



MINUTES

The January Executive Committee Meeting of the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission was held on Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 11:30 a.m. at the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission office located at 313 Luck Ave., SW, Roanoke, VA.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Chairman Phil North called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission Executive Committee Members: Present: Phil North, Roanoke County; Mayor Grose, Town of Vinton; Billy Martin, Botetourt County, Steven Clinton, Botetourt County and Dean Martin, Roanoke County.

OTHERS/GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission Staff: Jeremy Holmes and Sherry Dean

2. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Billy Martin motioned, Mr. Dean Martin made a second and the consent agenda was approved by voice vote.

3. FY2023 Revised Budget

Mr. Holmes reported a revised budget had been distributed which shows budget changes. Mainly the changes are because there were grant applications, in the spring, we didn't budget for because we didn't know we would get them but now we have. The travel study, bus stops, Roanoke County peer position for collective response, first part of 1.4-million-dollar SAMHSA peer recovery network grant are all new. The expense side is spending out those funds that are the main drivers of the budget changes. Mr. North inquired as to how the elevator repairs were covered and Mr. Holmes reported we had previously increased our building maintenance budget over last year projecting more repairs but also moved a couple of items around to cover the elevator costs. The elevator technician has been on site four days completing the work.

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Mayor Grose inquired as to needing a plan for future repairs to the building and Mr. Holmes noted having a capital improvement program, for building, has been discussed but we are not at the point yet to know what all issues could be included. We don't have any other significant capital investments planned at this time.

Mr. Billy Martin made motion to recommend the revised budget to the Commission board, Mr. Mayor Grose seconded and the motion passed on a voice vote.

4. Collective Response

Mr. Holmes reported there were 28 applications for the RVCR Director position that is open and the top four candidates should be finished interviewing next week. It is the hope to fill the position by the middle of February. Mr. Holmes is part of the advisory committee that is doing the interviewing for the position. If opioid abatement funds are received, that will grow the effort. Mr. Holmes will attend a training on abatement funds next week in Richmond.

5. Planners Lunch

Mr. Clinton inquired on the planner's lunch on the Executive Director January report. Mr. Holmes reported the planners lunch came about due to changes to work program processes last year which allowed Commission to be able to make work program adjustments as needs arose. To stay apprised of regional needs, quarterly lunches with planning staff, from all localities, were started, so RVARC staff can learn of needs and keep people talking about regional issues. From this, we can learn about what work is needed and, if a few planners are talking about the same issues, then there is probably a regional project we can assist with. At the February Commission meeting RVARC staff will update Commission board on project work so far for this year.

6. Airport Funds

Mr. North reported the governor has put a budget amendment in to study all airports, but he specifically earmarked \$200,000 for Roanoke Airport study. Mr. Holmes has spoken to the Roanoke Chamber, Roanoke Partnership and Mike Steward and we are waiting to see what role the Commission is expected to play. The goal is to look at three things: the positive economic impact of extending the runway, the downside of not extending and, during construction what is impact on region. Mr. Holmes has reached out to Delegate Austin's office, as he's a lead on the airport project.

7. Appalachian Regional Commission LDD Grants

Mr. Holmes reported the Appalachian Regional Commission has a one-time 2-million-dollar program called Ready LDD and the goal is to provide staff or contractor positions to provide capacity to access federal grants. A lot of ARC Communities don't have the capacity to apply for these grants because they don't have grant writers on staff. We are looking to apply for

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funding (maximum allowed is around \$200,000) to create a bench of grant writers so ARC Communities (Craig, Alleghany, Botetourt (doesn't meet all standards but is ARC community)), could have paid grant writers to write grants and Commission could possibly assist with administration. The deadline to apply for the ARC LDD grants is end of March. This is a step to build a regional process for grant writing to bring more funding to the region.

MEETING ADJORNED

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Holmes', is written over the text 'Submitted by:'.

Jeremy Holmes, Secretary,

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