of developing a proactive and progressive public involvement strategy which is required by the grant program.

Mr. Shepperd asked how this would empower the region and is the HRPDC just going after a grant or is the region actually going to be able to do something with it.

Mr. Carlock stated one of the best examples of projects that have worked in the region is the SWAMP program, the southern watershed area management program with Chesapeake and Virginia Beach, where the two cities helped HRPDC identify a number of issues they had in the southern watershed that drains south into North Carolina. HRPDC staff, along with consultant technical studies in agriculture and conservation corridors, urban design, rural design and in agreement with the two cities, continues working together in that watershed. Both cities were able to incorporate this into their comprehensive plans and enabled them to do a better job of what the public and the city councils felt were appropriate for that watershed.

Chairman Goodson indicated he could understand this funding could help the individual localities complete their comprehensive plans. For example, in the historic triangle, the three localities have made a decision to produce them at the same time. What if the HRPDC made the offer that any locality that was willing to do their comprehensive plan collaboratively would get the benefit of the regional work? Otherwise we still get separate comprehensive plans for separate localities, and this would provide incentive for the other localities to do their comprehensive plans on a simultaneous basis. It would promote regional awareness for the comprehensive plan update process and possibly some joint public input sessions and work that could be off-loaded from the localities to this type of grant opportunities. It could be very beneficial.

Commissioner Zeidler Moved to authorize the HRPDC to develop the application, apply for the grant, and convene a working group of local planning directors or their designated staff to work on developing a final scope of work and to accept a grant award if offered; second by McReynolds. The Motion Carried.

Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory

Chairman Goodson stated that Mr. Carlock would also present the Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory.

Mr. Carlock stated this is another regional opportunity, and thanked the Cities of Chesapeake, Virginia Beach and Norfolk for making this regional greenhouse gas emission inventory possible. As part of their energy efficiency and conservation block grant program last year the Cities included funding to do a greenhouse gas emissions inventory. They decided that it did not make sense to draw walls around the three communities so

they have suggested we do it regionally, and set up a program that HRPDC could use to get ahead of the curve on a number of regulatory requirements.

Mr. Carlock indicated that it will be an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions from all Hampton Roads localities. HRPDC will use the methodology which has been accepted and used in other metro areas, Washington, Philadelphia, and Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission. HRPDC staff will manage it, and contract with Old Dominion University for the technical work, and then the HRPDC, the ODU and the localities together will work on developing our goals and future reduction strategies.

Mr. Carlock stated that HRPDC is not going to do any new sampling data. We will use available data, and establish a baseline based on what year the data is available, look at a future trends, business as usual look at what following that, what will emissions look like in 2020 and then look at the various sectors and ranges from power plants to agriculture to existing industrial processes, forest land, land conversion and find out what the emissions are and work towards setting up a reduction target. Final report will be presented to the Commission about a year from now, which will include the methodology, the base data, the inventory, future projections, the goals and recommendations.

Commissioner Jones Moved to authorize HRPDC to develop a contract with ODU, develop a Memorandum of Agreement between HRPDC and the three localities that are funding the program and a Memorandum of Understanding with the other localities seconded by Commissioner Sessoms. The Motion Carried.

Project Status Reports

No questions or comments were noted

Correspondence of Interest

No questions or comments were noted

For Your Information

No questions or comments were noted

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am

Dwight L. Farmer
Executive Director/Secretary

Bruce C. Goodson
Chairman