

**AGENDA NOTE – HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**ITEM #10: PROJECT STATUS REPORTS AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUMMARIES**

**A. DIRECTORS OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE SUMMARY MINUTES**

The Directors of Utilities Committee Summary Minutes from the November 6, 2013 meeting is attached.

Attachment 10-A

**B. REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY**

The Regional Environmental Committee Meeting Summary from the November 7, 2013 meeting is attached.

Attachment 10-B

**C. PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

Attached are the project status reports on other HRPDC programs.

Attachment 10-C

**MEETING OF THE  
H2O - HELP TO OTHERS – PROGRAM BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
AND THE  
DIRECTORS OF UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

The H2O – Help to Others – Program Board of Directors held the annual meeting on November 6, 2013. The following items were discussed:

- HRPDC staff provided a program status update; fundraising, assistance distribution, and budget allocations for FY 2014 and FY 2015 were reviewed.
- The Board elected Mr. Scott Dewhirst, Newport News Waterworks Assistant Director, to the Board to replace Mr. Brian Ramaley (retired Newport News Waterworks Director) and voted to continue the terms of the other current officers.

The Directors of Utilities Committee met on November 6, 2013. The following items were addressed during the meeting:

- The Committee discussed future hosting of the askHRgreen.org mobile trailer. Portsmouth Public Utilities agreed to host the trailer for two years from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2016.
- The Committee discussed sewer system consolidation. HRSD reviewed the outcomes of the October 29, 2013 meeting with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the alternative concept for HRSD to implement the regional wet weather capacity improvements. A follow-up meeting with HRSD and localities is scheduled for November 14, 2013 at HRSD.
- HRPDC staff briefed the Committee on the October 31, 2013 meeting of the Directors of Utilities Groundwater Subcommittee. Progress was reported on the groundwater management criteria white paper, the USGS subsidence white paper, and the HRPDC-USGS chlorides white paper.
- The Committee provided feedback to HRPDC staff on an upcoming data call to support the FY14 project on affordability research.
- Mr. Bill Meyer, the Committee's representative on the Hampton Roads Urban Area Working Group (UAWG), noted that very limited FY2013 Homeland Security Grant Program funds were awarded to the region and that Committee members are encouraged to attend a meeting scheduled for December 17, 2013 at HRPDC, which will focus on developing a sustainable means of supporting security investments in the region.
- The Committee discussed access and administrative issues associated with allowing telecommunication facilities to lease space on utility property.

**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**

The Regional Environmental Committee met on November 7, 2013. The following items were discussed.

- HRPDC staff briefed the Committee on the final report for the Section 309 Grant Project, *Land and Water Quality Protection in Hampton Roads Phase II*. The Committee voted to recommend approval of the report by the HRPDC for publication and distribution.
- Ms. Whitney Katchmark, HRPDC, briefed the Committee on recent developments concerning nutrient trading regulation, including the Nutrient Trading Regulatory Advisory Panel (RAP).
- Tidewater DEQ staff briefed the Committee on the status of various Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and Implementation Plans for water bodies in Hampton Roads.
- Mr. Randy Keaton, HRPDC, updated the Committee on the status of an effort by the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) studying issues related to the availability and affordability of property insurance for homeowners in coastal areas. HRPDC staff has been assisting this effort by providing GIS and mapping support.
- Ms. Jai McBride briefed the Committee on the final report for the Virginia CZM Program-funded Technical Assistance grant, *Hampton Roads Coastal Resources Technical Assistance Program, Fiscal Year 2012 – 2013*. The Committee voted to recommend approval of the report by the HRPDC for publication and distribution.
- Mr. Noah Hill, DEQ, updated the Committee on the rollout of stormwater regulations affecting local governments.
- Status reports and updates from HRPDC staff and locality staff.

## **PROJECT STATUS REPORTS**

### **1. Regional Economics Program**

#### **Technical Assistance**

Economics staff routinely provides technical assistance and support to member jurisdictions and regional organizations. Both the HRPDC Data Book and the Commission's Benchmarking Study provide easy access to a great deal of regional information. Staff also provides special reports and newsletter articles on topics of timely significance, such as payroll and unemployment reports. Over the past month, staff has provided briefings to member localities (per request), provided interviews and presentations for information purposes, and has responded to information requests from individuals, member localities, regional organizations, and the media.

