

## **Hampton Roads Planning District Commission Summary Minutes of April 20, 2017**

The April 20, 2017 Meeting of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission was called to order by the Chair at 12:30 p.m. in the Regional Boardroom, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia, with the following in attendance:

### **Commissioners in Attendance**

Dr. Ella P. Ward, Chair (CH)  
Michael Hipple, Vice Chair (JC)\*  
Randy Martin, Treasurer (FR)  
James Baker (CH)  
Debbie Ritter (CH)  
Phillip Bazzanni (GL)  
J. Brent Fedors (GL)  
Donnie Tuck (HA)  
James Gray (HA)  
Randy Keaton (IW)  
Bryan Hill (JC)\*  
Sharon P. Scott (NN)  
Kenneth Alexander (NO)\*  
Mamie B. Johnson (NO)\*  
Andria McClellan (NO)\*

Doug Smith (NO)  
David Hux (PQ)  
John Rowe (PO)  
Dr. Lydia Pettis Patton (PO)  
Peter Stephenson (SM)  
Barry Porter (SH)  
Michael Johnson (SH)  
Patrick Roberts (SU)  
Tyrone Franklin (SY)  
Louis R. Jones (VB)\*  
Dave Hansen (VB)  
Barbara Henley (VB)\*  
Paul Freiling (WM)\*  
Marvin Collins (WM)\*  
Thomas Shepperd (YK)

### **Commissioners Absent:**

Lonnie Craig (CH)  
Barry Cheatham (FR)  
Mary Bunting (HA)  
Rex Alphin (IW)  
McKinley Price (NN)  
Thomas Smigiel (NO)  
J. Randall Wheeler (PQ)

T. Carter Williams (SM)  
Linda Johnson (SU)  
John Seward (SY)  
Robert Dyer (VB)  
John Moss (VB)  
John Uhrin (VB)  
Neil Morgan (YK)

### **Executive Director:**

Robert A. Crum, Jr.

\*Late arrival or early departure.

### **Others Recorded Attending:**

Mary Riley (CH) Frank Rabil (FR); Brian DeProfio (HA); Brian Stilley, Jerry Wilson, Cindy Rohlf (NN); Wynter Benda (NO); Bob Baldwin (PO); Randolph Cook (SH); Kevin Hughes, Leroy Bennett (SU); Thomas Leahy (VB); Cathy Davidson (Albermarle Commission); Cathy Aiello (Aiello Enterprises); Richard Broad (Norfolk Department of Public Utilities); Mark Geduldig-Yatrofsky (Portsmouth City Watch); Angela Kellam (The Planning Council); Ellis W. James (Sierra Club); Andrew Friedman (Virginia Beach Department of Housing); Citizens: Donna Sayegh; Staff: Keith Cannady, Kelli Arledge, Shernita Bethea, Mignon Burton, Nancy Collins, KC Filippino, Andrea Gayer, Greg Grootendorst, Whitney Katchmark, Sara Kidd, Sharon Lawrence, Mike Long, Camelia Ravenbakht, John Sadler, Tiffany Smith, Joe Turner, Chris Vaigneur.

### **Approval/Modification of Agenda**

Chair Ward requested modifications or additions to the agenda. Hearing none Commissioner James Baker Moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Michael Hipple. The Motion Carried.

### **Submitted Public Comments**

Mr. Robert Crum, HRPDC/HRTPO Executive Director, indicated there were no Submitted Public Comments and asked to proceed to the Public Comment period.

Mr. Crum asked to switch the order of Items 7 and 8 on the agenda because he wanted to ensure that the Roanoke River Basin Association (RRBA), which requires action, would be voted on while there was still a quorum. After that item is voted on, then the HRPDC would move to Item 7 which is an update on the Regional Task Force to End Homelessness.

Chair Ward asked for a motion to move Item 8 up on the Agenda. Commissioner Thomas Shepperd Moved to move the item up; seconded by Commissioner Debbie Ritter. The Motion Carried.

### **Public Comment**

*Commissioner Barbara Henley Arrives*

Ms. Donna Sayegh spoke about the Beacon 37 Movement. She expressed displeasure about the local government making decisions without the citizens' consent, and used the request for the City of Portsmouth to help fund the RRBA as an example.

