

**AGENDA NOTE - HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**ITEM #4: MINUTES OF JULY 21, 2010**

Minutes of the July 21, 2010 meeting are attached.

Attachment

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approval

**Hampton Roads Planning District Commission**  
**Quarterly Meeting**  
**Minutes of July 21, 2010**

The Quarterly Meeting of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission was called to order at 9:35 a.m. at the Regional Boardroom, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia, with the following in attendance:

**COMMISSIONERS:**

Bruce C. Goodson, Chairman (JC)	J. Randall Wheeler (PQ)
James O. McReynolds, Treasurer (YK)	Kenneth L. Chandler (PO)*
Dr. Alan P. Krasnoff (CH)*	Elizabeth Psimas (PO)
William E. Harrell (CH)	Michael W. Johnson (SH)
Ella P. Ward (CH)	Anita T. Felts (SH)
Amar Dwarkanath (CH)	Selena Cuffee-Glenn (SU)
Molly Joseph Ward (HA)	Tyrone W. Franklin (SY)
W. Douglas Caskey (IW)	William D. Sessoms (VB)
Sanford B. Wanner (JC)	James K. Spore (VB)*
Neil A. Morgan (NN)*	Harry E. Diezel (VB)
Sharon Scott (NN)*	Barbara M. Henley (VB)
Paul D. Fraim (NO)*	Jackson C. Tuttle II (WM)
Regina V.K. Williams (NO)	Clyde Haulman (WM)
Thomas Smigiel (NO)	Thomas Shepperd (YK)*
Gordon C. Helsel, Jr. (PQ)	

Absent: Clifton Hayes (CH); Stan D. Clark, Vice Chairman (IW); June Fleming (FR); Gregory Woodard, Brenda Garton (GL); Ross A. Kearney, Mary Bunting (HA); McKinley Price (NN); Anthony Burfoot, Dr. Theresa Whibley (NO); Linda T. Johnson (SU); John M. Seward (SY); Robert M. Dyer, Louis R. Jones, John Uhrin (VB).

\*Late arrival or early departure.

**OTHERS RECORDED ATTENDING:** Henry Ryto & Terri Boothe (Citizen); Earl Sorey (CH); W. Dewey Hurley – Branscome, Inc.; Ellis W. James - Sierra Club Observer; Karen Scherberger- Norfolk Festevents, OpSail; Earl Sorey (CH); Keith Cannady (HA); Jeff Raliski, Bryan Pennington, Rod Woolard (NO); Eric Nielsen (SU); Sherri Neil (PO); Jerri Wilson (NN); Bob Matthias (VB); Jessica Forbes, Ecology & Environment, Inc.; Jim Flahey, Whitney, Bradley & Brown, FAC; John Cosgrove, House of Delegates; Rose Pruden, Senator Y. Miller Office; John Stone, Portsmouth Partnership; Skip Stiles, Wetlands Watch; Dana Dickens, HRP; George Bonner, U.S. Coast Guard; David Ham, Danny Rosado, WVEC; James V. Koch, ODU Economic Department, Larry Atkinson, ODU Oceanography; Al Ruitort, ODU Instructor; ODU Students– Casey Smith, Ciera Davidson, Tory Askew, Mark Hawkins, Arlene Fauntleroy, Christopher Lawrence, Ryan Baie, Tressell Carter, Jacob Lay, Bryan Witt, Tiffany Johnson-Wiggins, Sherin Henderson, Tara L. Weekes, Brandon Borne, Elizabeth Fenslee, Keith Ferguson, Kimberly Powell, Sebawit Bishu, Bo Ram Yi; Germaine Fleet – Biggs & Fleet; Peter Huber – Willcox & Savage; Staff: Dwight Farmer, John Carlock, Rick Case, James Clary, Jennifer Coleman, Nancy Collins, Richard Flannery, Kathlene Grauberger, Greg Grootendorst, Lisa Hardy, Julia Hillegass, Frances Hughey, Jim Hummer, Rob Jacobs, Claire Jones, Sara Kidd, Whitney Katchmark, Brett Kerns, Benjamin McFarlane, Brian Miller, Kelli Peterson, Andy Pickard, Camelia Ravanbakht, Dale Stith, Joe Turner, Chris Vaigneur.

