



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany

REGIONAL
commission

rvarc.org

313 Luck Avenue, SW | Roanoke, Virginia 24016 | P: 540.343.4417 | F: 540.343.4416 | rvarc@rvarc.org

MINUTES

The August meeting of the Roanoke Valley Collective Response Collective's Advisory Committee (CAC) was held in person on Wednesday, August 9, at 9:00 a.m.

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions

Vice Chair Underwood called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. A quorum was present.

VOTING MEMBERS ATTENDING

Jeremy Hartman	City of Salem Fire EMS
Letitia Hawkins-Beatty	Blue Ridge Behavioral Health
Nancy Hans	Partnership for Community Wellness
Cheri Hartman	Carilion Clinic
Linda Hentschel	Family Services
Cynthia Morrow	Virginia Department of Health
Janine Underwood	Bradley Free Clinic
Scott Weimer	Virginia Tech
Christine Wright	The HOPE Initiative

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT

Lee Clark	Roanoke Rescue Mission
-----------	------------------------

OTHERS PRESENT

Robert Natt	Director, RVCR, as acting Secretary
Jeremy Holmes	Executive Director, RVARC
Bailey Helgeson	Peer Recovery Coordinator, RVCR

Member Governments: Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin, and Roanoke, Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany

REGIONAL
commission

rvarc.org

313 Luck Avenue, SW | Roanoke, Virginia 24016 | P: 540.343.4417 | F: 540.343.4416 | rvarc@rvarc.org

2. Action Requested: Approval of Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda items were as follows:

- A. Consent agenda approved
- B. July 12, 2023 RVCR CAC Meeting Minutes

MOTION: by Jeremy Hartman to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Scott Weimer.

CAC ACTION: Motion carried unanimously.

3. Remarks from the Chair

No Remarks from the Chair.

4. RVCR Organization Study Update

Mary Beth Dunkenberger provided an email update that was read by Robert Natt. She is still working through the internal review process at Virginia Tech, and hopes to begin interviews after August 30th, 2023. Interview questions will be sent to CAC as soon as possible. CAC will have the opportunity to review the study prior to publication.

5. Opioid Abatement Authority Grant Update

Robert Natt reported again that all proposed projects received unanimous approval from OAA, totaling approximately \$750k in Year 1 projects for the City of Roanoke.

The City of Roanoke still plans to submit an application for a Recovery Housing Study at a later date.

RVCR is continuing conversations with Roanoke County and Franklin County about technical assistance for future OAA applications.

Member Governments: Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin, and Roanoke,
Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany

REGIONAL
commission

rvarc.org

313 Luck Avenue, SW | Roanoke, Virginia 24016 | P: 540.343.4417 | F: 540.343.4416 | rvarc@rvarc.org

CAC members raised questions about time constraints and work needs to be completed for the next application cycle.

Jeremy Hartman suggested a grant proposal for field testing equipment for the regional hazmat team.

6. Upcoming Events

Bailey Helgeson shared details about Overdose Awareness Day Event on August 31st held at The Taubman Art Museum. The event will include resource tables, speakers, tributes, a memorial slide show, and more. Following Overdose Awareness Day, September is National Recovery Month. RVCR will be launching a campaign called Places of Recovery which highlights and celebrates people's journeys of recovery. Healthy Roanoke Valley helped to order 10,000 ribbons for a purple ribbon campaign for the month of September.

7. Strategic Planning

A subcommittee met to discuss policy updates as RVCR continues to grow. Robert Natt requested another subcommittee to meet to discuss planning a Board Retreat. The group decided to postpone strategic planning efforts until Mary Beth Dunkenburger's RVCR study results are available. The committee will look at dates in early 2024.

MOTION: by Cheri Hartman to authorize the creation of a subgroup to shape planning timeline for a board retreat. The motion was seconded by Nancy Hans.

CAC ACTION: Motion carried unanimously.

8. Director Updates

RVCR staff has been spending a lot of time on SAMHSA grant administration. The admin position has been restructured into a grant management position. Staff anticipates posting the position soon.

Robert Natt is in discussion with technology firms to look at the best ways to leverage technology solutions in data collection, reporting, and project management. As presentations become available, CAC will be invited to participate.

Member Governments: [Counties of Alleghany, Botetourt, Craig, Franklin, and Roanoke,](#)
[Cities of Covington, Roanoke and Salem, Towns of Clifton Forge, Rocky Mount and Vinton](#)



Roanoke Valley-Alleghany

REGIONAL
commission

rvarc.org

313 Luck Avenue, SW | Roanoke, Virginia 24016 | P: 540.343.4417 | F: 540.343.4416 | rvarc@rvarc.org

9. Stakeholder Meeting Planning

Virginia Department of Health will be presenting data from the *Peaks and Valleys presentation*.

The September meeting will be held over zoom.

CAC ACTION: None.

10. Other Business

Hope Initiative is celebrating their seven year anniversary, and has served over 2,000 individuals.

Meeting adjourned at 10:06am.

Robert Natt

Robert Natt, Secretary

Roanoke Valley Collective Response Collective's Advisory Committee