*Commissioner Alexander departs*

### **Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Crum briefed the Commission on the sidewalk messaging program, the Write as Rain Campaign, sponsored by the HRPDC's askHRgreen program. There are over 60

environmental messages around the Hampton Roads region this week in honor of Earth Day that reveal environmental messages on sidewalks that remind citizens that daily things in life matter as it relates to water. WAVY TV 10 conducted an interview about the campaign, and it will air on the Hampton Roads Show. He commended Katie Cullipher and Rebekah Eastep for the incredible job they do on behalf of the askHRgreen program.

Mr. Crum briefed the Commission on the Help to Others program (H20). The program provides funds for one month to families needing assistance in paying their water bill. He informed the Commissioners of the Community Foundation that will launch the Give Local 757 program on May 24th. Money from the event can be allocated to the H20 program.

Mr. Crum briefed the Commission on the Personnel and Budget Committee meeting. The committee reviewed the budget that will be presented to the Commissioners for consideration and approval in May.

Mr. Crum provided an update on the situation with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). He reported that FEMA conducted a review of the City of Hampton's flood plain program, and as a part of that review, FEMA indicated that the City of Hampton would have to start permitting minor improvements that are exempt from the Statewide Building Code. Regional letters expressing concerns about this issue have been sent to FEMA. He reported that the Chief Administrator Officers (CAOs) Committee, and the key staff, along with HRPDC staff, will be meeting with FEMA Region 3 and FEMA Headquarters, and the State Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) on Thursday April 27th to explain the concerns of Hampton Roads and what they view as government overreach. FEMA is expected to present draft guidance at that time.

## **Introduction**

Chair Ward introduced and welcomed Ms. Cindy Rohlf, City Manager of Newport News, and Mayor Frank Rabil of the City of Franklin to the Commission.

## **Approval of Consent Items**

Mr. Crum highlighted the following items in the Consent Agenda for approval:

- a. Meeting Minutes – February 16, 2017 Commission Meeting
- b. Treasurer's Report of February 2017
- c. Transcribed Public Comments – February 16, 2017 Commission Meeting
- d. Consultant Services Contract – Regional Construction Standards Program Support
- e. Consultant Services Contract – Special Legal Consultant On Stormwater Matters
- f. Consultant Services Contracts – Regional and Environmental Planning and Analysis
- g. Consultant Services Contract Task Order – Sanitary Sewer Overflow Reporting System (SSORS) Support

- h. Consultant Services Contract Task Order – Hampton Roads Fats, Oils, And Grease Online Certification (HRFOG.com) Support
- i. Rural Transportation Planning Task
- j. Prioritize Regional Non-Entitlement Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project Types and Activities

Chair Ward called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner John Rowe Moved to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Commissioner Thomas Shepperd. The Motion Carried.

### **Roanoke River Basin Association**

During the September 15, 2016 HRPDC meeting, the City of Virginia Beach presented a request to the Commission asking that the HRPDC agree to support the Roanoke River Basin Association (RRBA) with annual funding in the amount of \$50,000 to allow the RRBA to hire a full-time Executive Director. After discussion among members of the HRPDC, the Commission forwarded this request to the Personnel and Budget (P&B) Committee for study and recommendation. Over the past several months, the P&B Committee has directed staff to perform research on this topic and has met on two occasions to discuss this request. The P&B Committee determined that this was a regional issue, and recommended that the annual contribution of \$50,000 be divided among the 17 HRPDC member jurisdictions on a per capita basis. The contributions will be based on population with the City of Virginia Beach contributing the highest amount. Mr. Crum presented a list of responses to the questions asked by the Commissioners that highlights why the RRBA's request is important:

- Lake Gaston provides a significant supply of water to Southside Hampton Roads localities
- This water supply supports jobs for all Hampton Roads residents
- Lake Gaston water supply reduces groundwater withdrawals in Hampton Roads
- Protection of water quality in Lake Gaston is critical to Hampton Roads region

He also presented some examples of the RRBA's work:

- Opposition to Uranium mining upstream of Lake Gaston
- Clean up of Coal Ash Impoundments in the Roanoke River Basin
- Collaborated with City of Virginia Beach to address water quality issues related to:
  - Hog Lagoons
  - Poultry Mass Operations

Mr. Crum also presented a list of recommendations to the Commissioners that was provided by the P&B Committee:

- HRPDC localities provide an annual contribution of \$ 50,000 to the RRBA for a three year period

- This contribution should be considered “seed money” to allow RRBA to hire a full-time Executive Director and develop a sustainable funding strategy
- \$50,000 annual contribution would be divided among the 17 HRPDC member jurisdictions on a per capita basis
- MOA between HRPDC and RRBA would outline RRBA reporting requirements and HRPDC involvement in development of RRBA work program, Executive Director evaluation, etc.