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

Chairman Goodson introduced Commissioner Elizabeth Psimas from the City of Portsmouth.

## **RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION**

Chairman Goodson begin the meeting with presenting a Resolution of Appreciation to Commissioner Sanford B. Wanner, County Administrator of James City County. Mr. Goodson indicated that it has been a pleasure and great honor to serve with Mr. Wanner for eleven years. Chairman Goodson presented the resolution to Commissioner Wanner. The Commission and staff recognized with applause.

(Commissioner Morgan arrives)

Commissioner Wanner stated that it has been his honor and privilege since 1996 to represent James City County on the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission. Commissioner Wanner stated he has always been an advocate of the regional system and it is very hard work to represent a jurisdiction and the region. It takes political courage to make decisions in the efforts of the region. Mr. Wanner also indicated that there is work to be done as a region and he will endeavor to be a regional supporter during his retirement. Mr. Wanner then thanked the Commission. The Commission and staff recognized with applause.

Mr. Goodson Introduced new Commissioners Mr. Thomas Smigiel, Norfolk and Mr. Clyde Haulman, Mayor of Williamsburg.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

***Ellis W. James***

Thank you very much Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission. I chose a seat close to the microphone my beloved horn-rimmed glasses suffered a tragic accident yesterday. Luckily most of my thoughts are in my brain as small as it is. And I won't have any problem with having to read. I very much appreciate the fact having talked with some of you that you have followed the issues surrounding offshore drilling and especially the tragedy in the Gulf. I think it is very clear to most people whether you are from a community on the coast or whether you are in the heart of the Commonwealth or the western edges of Hampton Roads. The tragedy that we are confronted with seems to keep on giving. I carefully listened to the testimony yesterday of Mr. Camp Thorn and Mrs. Norton. The suggestion that we do not have serious problems with offshore drilling and all that that suggests in terms of the push to bring it here to the Mid-Atlantic is somewhat ludicrous in my view. We have in the Gulf 27,000 old wells. We have 60 inspectors for the Gulf. That's all. And we

learned yesterday evening late that there is a leak from another well not too far away from where the tragedy occurred on the deep well Horizon. Now, when you start thinking about those numbers and trying to figure out how we are going to legitimately and effectively deal with the issue of inspections of offshore rigs if they were brought here to our area, it just doesn't add up. I have one major concern that plays into this issue. There are scientific, solid scientific indications, that our oceans are in trouble. That means that some of our communities in Virginia may very well be in trouble. The Eastern Shore, Virginia Beach, Sandbridge and so on. If we allow acidification of the oceans to continue, then we will destroy the restoration efforts, the excellent restoration efforts that are underway in Lynnhaven River as an example right now, to restore our oysters. A way of life under pinned by the economic structure of bringing tourists to the eastern part of the state is without question one of the great issues for the 21st century if we are to protect that structure. Neglect of the oceans and the great predators such as the sharks lead only to more destruction. And of course my pet peeve which is to block any efforts to bring offshore drilling because that will only further the difficulties in our oceans. I appreciate the fact that you are paying close attention and I would hope that any of you who have great concerns about what's happening, you can flip to the defenders of wildlife there is an excellent story in that issue for July 2010 that deals with the very issue that I have mentioned to you a moment ago. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

(Commissioners Chandler, Scott, and Shepperd arrive)

Chairman Goodson stated that before the start of the consent agenda, the Personnel and Budget Committee met before this meeting and Mr. Farmer was asked to give a list of his accomplishments and challenges for 2010. Chairman Goodson also stated that Mr. Framer will report back to the committee for what his challenges would be for next year and there was no compensation discussion. Chairman Goodson indicated that Mr. Farmer's contract was for three years and his contract will go until June 30, 2011.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

The Consent Agenda contained the following items:

Minutes of June 16, 2010

Treasurer's Report

Regional Reviews

A. PNRS Items Review

VA Development of Wetland Program Plan, Database Improvement and Continuing Monitoring Strategy for Virginia

B. Environmental Impact Assessment/Statement Review

Installation of New Bulkhead and Demolition of Existing Wharf Structure, St. Julien's Creek Annex, DOD/Navy

SLN 5100 Apartments, USHUD

Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant, Unit 3 Combined License, US Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Chambers Field Improvements, Naval Station Norfolk, DOD Navy

Gate Improvements at Norfolk International Terminals – South, Virginia Port Authority

HRPDC Commission Member Handbook

Green Infrastructure Grant Proposal

Commissioner Psimas Moved to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Mr. Shepperd. The Motion Carried.

