

**Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
Chief Administrative Officers Meeting
Summary Minutes of September 7, 2022**

The Chief Administrative Officers (CAO) Committee meeting was called to order at 11:33 a.m. by Ms. Mary Bunting, Hampton City Manager and Chair of the CAO Committee, at Bloom Coworking Space training room, 739 High St, Portsmouth, VA 23704.

The following members of the CAO Committee were in attendance:

Cynthia Rohlf	Newport News
Mary Bunting	Hampton
Amanda Jarratt	Franklin
Don Robertson for Randy Keaton	Isle of Wight
Al Moor	Suffolk
Neil Morgan	York
Michael Stallings	Smithfield
Brian Thrower	Southampton
Tonya Chapman	Portsmouth
Chip Filer	Norfolk
Scott Stevens	James City
Melissa Rollins	Surry County
Christopher Price	Chesapeake
Andrew Trivette	Williamsburg
Williams Saunders	Windsor
Patrick Duhaney	Virginia Beach

Others in Attendance:

Robert Crum, HRPDC/HRTPO
John Harbin, HRPDC
John Sadler, HRPDC
Matt Klepeisz, HRPDC
David Westcott, Chesapeake
Jerri Wilson, Newport News
Jim Redick, Norfolk
Danielle Progen, Virginia Beach
William Drewery, Isle of Wight County
Drew Lumpkin, Senator Warner's Office
Diane Kaufman, Senator Kaine's Office
Michelle Gowdy, Virginia Municipal League

Approval of Agenda

Chair Bunting asked if there were any additions or revisions to the agenda. No additions or revisions were offered. The agenda was approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes

The Summary Minutes from the August 3, 2022 CAO Committee meeting were attached to the agenda for the Committee's consideration and approval. Mr. Al Moor from Suffolk made a motion to approve the Summary Minutes as presented. A second was provided by Mr. Neil Morgan from York County. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment Period

Members of the public were provided an opportunity to address the CAO Committee. There were no in-person requests to comment.

Hampton Roads Interoperability System – Discussion of Governance and Regional Maintenance Approach

Chair Bunting provided a brief summary of the conversations held during the July and August CAO Committee meetings and asked Mr. Crum to provide an overview of the governance and maintenance issues and present options for addressing each topic area. Mr. Crum explained that over the last two CAO Committee meetings, there has been extensive discussion on the region's current interoperability system, the Overlay Regional InterOperability (ORION) system, and the advantages and disadvantages of proceeding with a transition to the new Hampton Roads – Integrated Regional Interoperable System (HR-IRIS). A consensus around a path forward was not identified, so the CAO Committee asked the All-Hazards Advisory Committee (AHAC) to utilize available grant monies to research and provide additional technical information that will assist the CAO Committee in arriving at a consensus decision on how to proceed. The additional information requested by the CAOs will be developed by the end of the calendar year.

During the Committee's discussion on this item, it became apparent that two foundational issues must be addressed regardless of the communications system that the region selects. These issues relate to the governance of the selected system and how the system will be maintained. At the August CAO meeting, the CAOs agreed that these two items should be separated from the technical discussion and placed on the September CAO Committee agenda for discussion.

Mr. Crum provided background and explained the missions of the AHAC and the Interoperable Communications Subcommittee (RPAC-I), both of which provide oversight of the ORION system. Mr. Crum requested that the CAOs review the membership roster of each to ensure that they have the correct local staff with vertical communication to their CAO assigned to the committees. Confirmation of or changes to primary voting members and alternates for both committees should be provided to Mr. Crum by September 21. Additional discussion on the role of the CAO Committee as it relates to these committees will be arranged at an upcoming CAO Committee meeting.