Mr. Crum explained to the Commissioners that the RRBA is in need of funding because their previous Executive Director who worked on a volunteer basis passed away. Their region is mostly rural, and the current funding is not adequate enough to fund an Executive Director. He provided an analysis of the RRBA Per Capita Contributions that will be paid by each locality if the item is approved. He informed the Commission that if the proposal is approved, there will be a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the HRPDC and the RRBA that outlines their reporting requirements. The HRPDC will be involved in the selection of the Executive Director, developing a work program, and evaluating their progress. He concluded by asking the Personnel and Budget Committee members to provide some input regarding the recommendation of the P&B Committee.

Commissioner Michael Hipple stated that the Personnel and Budget Committee reviewed the proposal and noted that the water supply that Lake Gaston provides to the Hampton Roads region is important, as well as the quality of that water. He also stated that the program will work well for the Hampton Roads region while helping to support the region of its neighbors. Commissioner Shepperd stated that the significance of the action is that it will show unity and support for the Southside by helping to address an issue of significance.

Commissioner Barry Porter stated that he is in support of the proposal but expressed concern of the annual contribution that will be split among the 17 localities. He stated that the HRPDC is asking each locality for an additional appropriation for the councils to vote on. If there were funds in the HRPDC's budget, then he would not have any problems with voting in favor of the item. However, the proposed item should be approved by local authorities before authorizing the commitment of funds.

Mr. Crum stated that if the HRPDC receives a positive action, then a letter would be crafted indicating that the HRPDC is recommending that each local jurisdiction contribute based on a per capita basis, and allow each jurisdiction to go through the process of approval for such funding. Commissioner Porter stated that would be fine as long as the understanding is that there is no formal commitment from the local jurisdictions until the Board has spoken on it.

Commissioner Randy Martin asked if this was something that could be added to the HRPDC funding that they received from each locality. Mr. Crum stated that it could be added to the budget proposal that will be presented to the Commission in May if the item is approved and if that is the approach that the Commission wishes to take. Commissioner Martin asked

if the funds would be included in the application to the supplemental package when they are invoiced. Mr. Crum answered that is an option.

Commissioner Phillip Bazzani stated that Gloucester County was not in favor of the proposal, as it was not beneficial to their county.

Chair Ward called for a motion to approve the recommendation of the Personnel and Budget Committee to provide funding to the Roanoke River Basin Association. Commissioner John Rowe Moved to approve the request that the 17 HRPDC jurisdictions provide funding to the RRBA per recommendation of the P&B Committee:

- HRPDC localities provide an annual contribution of \$ 50,000 to the RRBA for a three year period
- This contribution should be considered “seed money” to allow RRBA to hire full time Executive Director and develop a sustainable funding strategy
- \$50,000 annual contribution would be divided among the 17 HRPDC member jurisdictions on a per capita basis
- MOA between HRPDC and RRBA would outline RRBA reporting requirements and HRPDC involvement in development of RRBA work program, Executive Director evaluation, etc.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner James Baker. The Motion Carried with Commissioners Phillip Bazzani and Brent Fedors dissenting.

*Andria McClellan departs*

### **Update on Regional Task Force to End Homelessness**

Andy Friedman, Director of Housing and Neighborhood Preservation in the City of Virginia Beach, presented on behalf of the South Hampton Roads Regional Task Force to End Homelessness. He informed the HRPDC that the task force works on behalf of South Hampton Roads and the Peninsula. He acknowledged Angela Kellam, of the Planning Council and Virginia Beach City Council members who are strong supporters of the work their organization does. He stated that the taskforce coordinates with the Hampton Roads Planning Council and consists of six localities: Chesapeake, Isle of Wight, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach. Mr. Friedman presented a brief overview of the Regional Homelessness Strategies:

- Developing regionally-supported housing opportunities
- Developing resources
- Promoting Best Practices
- Coordinating Efforts
- Raising Awareness

Mr. Friedman stated that regional cooperation from the supporting partners has allowed the organization to establish a call center, database and intake system for the entire region. Other projects include:

- Ending veteran homelessness
- Efficiency apartment projects
- Virginia supportive housing
- 400 units of approved affordable housing
- 320 units of permanent supportive housing
- 80 units of efficiency apartments
- Over 450 individuals have been housed
- Over 114 have graduated to other permanent housing.
- At least \$40 million dollars of investment from public, private and nonprofit sources
- Six difficult-to-develop sites have or will become quality, tax-paying affordable apartment sites

Mr. Friedman provided images and descriptions of developments that have been finished, and provided a brief overview of additional projects that will be completed in the future. He concluded by stating that it is critical to continue receiving the Hampton Roads region's commitment to basic human services and affordable housing to provide a foundation from which we can end homelessness.