### **Climate Change/Sea Level Rise Presentation**

Chairman Goodson introduced Dr. James Koch, Professor of Economics at Old Dominion University.

Dr. Koch stated that we needed to know what is happening to the water levels in Hampton Roads. He indicated that there are a couple of key indicators around the region, for example the Gloucester Point sea level has risen more than fifteen inches over the last century; the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel is close to twenty-four inches due to subsiding of earth and structures. Dr. Koch stated that over the last century, water levels continue to rise and the sea level rise in Hampton Roads is larger than any other place at 4.42 millimeters a year.

Dr. Koch stated that it is not just a Southside problem it is also portions of the Peninsula. The Cities of Hampton and Newport News have significant problems that must be dealt with if there are storms of significant size. Fort Monroe will be covered with water if something is not done. The City of Norfolk, with a Category 2 hurricane, would be flooded. Some specific areas include the NIT Terminals, Old Dominion University, Sentara and the light rail. Dr. Koch stated that virtually every city in Hampton Roads has this kind of problem. He also indicated that our region ranks 10th in the world in terms of the total value of the assets at risk, and this area will have lots of potential damage due to rising sea levels.

(Mayor Krasnoff arrives)

Dr Koch believed the HRPDC should recognize the challenge and place it high on their regional priority list. Also better information such as regional ground mapping and Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) is very important to the future of the region. Dr. Koch indicated GIS information is needed so the region knows exactly what assets it has and how fast the land is sinking. Dr. Koch stated it may not be readily evident that the grounds east of Route 17 are gradually sinking and it is one of the reasons our problem is worse than many of the regions around the country.

(Mayor Fraim arrives)

Dr. Koch stated that he would like HRPDC to consider a 50/50 partnership with Old Dominion University to contract a study for the entire region, or at least several of the major cities, to get a better handle on the costs the region would face if it did nothing.

Chairman Goodson thanked Dr. Koch and then stated that Dr. Koch was here because Old Dominion is looking for a partner for this initial study. The Chairman asked Mr. Farmer to give HRPDC the highlights on this particular effort.

Mr. Farmer stated that Old Dominion University and Doug Smith had invited him to a meeting with the Water Group. Mr. Farmer indicated that HRPDC staff have met with several city councils on climate change/sea level rise. ODU has offered to partner with HRPDC; and Dr. Koch would be on this team to conduct a preliminary assessment of what is at risk and the dollar value. Mr. Farmer indicated what needs to be done is to partner with ODU as soon as possible and to purchase the LIDAR data for the entire region. This is the preliminary step to assess whether HRPDC wants to go further into this process and aggressively work with federal, state and local officials to get complete LIDAR information in order to make a detailed assessment.

Commissioner Fraim Moved to approve staff to move forward, seconded by Commissioner Psimas. The Motion Carried.

Mr. Farmer stated that at the meeting in September, Dr. Koch, ODU and HRPDC will work out a scope of work and cost for services and seek authorization to approve the arrangements and execute a contract.

Commissioner Psimas asked if the military would be a partner due to its large amount of land area in the region.

Mr. Farmer stated they should be at the table during the preliminary assessment.

### **Operation Sail (OpSail 2012)**

Chairman Goodson introduced Ms. Karen Scherberger to present Operation Sail (OpSail 2012). Ms. Scherberger stated that over the last twenty-five years our cities, region and state have been more experienced and successful at planning and producing major scale events such as the Jamestown event in 2007. Norfolk/Port of Hampton Roads was selected by the Chief of Naval Operations as one of the five ports to participate in the national Bicentennial Commemoration of the War of 1812 along with New Orleans, Baltimore, Boston, and New York. Ms. Scherberger stated that this will be the first time warships will team up with the tall ships, and the International Council of Air Shows and the Navy have partnered for each port for a major air show.