Mr. Crum also explained that the ORION system lacks dedicated maintenance funding to address regular maintenance needs. At the request of the CAOs, three approaches to funding

a Regional Maintenance Fund at \$200,000 annually were presented, including a traditional per capita assessment, an equal share assessment among all 17 localities, and a tiered approach based on population size. The CAOs discussed the various funding options, if a budget of \$200,000 annually is sufficient and if other users of the ORION system should be asked to support maintenance needs, and how appropriations should be made based on recommendations from the AHAC and RPAC-I. There was consensus that non-local government users of the ORION system should support its maintenance needs in proportion to their usage and direct benefit provided to local governments.

Mr. Patrick Duhaney of Virginia Beach made a motion to reprogram \$500,000 of allocated Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) funding to address immediate maintenance needs of the ORION system while the AHAC and RPAC-I work to determine the ultimate state of and annual maintenance needs of the system. Mr. Michael Stallings from Smithfield seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Regional Legislative Agenda

Mr. Crum provided an overview of legislative efforts of the HRPDC and HRPTO. For the past six years, the HRPDC and HRTPO have adopted a regional legislative agenda to convey to the General Assembly and Federal Delegation issues of regional significance that should be addressed on behalf of Hampton Roads. As such, the agenda should have unanimous support of the region's localities and complement local legislative priorities. The regional legislative agenda is typically approved by the Commission and HRTPO Board at their October/November meetings to allow these regional legislative priorities to be shared with Hampton Roads Caucus members before the start of the General Assembly session in January.

Last year, a Joint HRPDC and HRTPO Regional Legislative Committee was formed to develop recommendations for a regional legislative agenda to be considered by the Commission and HRTPO Board. The current membership of this Hampton Roads Regional Legislative Committee is as follows:

Andria McClellan, Norfolk, HRPDC Chair
Mayor Donnie Tuck, Hampton, HRTPO Chair
David Jenkins, Newport News, HRPDC Vice-Chair
William McCarty, Isle of Wight, HRTPO Vice-Chair
Mary Bunting, Hampton, CAO Committee Chair
Chris Price, Chesapeake, CAO Committee Vice-Chair

The Regional Legislative Committee met August 29 with several local legislative liaisons and discussed potential regional legislative items for consideration. These regional legislative priorities include position statements around the following topics:

- Full funding for the I-64 Gap
- Elizabeth River Crossings (ERC) Toll Agreement
- Enhanced Passenger Rail Service from Hampton Roads to the I-95 Corridor

- Birthplace of American Trail (BoAT) Funding/Capital Trail Extension
- Public Safety, including:
 - Incorporating conflict resolution/mediation skills in the K-12 curriculum
 - State funding to decrease the time demands that Temporary Detention Officer (TDO) roles place on local police departments
 - State authorization to allow retired law enforcement officers to serve as School Resource Officers (SRO)
 - Support the use of technology to address violence and crime
- Commonwealth Resiliency, including
 - Support for a dedicated, reliable, and ongoing source of funding for projects
 - Creating a structure for State coordination
- State match funding for Jefferson Laboratory to attract new supercomputer
- Support for Offshore Wind
- Economic Development Site Readiness – continue funding through GO Virginia
- Transit Funding – preserve and protect the regional funding source that supports the HRT regional backbone network
- Veterans Tax Relief – financial impact on local governments

The CAOs discussed these topics and provided feedback, including being sensitive to privacy concerns related to the use of technology in crime abatement, expanding the use of retired law enforcement officers beyond just SROs, providing adequate funding for all of the region's transit systems, and opposing legislation that would impose new unfunded mandates on local government. To that end, Mr. Crum requested specific fiscal impact information from localities on the veterans' tax relief.

At the suggestion of Ms. Michelle Gowdy from VML, the CAOs also agreed to add a position statement to support reducing the information required in public notices submitted to newspapers.

Mr. Crum concluded by explaining the tentative process for moving the regional legislative agenda forward for endorsement and approval, including:

September 22: Mayor/CAO Roundtable on Violence Prevention
 October 13: Community Advisory Committee
 October 20: HRPDC/HRTPO Board Approval

Items of Interest

No items of interest were discussed.

Other Business

No other business was discussed.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the CAO Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert A. Crum, Jr.
Executive Director/Secretary

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