*Commissioners Marvin Collins and Paul Freling depart*

Commissioner Debbie Ritter asked if the facility in Virginia Beach for veterans, which has partnered with the City of Chesapeake, was excluded because it is not permanent housing. Mr. Friedman stated that the development of Cedar Grove in Virginia Beach was not a regional project, and that there was no intent to exclude it but that it was done as a pure Virginia Beach project. Commissioner Ritter stated that they used project-based vouchers which are federal, and it is a success story that she hopes will be included at some point. She also stated that they have a great model to use and the City of Chesapeake is very excited to be a part of it. She expressed concern with the cuts in the CDBG housing voucher program.

Commissioner Dave Hansen commended Andy Friedman by stating that he is a unique individual and a very engaged leader who was on the ground during Hurricane Matthew, finding shelters for families whose homes were flooded. He also stated that homelessness is a serious issue that we are all going to contend with. He expressed concern about what the federal administration is planning to do. Mr. Hansen stated that Virginia Beach invested over \$30 million in a new resource center. He stated that it is a major challenge for the CAOs to preserve the quality of life for all citizens.

Mr. Crum congratulated Mr. Friedman and his staff on the tremendous progress they have made. He asked if there were any major challenges that the Commissioners and elected officials could help with in terms of assisting the taskforce.

Mr. Friedman stated the elected officials could continue supporting human services, and asked if they could pay more attention to the issue of family homelessness or family instability whereas families that move around a lot do not receive the stability that kids need to achieve in school. He stated that youth homelessness also needs to be addressed.

*Louis Jones, Michael Hipple and Bryan Hill depart*

### **Suffolk Economic Development Project/Efforts**

Kevin Hughes, Director of Economic Development for the City of Suffolk, briefed the Commission on current developments that are happening in Suffolk. These developments have brought jobs to the Hampton Roads region. Mr. Hughes described the trend of America's Supply Chain shifting to the East Coast. Logistics facilities that were traditionally located in West Coast markets are finding the East Coast and Mid-Atlantic Region attractive localities.

Mr. Hughes noted there are several reasons for these trends, including efficiencies, population/E-Commerce growth, business costs and rail. He noted that these trends have created opportunities for Suffolk, and reviewed the following developments/employees that have located in Suffolk:

- Ace Hardware - 357,000 sq. ft. distribution center, 75 jobs (recent expansion announced)
- Fraint - 350,000 sq. ft. furniture manufacturing and distribution, 166 jobs
- Emser Tile - 401,000 sq. ft. commercial tile importer, 98 jobs
- Peets Coffee - 175,000 sq. ft. East Coast Roasting Operation, 135 jobs

Chair Ward stated that the news Mr. Hugh's shared was exciting, and she hopes that the rest of the cities and localities have great things to share about their economic development efforts at future meetings. Commissioner Hansen commended the HRTPO for the work that they have done, and their ability to support Highway 58. He stated that the City of Virginia Beach has a vested interest with the Southeastern Public Service Authority (SPSA), and the regional landfill located in Suffolk, and the opportunity to contribute to Suffolk's economic vitality and see the Corporate Park supporting the port operation is good for the region.

Chair Ward stated that the Commission is excited to see those centers from the West Coast move to the East Coast. Hampton Roads has the greatest port in the United States, and we want to take advantage of it. Commissioner Rowe stated that the terminal in Portsmouth is Virginia's International Gateway, and on May 8th, a ship capable of carrying 13,092 containers will move four thousand containers. He informed the Commission that the City of Portsmouth has 15,000 highly skilled jobs at Norfolk Naval Shipyard, and it will celebrate its 250th birthday in November. There are 7,000 medical employees at Portsmouth Navy Hospital. There are 22,000 employees in two locations less than two miles apart.