Ms. Scherberger stated that OpSail 2012 is an international military and maritime project sponsored by the U.S. Department of Defense and OpSail Inc. which is based in New York. OpSail 2012 was endorsed on January 6, 2010 by the Virginia Commission on the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 as a signature event for the Commonwealth. OpSail also gives Virginia a national scale event to advance the initiatives of our own Virginia

Commission on the War of 1812 and guarantees national and international platform for world-wide recognition for Virginia's ports, tourism and other regional and Commonwealth priorities.

Ms. Scherberger stated that OpSail 2012 in Virginia is a signature event for the Commonwealth of Virginia Bicentennial of the War of 1812. OpSail 2012 in Virginia is prepared to stand out and be the leader among the other four national ports. OpSail is returning to Hampton Roads and she asked the region for its support and participation in planning and coordination of many aspects of this project.

Chairman Goodson asked for questions about signing the resolution.

Commissioner Fraim Moved to sign the resolution, seconded by Commissioner McReynolds. The Motion Carried.

(Commissioner Spore arrives)

### **Hampton Roads H2O – Help to Others Program – Memorandum of Agreement**

Chairman Goodson introduced Mr. John Carlock to present the Hampton Roads H2O – Help to Others Program – Memorandum of Agreement. Mr. Carlock stated he would refresh the Commission on where the program stands and what is needed from the Commission.

Mr. Carlock indicated the program provides financial assistance to citizens who are in danger of losing their residential water service, a one-time need in cases of emergency. This is a regional fund-raising program and the regional pool of funds are allocated on the basis of localities and then distributed to individuals.

Mr. Carlock stated the Utilities Directors, HRPDC staff and social services providers have worked to establish criteria for this program. HRPDC approved these criteria in 1999. The people who live in the service areas and are in danger of losing water service because of financial or family crisis and also participate in educational programs on water conservation and wise use of water. The program has been established since 1997, initially in the City of Norfolk and James City County and now covers the entire region.

The program had been active through 2005, and inactive since that time as they work through a few things to make the program more effective. The Hampton Roads H2O Program was established as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in 2007, IRS approval of the tax deductibility of donations is pending. The program has been informal but given the non-profit status and the IRS action, the Utilities Directors, HRPDC and Hampton Roads Sanitation District staff decided the H2O program needed to develop a Memorandum of Agreement between the HRPDC, HRSD and the Board of the Hampton Roads H2O Program.

Mr. Carlock indicated with the Memorandum of Agreement, HRPDC staff will provide administrative staff support, coordinate the program and provide public information; HRSD will continue to handle financial management, accounting, collection and

disbursement of funds and provide the appropriate tax deductible receipts; and the H20 Board would manage the program on a regular basis and evaluate its effectiveness.

Commissioner Shepperd, wanted to know how the H20 program gets to individuals who are in need of assistance.

Mr. Carlock stated the individual in need will contact the social service department and in some cases the Salvation Army, community services group, and once the person meets the list of eligibility criteria the information goes to the utility department and HRSD transmits the money.

Chairman Goodson wanted to know if the funding in the past contributions is raised mostly from the localities or utilities department.

Mr. Carlock stated the contributions to the program have been raised from citizens. They are contributions made by checks and cash, put in an envelope, sent to HRSD and designated to the H20 Program. The program has raised an average of \$40,000 a year.

Chairman Goodson asked if there had been any discussion about adding a particular amount to a water bill or HRSD bill that could be designated toward this fund.

Mr. Carlock stated that it has been discussed and that the H20 Program Board would have to look at this once it gets the tax deductible issue resolved. This would open a lot of opportunities to solicit contributions.

Chairman Goodson asked for a motion to authorize the HRPDC Executive Director to execute the Memorandum of Agreement.

Commissioner Spore Moved to execute the Memorandum of Agreement; seconded by Commissioner Wanner. The Motion Carried.

### **HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program**

Chairman Goodson stated Mr. Carlock would also present HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program.

