

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
MARY BALL WASHINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL**

April 8, 2019
Rappahannock Community College
Warsaw, Virginia

MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING: **Chair** – William Beale, **Vice-Chair** – Carlton Revere, Bruce Davis, Jackie Davis, Val Foulds, Steve Goodall, Stephanie Heintz, Lisa Hull, Ann Lewis, Kim McClellan, Morgan Quicke, John Wells, Kimberly Young

MEMBERS ABSENT: Wally Beauchamp, Lou Belcher, Elizabeth Crowther, Anne Richardson, Bryan Taliaferro

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Jason Perry, Liz Povar

STAFF: **GWRC** – Kate Gibson, Linda Millsaps, **Community Futures** – Neal Barber

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Beale called the meeting to order at 11:00 am with a quorum present.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

No members of the public wished to speak.

FEBRUARY 11, 2019 MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

Mr. Revere moved to approve the February 11, 2019 Meeting Minutes, and Mr. Quicke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP CHANGES APPROVAL

The Nominating Committee determined the following recommendation at their meeting:

- Remove Elizabeth Crowther and accept Jason Perry

The Nominating Committee's recommendation was accepted as a motion. Mr. Goodall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Gibson presented the financial report for April 2017-February 2019. Ms. Gibson also informed the Council that in FY20 Region 6 will receive \$250,000 in capacity building funding, for which the State Board has waived the match requirement, and \$1,008,621 in project funding. Ms. Foulds moved to approve the financial report, and Dr. Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Beale reported on the business discussed and actions taken at the Executive Committee Meeting on May 29, 2019.

PRESENTATIONS TO REGION 6 LOCALITIES AND PARTNERS

The Executive Committee recommends that private sector Council Members give presentations to Region 6 localities and other partners about the efforts of GO Virginia Region 6 and how to get involved. Ms. McClellan has put together a draft PowerPoint for these presentations. Staff will ask each Planning District Commission if the presentation can be given at the monthly Chief Administrative Officers (CAO) meeting so that the CAOs can be asked if the presentation may be given to their Boards of Supervisors. Staff will then ask private sector representatives to volunteer to speak to specific localities.

Mr. Beale is already scheduled to present to the Middle Peninsula Alliance Board on April 10, 2019.

PROJECT PIPELINE DEVELOPMENT REVISED RFPS APPROVAL

The Review Committee met on February 11, 2019 and March 21, 2019 to review proposals submitted in response to the Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for project pipeline development in each of the Region 6 subregions. After evaluation and negotiations, the Review Committee determined that the RFPs should be revised to clarify deliverables and outcomes and reissued.

Ms. Gibson presented the proposed language for the revised RFPs. Mr. Revere moved to approve the proposed language, and use it in each of the three revised RFPs. Mr. Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

GROWTH & DIVERSIFICATION PLAN UPDATE APPROACH

Ms. Gibson overviewed the Growth and Diversification Plan Amendment Guidelines, which were adopted by the State Board at its March 12 meeting. The plan update will be more involved than initially anticipated, and could cost as much as \$40,000. Currently, \$32,518 is set aside in the budget for the plan update. Additional funds from the FY20 capacity building allocation could be used to supplement that amount. The plan update also has a very tight schedule, with a draft plan due to DHCD by August 1, 2019.

The Executive Committee recommends splitting the work into two components, one for data analysis and the other for stakeholder engagement and drafting the plan update, and having GWRC staff solicit bids and select a contractor for each component without a full RFP process and without Regional Council approval (the GWRC Executive Director may award contracts up to \$30,000 without Board approval). This approach would allow the work on the plan update to start sooner. Ms. Foulds moved that GWRC move forward with this approach, and Mr. Goodall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY FUTURES CONTRACT EXTENSION

Ms. Gibson explained that the Regional Council's current contract with Community Futures (Neal Barber) for assistance with the generation, solicitation, evaluation, and scoring of project ideas and proposals ends on April 1, 2019. However, only \$9,100 of the \$16,000 contract amount has been spent, due to the fewer-than-expected number of project applications submitted. The Executive Committee recommends that the Regional Council extend the end date of the exiting contract.

Mr. Revere moved to approve the draft Contract Extension Agreement, which would extend the Community Futures contract until June 30, 2020 or until the original contract award has been fully expended, whichever occurs earlier. Ms. Young seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CAPACITY BUILDING APPLICATION DISCUSSION & DETERMINATIONS

The Regional Council received one capacity building application, Middle Peninsula Alliance Business Site Readiness Planning. The Interview Panel met with the project applicant just before the Regional Council meeting to better understand the project proposal and develop a recommendation for the full Regional Council.

Mr. Revere overviewed the proposal, summarized the discussion that occurred during the Interview Panel meeting, and presented the Interview Panel's recommendation. The Interview Panel recommends approval of the project.

The Interview Panel's recommendation was accepted as a motion. Ms. Heinatz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

SUMMARY OF MEETING WITH REGION 5

Mr. Revere and Ms. Heinatz reported on their meeting with Region 5 staff. One takeaway from the meeting is that Region 5 has partnered with the local community foundation. Another takeaway is that Region 5 may be interested in partnering with Region 6 around water resiliency. Ms. Gibson said she would reach out to Troy Hartley to make sure Region 5 representatives are invited to the final brainstorming session for the Resiliency Planning Grant.

CURRENT PROJECT REPORTS

Ms. Povar provided an update on the PamunkeyNet Business Plan project. Ms. Hull provided updates on the Flexible Office Space Due Diligence, Welding Training Program, and Northern Neck Region-Wide Site, Building & Infrastructure Study projects. Dr. Wells provided an update on the Virginia Sea Grant Planning Grant project. Dr. Millsaps provided an update on the Good Jobs Here project.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The next meeting of the Regional Council will take place on June 10, 2019. Meeting dates for 2020 have been added to the meeting schedule.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kate Gibson, Deputy Director
George Washington Regional Commission

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