Commissioner Mamie Johnson departs

### **HRPDC Three Month Tentative Schedule**

Mr. Crum noted the three month tentative schedule.

### **Advisory Committee Summaries**

Mr. Crum highlighted the Advisory Committee Summaries section of the agenda.

### **For Your Information**

Mr. Crum noted Correspondence to Secretary of Homeland Security, John Kelly requesting reinstatement of the UASI designation for Hampton Roads.

### **Old/New Business**

Chair Ward informed the Commission that the annual evaluation for the Executive Director will be emailed to each of the Commissioners. She asked the Commissioners to evaluate the Executive Director's performance for the past year, and return it to Kelli Arledge in two weeks. The comments will be presented to the Personnel and Budget Committee in May for review.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, the meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

---

Ella P. Ward  
Chair

---

Robert A. Crum, Jr.  
Executive Director

**FISCAL YEAR 2017**  
**3/31/17**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES**  
**75% OF FISCAL YEAR COMPLETE**

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>Annual Budget</b>	<b>Previous YTD</b>	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>% Received /Expended</b>
STATE PDC REVENUE	\$ 151,943	\$ 113,957	\$ -	\$ 113,957	75%
DEQ	173,400	46,611	-	46,611	27%
HOUSING DHCD & PORTSMOUTH	394,450	97,264	70,501	167,766	43%
WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT	504,000	504,000	-	504,000	100%
VDEM	255,089	-	174,144	174,144	68%
UASI **	19,000	315,623	-	315,623	NA
Local Jurisdiction Membership Dues	1,372,414	984,215	7,524	991,739	72%
Local Jurisdiction Programs	1,688,854	1,381,421	66,782	1,448,203	86%
HRMFFA	30,000	15,000	-	15,000	50%
JLUS	232,472	-	-	-	0%
SALES, INTEREST & MISC	53,700	40,813	9,477	50,290	94%
VDOT-PL SEC 112	2,260,812	441,353	471,004	912,357	40%
HRTAC	136,000	40,165	-	40,165	30%
VDRPT 5303	745,374	408,283	-	408,283	55%
SP&R	58,000	13,183	16,287	29,470	51%
SPECIAL CONTRACTS/ DEFERRED	<u>1,359,420</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	0%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b><u>9,434,928</u></b>	<b><u>4,401,888</u></b>	<b><u>815,719</u></b>	<b><u>5,217,607</u></b>	55%
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
PERSONNEL	\$4,613,229	\$2,290,313	\$ 322,462	\$2,612,774	57%
STANDARD CONTRACTS	189,360	7,189	1,554	8,744	5%
SPECIAL CONTRACTS/PASS THROUGH	4,187,452	1,331,480	292,499	1,623,980	39%
OFFICE SERVICES	444,887	139,896	37,260	177,156	40%
INDIRECT COSTS	-	764,057	154,411	918,468	0%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>9,434,928</u></b>	<b><u>4,532,935</u></b>	<b><u>808,186</u></b>	<b><u>5,341,121</u></b>	57%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b><u>\$ -</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (131,047)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 7,533</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (123,515)</u></b>	

\*\* - Includes FY2016 money invoiced and received in FY2017

**Transcribed Public Comments of the  
April 20, 2017 HRPDC Commission Meeting**

**Ms. Donna Sayegh:** *Good afternoon. My name is Donna Sayegh and I live in Portsmouth. I just want to say there is a movement coming. The movement is Beacon 37. That's about where the original 13 colonies were not ratified by the people. So we the people have been dominated by the federal government. We're making a movement. I'm not part of it, but I know about it. I see on the Agenda that you want \$50,000 to pay for a CEO of the Roanoke Basin Association. That's one of the ideas that went through my mind to share with you. You are making these decisions without the citizen's consent, and you have an idea about charging the people of Portsmouth \$2,800. That's one of the alternatives you're thinking about. I didn't know about this until I came here. We the people are not being notified about what's going on here in conversation. Even though the people are elected, they still need to talk to us in conversation. So I just want to say that I hope the movement is carried out because I know for one, my elected does not talk to me. I feel like I have a right to participate because I think my ideas are very good except nobody listens to them. I mean, you might listen, but nothing is done, and I'm an action oriented person. When things need to be done, I'm ready to do it. I'm a warrior. It's coming and we the people need to be a part of the decision-making process. Thanks for listening.*