

HAMPTON ROADS PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
QUARTERLY COMMISSION MEETING – APRIL 16, 2008

The Quarterly Commission Meeting of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission was called to order at 10:40 a.m. at Regional Boardroom, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia, with the following in attendance:

COMMISSIONERS:

Paul D. Fraim, Chairman (NO)	Randy W. Hildebrandt (NN)
Bruce Goodson, Vice Chairman (JC)	Barclay C. Winn (NO)*
James O. McReynolds, Treasurer (YK)	Kenneth L. Chandler (PO)*
Clifton E. Hayes, Jr. (CH)	Douglas L. Smith (PO)*
William E. Harrell (CH)	Michael W. Johnson (SH)
Ella P. Ward (CH)	Selena Cuffee-Glenn (SU)
Rowland L. Taylor (FR)	Tyrone W. Franklin (SY)*
Randall A. Gilliland (HA)	Harry E. Diezel (VB)*
Ross A. Kearney II (HA)	Robert M. Dyer (VB)*
Jesse T. Wallace, Jr. (HA)	Barbara M. Henley (VB)*
W. Douglas Caskey (IW)*	Meyera E. Oberndorf (VB)*
Stan D. Clark (IW)*	Louis R. Jones (VB)
Sanford B. Wanner (JC)	James K. Spore (VB)*
Charles C. Allen (NN)	Jackson C. Tuttle II (WM)
Joe S. Frank (NN)	Jeanne Zeidler (WM)

*Late arrival or early departure.

OTHERS RECORDED ATTENDING:

Earl Sorey - Chesapeake; Keith Cannady, Elizabeth Kersey - Hampton; Beverly Walkup - Isle of Wight County; Jeff Raliski, Ron Williams - Norfolk; Paul Holt, Sherri Neil, Brian Swets - Portsmouth; Eric Nielsen, Joe Howell - Suffolk; Bob Matthias - Virginia Beach; John Gergely - Private Citizen; Michael Townes - HRT; Jim Oliver - HRCCE; Karen McPherson - Kimley-Horn; Jim Ponticello, Chris Voigt, Dennis Heuer, Eric Stringfield, Irene Shuman - VDOT; John Hadfield - SPSA; Mark Rickards - WAT; Ivan Rucker - FHWA; Joyce Heffington - HRSD; Michael Cline, Stewart Baker -VDEM; Ray Taylor, Vince Thomas - FHR; Pat Piras - HRT; Ron Hodges - HRT Traffix; David Hesson - Senior Services Southeastern Virginia; Donna Morris - HRP; Ellis W. James, Eileen Levandoski - Sierra Club Observer; Tom Holden - The Virginian-Pilot; Germaine Fleet - Biggs & Fleet; Staff: Arthur Collins, Jessica Banks, Sam Belfield, Shernita Bethea, John Carlock, Rick Case, Robert Case, James Clary, Nancy Collins, Dwight Farmer, Richard Flannery, Marla Frye, Greg Grootendorst, Frances Hughey, Rob Jacobs, Brett Kerns, Mike Kimbrel, Robert Lawrence, Mike Long, Keith Nichols, Joe Paulus, Kelli Peterson, Andy Pickard, Camelia Ravanbakht, Jennifer Tribo, Joe Turner, Chris Vaigneur and Eric Walberg.

RESOLUTION

Chairman Fraim asked Mr. Art Collins to come forward for the reading and presentation of his Resolution of Appreciation for his 38 years of service to the HRPDC.

Arthur L. Collins
Upon Retirement from the
Hampton Roads Planning District Commission

Whereas, Arthur L. Collins, has faithfully and professionally served the community of Hampton Roads for over 38 years; and

Whereas, he served as the Executive Director of the Southeastern Virginia Planning District Commission beginning in 1979; and

Whereas, on July 1, 1990, the Southeastern Virginia and Peninsula Planning District Commissions merged to form the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, and on July 18, 1990, Arthur L. Collins was appointed Executive Director; and

Whereas, he has demonstrated excellent leadership in efforts to address regional issues, and has substantially contributed to the development of regional programs and agencies; and

Whereas, he has contributed greatly to the success of the Commission's objectives through his intelligence, experience and strong leadership; and has devoted personal time and energy toward developing a strong sense of regional cooperation among the member governments; and,

Whereas, he has rendered invaluable service to this Commission, other local and regional agencies as well as the citizens of Hampton Roads; and

Whereas, Arthur L. Collins has indicated a desire to retire on May 1, 2008.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission that Arthur L. Collins be recognized and commended for his outstanding work these many years and is presented this Resolution as a token of the Commission's gratitude and esteem; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Hampton Roads Planning District Commissioners and Staff extend to Arthur L. Collins their best wishes in his well-earned retirement and orders that a copy of this Resolution be spread upon the Minutes of this Commission this sixteenth day of April, in the year 2008.

Executed this sixteenth day of April 2008

Paul D. Fraim, Chairman

Mr. Collins was given a standing ovation.

Mayor Kearney Moved to adopt the Resolution; seconded by Mayor Zeidler. The Motion Carried.

Mr. Collins thanked the Commission and stated he has enjoyed his association with everyone over the many years.

Mayor Frank also asked the Commission to acknowledge Comr. Allen and thanked him for his many years of service to the PDC and MPO since this will also be his last meeting. The Commission responded with applause.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Fraim asked for additions or corrections to the Minutes of March 19, 2008. There were none.

