

**Richmond Regional Planning District Commission
Minutes of Meeting
March 13, 2003**

Members/Alternates Present

Rebecca M. Ringley (M), Chairman.....County of New Kent
Angela L. LaCombe (M), Vice Chairman..... Town of Ashland
Roy J. Harrison, Jr. (M), Secretary..... County of Powhatan
Richard W. Ayers (M) County of Powhatan
Edward B. Barber (M) County of Chesterfield
Gentry Bell (M) County of Henrico
W. R. Britton, Jr. (A)County of Charles City
Joseph E. Brooks (M) City of Richmond
Malvern R. Butler (M)..... County of Goochland
Timothy E. Ernst (A) County of Hanover
Richard W. Glover (M)..... County of Henrico
Harvey L. Hinson (A) County of Henrico
E. Ray Jernigan (M)..... County of Henrico
David A. Kaechele (M)..... County of Henrico
Kelly E. Miller (M)..... County of Chesterfield
Patricia S. O'Bannon (M) County of Henrico
Robert R. Setliff (M)..... County of Hanover
James Taylor (A) County of Goochland
Frank J. Thornton (M) County of Henrico
J. T. "Jack" Ward (M)..... County of Hanover
Arthur S. Warren (M) County of Chesterfield

Members Absent

John E. Gordon, Jr. (M), Treasurer..... County of Hanover
Mark S. Daniel (M).....County of New Kent
John G. Dankos, Jr. (M)..... County of Hanover
James B. Donati (M)..... County of Henrico
Russell J. Gulley (M) County of Chesterfield
Michael L. Holmes (M) County of Charles City
Renny B. Humphrey (M) County of Chesterfield
William Russell Jones, III (M) City of Richmond
Joseph T. Lacy, Jr. (M)..... County of Goochland
John L. McHale (M) County of Chesterfield
Delores L. McQuinn (M)..... City of Richmond
William J. Pantele (M)..... City of Richmond
George K. Roarty (M)..... County of Chesterfield

Others Present

John R. Amos.....RRPDC Legal Counsel (Amos & Amos PLLC)

Staff Present

Paul E. FisherExecutive Director
Katherine E. BarrettExecutive Director
Jo A. EvansAssistant Executive Director
Daniel N. Lysy.....Director of Transportation
Jackie S. Stewart.....Director of Planning and Information Systems
Peter M. SweetlandFinance and Contracts Administrator
Patricia A. Villa Communications Coordinator
Brad Shelton Associate Planner
Tony Greulich.....Intern

Call to Order

Chairman Rebecca Ringley called the regularly scheduled March 13, 2003 meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. in the RRPDC conference room.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Certification by Commission Executive Director of Meeting Quorum

Mr. Fisher certified that a majority of the members/alternates (17) were present to constitute a quorum.

B. Requests for Additions or Changes in Order of Business

There were no requests for additions or changes in the order of business.

C. Approval of Minutes of February 13, 2003 RRPDC Meeting

There being no corrections or additions, on motion of Mr. Butler, seconded by Ms. O'Bannon, the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the February 13, 2003 meeting.

D. Open Public Comment Period

There were no requests to address the Commission at this time and Chairman Ringley closed the public comment period.

E. Approval of January 2003 Financial Report

There being no corrections, on motion of Ms. LaCombe, seconded by Mr. Butler, the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission unanimously accepted for audit the financial report for January 2003.

F. Chairman's Report

Chairman Ringley reported that Mr. William Pantele has been appointed to serve on the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission representing the Richmond City Council.

G. Executive Director's Report for February 2003

In addition to the written status report included in the agenda, Mr. Fisher presented a brief report on the following items:

1. Mr. Fisher reported that he attended a press conference held by Congressman J. Randy Forbes at the Defense Supply Center Richmond which initiated activity related to the upcoming Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) review. At that time an Economic Impact Analysis of Defense Supply Center Richmond was released. Staff will keep the Commission informed as this issue develops further.
2. Mr. Fisher also reported that the Seconded Annual Regional Planning Commissioner's Forum will be held on March 14, 2003 in Henrico County at the Cultural Arts Center – Glen Allen.

Mr. Britton thanked the Planning District Commission staff for their work on the Charles City County Zoning Ordinance.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Legislative Update

Mr. Fisher noted that a listing of major legislation since 1990 that has diminished or intruded into the planning powers of local governments has been included in the agenda as requested at the February 13, 2003 Commission meeting.

Mr. Fisher also reported that the "Report Card" on how Capital Region Caucus members voted on legislation impacting local governments and

the annual “Yeas and Nays” report will be included in the April Commission agenda.