Mr. Carlock stated that a couple of months ago the Commission authorized HRPDC staff to proceed with the development of the application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for funding for a regional program grant and since that time, HUD has released the notice of funds that are available. The funds are coming from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to support regional planning efforts and integrate planning for housing, environment, transportation and land use. Funding is distributed to large and small metro areas and HRPDC falls into the larger metro areas, which are eligible for up to \$5 million in funding. Proposals are currently being solicited by HUD from June 25, 2010 to August 23, 2010, with grants announced in late September 2010 and the contract execution date is in February 2011.

Mr. Carlock said the HRPDC would have a regional development framework which would involve an extensive and intensive public involvement effort. It would start with the technical work of assessing the existing conditions looking at ranges of potential strategies and scenarios on what the future in Hampton Roads might look like and this work would be coordinated with existing local and regional plans.

Mr. Carlock indicated that the new HUD rules require a regional consortium be established and must include the regional planning agency, MPO, local governments that represent the principal cities and half of the region's population and nonprofit organizations or educational institutions which can work with a diverse representation of the general population.

In developing the proposal, HRPDC will continue to work with local staffs to identify the specifics on how the HRPDC will meet all the requirements.

Mr. Carlock asked for the Commission's endorsement of the proposal concept and the Memorandum of Understanding.

Commissioner Fraim Moved to endorse the Memorandum of Understanding; seconded by Commissioner Shepperd. The Motion Carried.

### **Appoint HRPDC 2010-2011 Nominating Committee**

Chairman Goodson announced new officers of the Commission will be elected in October. There are some changes and vacancies to the Nominating Committee. He asked the following members to serve on the Nominating Committee:

Chesapeake	Ella P. Ward
Franklin	Vacant
Gloucester	Gregory Woodard
Hampton	Ross A. Kearney II
Isle of Wight	Stan D. Clark
James City	Bruce Goodson
Newport News	Sharon Scott
Norfolk	Thomas Smigiel
Poquoson	Gordon C. Helsel, Jr.
Portsmouth	Elizabeth Psimas
Southampton	Anita T. Felts
Suffolk	Linda T. Johnson
Surry	John M. Seward
Virginia Beach	Louis R. Jones
Williamsburg	Clyde Haulman
York	Thomas G. Shepperd, Jr.

Chairman Goodson asked Commissioner Shepperd to serve as the Chairman for the Nominating Committee. Mr. Shepperd accepted. He then asked HRPDC to contact Franklin about its vacant position.

## **Project Status Report**

Chairman Goodson stated this agenda item did not require any action.

## **Correspondence of Interest**

Chairman Goodson stated this agenda item did not require any action

## **For Your Information**

Chairman Goodson stated this agenda item did not require any action.

## **Old/New Business**

Chairman Goodson stated that there is information about the TIGER II Discretionary Grants Program. He asked Mr. Farmer to brief the Commission.

Mr. Farmer stated that Southampton County is requesting that the HRPDC endorse the U.S. Route 58 Courtland Interchange Project for the second round of Tiger. The request amount is \$23.3 Million. The recommendation is to endorse this grant application.

Commissioner Harrell Moved to endorse U.S. Route 58 Courtland Interchange Project; seconded by Commissioner Franklin. The Motion Carried.

Chairman Goodson asked for any other new business item.

Commissioner Fraim stated the presentation by Karen Scherberger on Operation Sail (OpSail 2012) is a wonderful event but collaboration and cooperation is needed. There is a lot of joy in this event and getting involved is good for our communities. Also, as a member of the Governor's Commission on Reform and Restructuring Mayor Fraim indicated he also chairs the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. This is a relationship with local, state and federal government on how to improve relationships across the Commonwealth. The focus is on the core services of state government, the core services of local government, and state money that can come to localities. The States needs to allow the localities more flexibility by being performance driven as opposed to being outcome driven. This gives localities needed flexibility with the money, and if money is left over this allows us to use it for priorities the communities need. Commissioner Fraim stated the communities need to look at how they can perform more effectively and competitively as a region.

## **Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, the meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

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Dwight L. Farmer  
Executive Director/Secretary

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Bruce C. Goodson  
Chairman