#### **Hampton Roads Data Center**

In keeping with the state mandate that calls for Planning District Commissions to collect and maintain demographic, economic, and other data concerning the region and member localities, and to act as a state data center affiliate in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, staff routinely collect and maintain a variety of data sets. This year, as per the Commission's work program, staff are moving from the publication of data in an annual Data Book, to an online data repository that will enable efficient access for those seeking regional data. Staff are in the process of moving to an online system; a process that is expected to be ongoing as new information is released.

#### **HRPDC Annual Economic Forecast**

Each January, the HRPDC Economics Department delivers a regional economic forecast. This effort includes a review of trends in the regional economy over the preceding year along with a detailed regional forecast for the coming year. Staff are beginning preparations for the forecast which will be delivered at the HRPDC Quarterly Meeting on January 16, 2014.

### **2. Emergency Management Project Update**

#### **Ready Hampton Roads**

Staff continues to support the Ready Hampton Roads (RHR) program. Current efforts include:

- Development of a coordinated, regional social media campaign
- Website improvement planning
- Development and adoption of a strategic plan for RHR that establishes ReadyHR.org as a 'one stop shop' for citizens looking for emergency and disaster related public information and educational information

- Redesign of practitioner side of ReadyHR.org to include calendar syncing, and group/committee collaboration sites that include mobile access capabilities and document collaboration.
- Development of a RHR virtual joint information center for aggregating regional emergency public information and providing a way for public information officers to collaborate, share and validate information during response operations

To this end, in addition to staff efforts, an RFQ has been developed and will be issued on EVA to contract out certain website development with \$10,000 in federally awarded grant funds.

### **Special Needs Subcommittee**

The REMTAC Special Needs Subcommittee continues to be supported by the Regional Special Needs Planner and EM Staff as needed. A HIPAA consultant met with stakeholders on October 24 at the HRPDC to give an overview and answer questions on how HIPAA impacts the region and localities. The meeting was live streamed and can be reviewed from a link off the HIPAA resource page developed on [ReadyHamptonRoads.org](http://ReadyHamptonRoads.org) located at:

<http://readyhamptonroads.org/Practitioners/HIPAA.aspx>

HRPDC staff continues to research the impact of HIPAA and will follow up at the next Subcommittee meeting that is scheduled for November 19, 2013.

### **Regional Emergency Management Technical Advisory Committee (REMTAC)**

The Emergency Management staff continues to manage and support the Regional Emergency Management Technical Advisory Committee and its associated tasks and committees. The REMTAC will next meet November 12, 2013.

### **Mitigation Planning**

#### **Poquoson Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Update**

HRPDC has negotiated a contract with Salter's Creek to assist with the 2009 Multi-Hazard Poquoson mitigation plan, while Poquoson has formed a robust Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee.

- Hampton Roads Hazard Mitigation Plan

EM Staff, in coordination with the REMTAC, are in the process of developing a planning strategy to encompass the concerns of a few emergency managers in order to best move forward and utilize funds for mitigation planning that are anticipated to be awarded to HRPDC later in the year. Final decisions regarding whether the region uses the funds are delayed until after further analysis by REMTAC and the grant award decision by FEMA.

### **WebEOC Subcommittee**

The REMTAC WebEOC Subcommittee continues to be supported by HRPDC staff. The Subcommittee met on October 7, 2013 and HRPDC staff is assisting follow-up with:

- WebEOC Regional usage/data sharing policy issues
- Medical Special Needs data WebEOC usage/HIPPA
- Updating system Admin Contacts

### **Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)**

The Emergency Management staff continues to manage and support the Hampton Roads Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) Grant Program for the Urban Area Working Group (UAWG). Recent activity includes:

- **FY 2013 State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) Submission**  
The HRPDC and UAWG have recently completed a lengthy, regional application to the state for grant funding under the SHSGP. The regional request totaled \$2.1 million. However, only \$156,000 was received.
- **Regional Sustainment Analysis**  
During the FY 2013 SHSGP, the UAWG and HRPDC identified critical, regional capabilities that will require on-going sustainment costs. These projects were required to complete an in-depth sustainment budget, projected out for ten years. In light of the low award from the state homeland security grant program, an all stakeholders meeting has been scheduled for December to discuss other sustainment solutions for capabilities built utilizing the UASI grant.