The Consent Agenda contained the following items:

Minutes of March 19, 2008

Ratification of Executive Committee Actions

Treasurer's Report

Regional Reviews

A. PNRS Items (Initial Review)

Chesapeake Bay Monitoring Program
(Virginia Department of Environmental Quality)

Development of Policy and Action Steps to Achieve Nutrient Reductions from the Production of Cellulosic Biofuels in the Chesapeake Region
(Chesapeake Bay Commission)

Cottage Industry Microenterprise (Intermediary Lending) Program
(Center for Community Development, Inc.)

B. Environmental Impact Assessment/Statement Review

Dominion Cove Point Liquefied Natural Gas Terminal Expansion project: LNG Ship Transit in US Waters, DHS/US Coast Guard; Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Hampton

Authorizing Resolutions and Certifications for FY 09 State and Federal Grant Applications

Environmental Program Contracts

Mayor Frank Moved to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Mayor Kearney. The Motion Carried.

PROPOSED FY 2009 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET

Treasurer McReynolds reported the budget was reviewed at the Annual Retreat. He added there will be no increase in the assessments to local governments for the fourth consecutive year.

Treasurer McReynolds Moved to approve the budget; seconded by Comr. Smith. The Motion Carried.

APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Chairman Fraim stated in light of Mr. Collins' upcoming retirement, the search for a new Executive Director is ongoing. Since the Bylaws allow the Chairman to appoint an Interim Executive Director until the position is filled, he would appoint Nancy Collins of the HRPDC staff as the Interim Executive Director and PDC Secretary.

Chairman Fraim Moved that Nancy Collins be appointed as Interim Executive Director upon Mr. Collins' retirement; seconded by Comr. Jones. The Motion Carried.

CONSERVATION CORRIDORS - LAND ACQUISITION OPPORTUNITY

Chairman Fraim introduced Mr. John Carlock, Deputy Executive Director, Physical Planning, to present this report.

Mr. Carlock stated he would briefly review the status of the regional conservation corridors and the land acquisition opportunity included in the packet.

Conservation corridors are also referred to as green infrastructure, a planned network of green spaces that benefit wildlife and people and should be part of the annual program of localities according to the Conservation Fund. He added that a year ago he presented a report describing the activities that were underway with the localities. That study recommended a number of actions: the work on integrating green infrastructure implementation with the development approval process, the use of green infrastructure to facilitate regulatory compliance and research activities presently underway.

A well-attended workshop was held in February with local governments, state representatives and the military. The consensus among the group was that work should continue to promote green infrastructure as a vehicle for helping buffer military facilities and prevent encroachment.

Mr. Carlock noted that when agenda item 6 was approved earlier, staff was authorized to proceed with a grant and contract with the state to continue work to refine the corridor system and begin identifying implementation priorities. That grant was made possible because the state has recognized the work of the PDC and the localities as a model for green infrastructure conservation corridor planning.

(Mayor Oberndorf arrived.)

The recognition by the state and the Conservation Fund has led the PDC to the opportunity outlined in the agenda. The Conservation Fund approached the PDC and asked for assistance in identifying parcels in Hampton Roads in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed that are good examples of conservation corridor green infrastructure planning.

An email was sent to the localities asking for projects that were ready to proceed and located within the conservation corridor system. Based on the responses, the PDC staff and Virginia Beach staff met to discuss a proposal, a map and a series of documentations on the parcels which meet the criteria for water quality and environmental protection, three in the Lynnhaven River system and one in the Elizabeth River system. The recommendation is the state provides 50 percent matching funds from money available for land acquisition in the budget. The city then would manage the parcels for environmental restoration provision of passive recreational opportunities.

He summarized that the Conservation Fund is a national environmental organization that has been in existence for over 20 years and works with localities, state agencies and private entities to identify conservation opportunities and work with them to preserve land and historic sites. Mr. Carlock asked that the Commission support state funding for the acquisition of the listed parcels and approve the letter of support included in the agenda. He offered to answer questions.

Comr. Gilliland asked if the first map shown was available by individual localities.

Mr. Carlock replied that each locality has a report that includes the maps. They are not detailed maps of individual localities at this point, but that is part of the next phase of efforts in the study.

Vice Chairman Goodson asked what the process is for other localities to get the PDC's endorsement for funding of other sites.

Mr. Carlock stated that a letter was sent out to all the localities for proposed sites. The only response received was from Virginia Beach, but the PDC will continue to work with the other localities to identify sites.

Mayor Kearney asked if a reply was received from Hampton.

Mr. Carlock answered that none have been received to this point. He added that staff has been working with the planning department on a couple issues in Hampton.

Chairman Jones Moved to approve endorsement of the letter to the Governor; seconded by Mayor Oberndorf. The Motion Carried.

PROJECT STATUS REPORT

Chairman Fraim asked for questions or comments regarding the Project Status Report. None were noted.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Chairman asked for questions or comments regarding the informational items. None were noted.

HAMPTON ROADS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Chairman Fraim called for a recess of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, while the Hampton Roads Metropolitan Planning Organization was called into session.

(Comrs. Clark, Oberndorf, Smith, Winn, Dyer, Caskey, Franklin & Chandler departed during the Hampton Roads Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting.)

RATIFY MPO ACTIONS

Comr. Gilliland Moved to ratify the actions of the Hampton Roads Metropolitan Planning Organization; seconded by Treasurer McReynolds. The Motion Carried.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

The Chairman asked for old or new business. None was discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, the meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.

Nancy K. Collins
Interim Executive Director/Secretary

Paul D. Fraim
Chairman