Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by HRPDC Chair Andria McClellan at 12:32 p.m.

Mr. Robert Crum, HRPDC Executive Director, stated that pursuant to the declared state of emergency in the Commonwealth of Virginia and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to protect the public health and safety of the Commission members, staff, and the general public, the HRPDC meeting was being held electronically via Zoom. These electronic meetings are required to complete essential business on behalf of the region.

Per the requirements of the Code of Virginia, the meeting notice, agenda, and supporting documentation were posted on the HRPDC website for public review. HRPDC staff also provided electronic copies of this information to Commission members and other interested parties. A recording of the meeting will be available on the HRPDC website. Additionally, the meeting was live-streamed and available for viewing on the Regional Connection YouTube channel.

The general public was provided an opportunity to provide comments on today’s meeting agenda via two options:

1. Members of the public were invited to submit comments to the Commission via email.
2. Members of the public were also invited to call into a dedicated phone line where comments could be recorded for the Commission.

No public comments were received as of 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Mr. Crum reviewed a few important housekeeping rules in order for the electronic meeting to run smoothly:

1. All Commission members were asked to remain on mute before and after providing input.
2. All Commission members were asked to identify themselves by name and locality when speaking and/or providing a motion or second.
3. All votes must be made by roll call and recorded in the minutes.

On behalf of the HRPDC staff, Mr. Crum thanked everyone for their commitment to the region and for their cooperation and patience during the electronic meeting.

Approval/Modification of Agenda [Action Requested]
Chair McClellan indicated that there had been a request to modify the HRPDC Agenda to add “COVID-19 Response Update” as an agenda item following the Consent Agenda.

A roll call vote was conducted and the Commission approved the agenda as amended.

The roll call vote also served as the record of attendance and a quorum was confirmed.
Submitted Public Comments
There were no submitted public comments.

Public Comment Period
The general public was provided an opportunity to provide comments in advance of the meeting by email or phone. Chair McClellan stated that HRPDC staff received no comments via either option by 48 hours before the meeting.

Executive Director’s Report
Mr. Robert Crum, HRPDC Executive Director, referenced his monthly report and provided an update on the HRPDC Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Committee’s efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including a public outreach campaign to help to stop the spread of the virus and a public service announcement to inform Hampton Roads’ residents of federal utility relief assistance for residents impacted by the pandemic and unable to pay their utility bills.

Consent Agenda [Action Requested]
The following items were on the Consent Agenda for approval:

a. Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2020 Commission Meeting
b. Treasurer’s Report – November 2020
c. Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Amendment
d. 2021 Regional Meetings Schedule
e. Invitation to Join RVA-757 Connects
f. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program 2020-2024
g. Contract with Old Dominion University for Emergency Medical Supplies Inventory System
h. Consultant Services Contract Task Order – Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
i. Consultant Services Contract Task Order – Military Installation Resilience (MIR) Review

A roll call vote was conducted and the Commission approved the Consent Agenda as presented.

COVID-19 Response Update [Action Requested]
Mr. Robert Crum, HRPDC Executive Director, reported that throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the HRPDC Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Committee has met on an ongoing basis to align efforts and coordinate regionally on how to respond to the pandemic and its impacts on Hampton Roads’ communities and residents. More recently, the CAO Committee’s focus transitioned to COVID-19 vaccinations and the confusion regarding the vaccine rollout, frustration regarding the speed of the rollout, and confusion due to the inconsistent messaging and approaches of various health districts across the region.

Mr. Crum reported that the CAO Committee had recently appointed a subcommittee to address regional vaccination rates. He referenced a draft letter to Governor Northam that was distributed that morning to Commission members for their review and consideration. Mr. Crum indicated that staff was requesting authorization for Chair Andria McClellan and Vice-Chair David Jenkins to send the letter to the Governor on behalf of the region.

After review of the draft letter, a robust discussion, and suggested revisions, Mr. Crum clarified the requested action as approval to send the revised letter, signed by Chair Andria McClellan and Vice-Chair David Jenkins, to the Governor that day with a copy to the Hampton Roads Caucus of the Virginia General Assembly as well as approval to issue a press release to the media.
A roll call vote was conducted and the Commission approved sending the modified letter to the Governor and issuing a press release on behalf of the region.

**Hampton Roads 2021 Economic Forecast [Action Requested]**
Mr. Greg Grootendorst, HRPDC Chief Economist, briefed the Commission on the 2021 Economic Forecast. He reported that each January since 1990, HRPDC Economics Staff have delivered a presentation on the current state of the regional economy with thoughts on what we might expect in the coming year.

Mr. Grootendorst provided an overview of relevant trends in the regional and national economy and his perspective on a variety of socioeconomic indicators. He also reported on the impact that COVID-19 has had on the Hampton Roads Region as well as what may lie ahead.

The Commission’s forecast is often used in planning purposes by staff from member jurisdictions as well as other regional organizations. Approving the release of the Economic Forecast provides public access to the information.

A roll call vote was conducted and the Commission approved the release of the Hampton Roads 2021 Economic Forecast.

**Environmental Education Program Update**
Ms. Katie Cullipher, HRPDC Principal Environmental Education Planner, briefed the Commission on the Environmental Education Program. She reported that the askHRgreen program, which launched in 2011, is an award-winning comprehensive environmental public outreach initiative administered through the HRPDC.

Ms. Cullipher indicated that the program combines traditional and social media with grassroots outreach efforts to not only educate but inspire residents of Hampton Roads to make changes that have a positive impact on the environment. Through askHRgreen.org, the HRPDC facilitates a variety of environmental education efforts by assisting member localities in notifying residents and meeting regulatory requirements, combining local expertise, and taking advantage of economies of scale. For citizens, it has become a one-stop-shop to find resources and inspiration for a cleaner, greener Hampton Roads.

Chair Andria McClellan expressed interest in expanding askHRgreen to include Energy Efficiency. Mr. Robert Crum suggested continued discussions to review the potential opportunities and what may be next for askHRgreen in more detail.

**Legislative Update [Action Requested]**
Due to time constraints, Mr. Crum’s Legislative Update was deferred.

Commissioner Andrew Trivette informed the Commission of a new Senate Bill co-authored by Senators T. Montgomery Mason and Thomas K. Norment regarding COVID-19 vaccinations. After discussion, there was a motion and a second to authorize the Executive Director to prepare and send a letter addressed to the Hampton Roads Caucus of the Virginia General Assembly, signed by Chair Andria McClellan and Vice-Chair David Jenkins, offering regional support for amendments to Senate Bill 1445 that will facilitate the ability of local government staff to administer vaccinations.
A roll call vote was conducted and the Commission approved sending a letter to the Hampton Roads Caucus offering regional support for amendments to Senate Bill 1445 that will facilitate the ability of local government staff to administer vaccinations.

Three-Month Tentative Schedule
This item was for informational purposes.

Advisory Committee Summaries
This item was for informational purposes.

For Your Information
This item was for informational purposes.

Old/New Business
There was no old/new business.

ADJOURNMENT