### **Hampton Roads Interoperable Communications Advisory Committee (HRICAC)**

Beginning in June 2013, the HRPDC began providing project management and support for the HRICAC and associated tasks and subcommittees. Recent activity includes:

- **Regional Interoperability Communication Plan**  
The HRPDC applied for and received an FY 2011 UASI grant for the completion of a regional interoperability communication plan. The HRPDC has contracted for professional services and work is under way. One of two workshops was held on September 11, 2013. During this workshop, regional communications stakeholders begin the process for identifying regional communications goals and objectives. The final workshop, held on October 15, 2013, provided an opportunity for stakeholders to review the draft plan completed using input given in the first workshop. The plan is complete and being distributed to interoperable communications stakeholders.

- HRTacRan End User Equipment

The HRPDC applied for a received an FY 2011 UASI grant for the replacement of HRTacRan end user equipment. The HRPDC has issued a PO to provide the necessary equipment. The equipment will be placed in each locality's Emergency Operation Center and allow for video conferencing over the internet and Hampton Roads Microwave Ring.

### **3. Housing Project Updates**

#### **Hampton Roads Loan Fund Partnership**

The staff is continuing to provide downpayment and closing cost assistance to qualified first-time homebuyer in the region through HOME Funding from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). To date, all funds have been reserved to qualified buyers with anticipated closings in the next months. The program funding period ends December 31, 2013.

#### **Housing & Human Services Technical Assistance**

HRPDC Staff members recently held a symposium entitled "***Housing 2020***". This report was recently released by Housing Virginia on a state level. In this study, Housing 2020 analyzes the future of housing in Virginia through four aspects; Demographics, Economics, Finance and the "Green" Housing. This event brought a regional focus to this data and provided participants with a snapshot of housing trends in the region. Representatives from Housing Virginia, the HRPDC, and Old Dominion University presented.

Staff continues to assist the Hampton Roads Housing Consortium and will represent the region at the upcoming Governor's Housing Conference on November 20-22, 2013 in Norfolk, Virginia. The Governor's Housing Conference is the largest and most comprehensive housing-related event in Virginia. Each year, the Housing and Human Services staff oversees the development of the regional exhibit that showcases affordable housing opportunities and activities in Hampton Roads. Staff was also asked to facilitate a session on Creating Productive Regional Partnerships.

### **4. Public Information & Community Affairs Project Updates**

#### **H2O: Help to Others**

H2O is a community-based program that assists people in crisis through the generosity of donations. Through H2O, families or individuals in danger of losing residential water service because of a family crisis can receive one-time financial assistance to pay their local public utility and/or HRSD bill.

H2O was established in 1999 by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission with the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) and the public utilities

departments of our member localities. In 2011, the Help to Others program received nonprofit, 501(c)(3) status making all program donations tax-deductible.

The Board of Directors recently held their annual meeting, appointing Scott Dewhirst, Newport News Waterworks to serve as an officer, replacing Brian Ramaley. Reports were completed for the State Corporation Commission and staff reviewed receipts and disbursements to date.

- Received January-October 2013: 5,615 donations totaling \$38,119.00.
- Assisted: January-October 2013: 281 customers received \$56,615.28 in aid.

	<b># Customers</b>	<b>Assistance \$</b>	<b>Average Assistance</b>
Gloucester	1	88.93	88.93
Hampton	26	5,940.36	228.48
Chesapeake	33	7,418.65	224.81
James City	4	844.16	211.04
Newport News	31	6,832.66	220.41
Norfolk	50	9,493.29	189.87
Portsmouth	3	521.36	173.79
Suffolk	27	4,696.77	173.95
Virginia Beach	92	18,602.71	202.20
Williamsburg	1	140.96	140.96
York County	1	179.05	179.05
Southampton County	0	0.00	0.00
Smithfield	1	250.00	250.00
Isle of Wight	11	1606.38	146.03
Poquoson	0	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>\$56,615.28</b>	<b>\$201.48</b>

### **askHRgreen.org**

Progress continues in the environmental education programs via the coordinated efforts of askHRgreen.org. Season campaigns kick off with America Recycles Day events, awareness campaigns about lawn fertilization and leaves, as well as

preventing fats, oils and grease from entering the sanitary sewer system. Additional activities include:

- Website improvement planning
- Social media calendar
- Search engine optimization
- Search engine marketing
- Various media interviews