Ms. Patricia Villa, Communications Coordinator, then gave a brief presentation on the final update on legislation which may impact local governments, and legislation that have had significant changes.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation on Activities of Richmond Metropolitan Authority

Mr. Mike Berry, General Manager of the Richmond Metropolitan Authority (RMA) gave a presentation on the following activities and facilities by the RMA:

- RMA idea dates back to the 1940s when Richmond expressways first were proposed.
- Created as a regional, independent authority by the General Assembly in 1966, with a Board of Directors representing Richmond, Henrico, and Chesterfield.
- Originally formed to build and maintain a toll expressway system.
- Purchased the Boulevard “Nickel” Bridge in 1969; renovated in 1973 and 1993.
- Opened the Powhite Parkway in 1973; resurfaced bridge in 1996.
- Opened Second Street Parking Deck in 1975.
- Opened the Downtown Expressway in 1976.
- Demolished Parker Field in 1984 and opened The Diamond in 1985.
- Opened Carytown Parking Decks (2) in 1991.
- Opened Expressway Parking Deck in 1992.
- Implemented Smart Tag in 1999.
- Main Street Station Parking Deck under negotiations

In response to Mr. Butler’s question as to when the bonds would be paid off, Mr. Berry stated it would be 2022 and amounts to approximately \$145-150 million.

Chairman Ringley thanked Mr. Berry for his excellent overview of the RMA.

B. Approval to Apply for Virginia Coastal Resources Management Grant Funds

Mr. Fisher reported that on February 18, 2003, the planning district commission received a request for proposals from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the Virginia Coastal Resources Management Program. The grant provides \$25,000 for coastal program planning in the region, and requires a match of \$25,000. Staff prepared the application and submitted it to DEQ by the due date of March 7, 2003.

The work tasks in the application are similar to those in applications previously submitted. The grant will allow the planning district commission to continue working with member governments on coastal projects such as GIS data development, tributary strategy development, and support of the commission's Environmental Technical Advisory Committee.

On motion of Ms. O'Bannon, seconded by Mr. Butler, the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission unanimously approved the Executive Director's request for submission of the coastal grant for funding.

C. Approval to Apply for Rural Transportation Planning Program Funds

Mr. Fisher stated that local planning staff and Planning District Commission staff has developed the annual scope of work to begin July 1, 2003. The program budget is \$60,000 of which \$48,000 (80 percent) is funded by the Virginia Department of Transportation. Projects included in the scope of work historically have been of great use to the rural localities in the region, and significantly increased their ability to leverage transportation funds for related projects.

Since July 1993, the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission has adopted an annual work program for rural transportation planning. Rural transportation planning is provided for the non-MPO portions of Charles City, Goochland, New Kent, and Powhatan counties. The work in this program is largely paid for by a grant from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). As in past years, VDOT provides \$48,000 and the PDC provides \$12,000 of in-kind service for a total program budget of \$60,000. PDC staff worked with local planning staffs, RideFinders, and VDOT to develop the scope of work for FY 04.

On motion of Mr. Butler, seconded by Mr. Thornton, the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission unanimously approved the following resolution authorizing the Executive Director to submit the scope of work to VDOT for approval:

WHEREAS, supplemental Federal Highway Planning and Research (HPR) funds are being made available by the Virginia Department of Transportation for transportation planning in rural localities; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of the HPR funds shall be to provide transportation planning assistance in the counties of Charles City, Goochland, New Kent and Powhatan; and,

WHEREAS, the HPR funded planning activities will be administered in accordance with the provisions of 23 CFR Part 420, Highway Planning and Research Program Administration; and,

WHEREAS, the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission has reviewed the proposed Scope of Work for this project; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission formally accepts the responsibility to administer the HPR funds for rural transportation planning; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission directs its staff to administer the HPR funds, and to provide transportation planning assistance as specified in the Scope of Work; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission authorizes the Executive Director to execute all necessary documentation to carry out the intent and purpose of this resolution.

D. Approval of Regional Priorities for FY 03 – Virginia Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

Mr. Fisher reported that each year the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) offers funding assistance to non-entitlement localities statewide. This region's non-entitlement localities are the Town of Ashland and the counties of Charles City, Goochland, Hanover, New Kent and Powhatan. Localities may submit projects that benefit low- and moderate-income persons to DHCD for funding assistance.

DHCD ranks local projects by merit and uses a point system to determine which projects will be funded. As part of the ranking, DHCD asks each

Planning District Commission (PDC) to submit a list that prioritizes the CDBG project types. The ranking DHCD uses prioritizes the nine project types into three priority groups with one being the highest. DHCD uses each region's ranking to allocate points to local projects, with the Group 1 projects receiving the highest number of points. This list is typically due to DHCD by mid-March.

To prepare the regional list, Richmond Regional PDC staff asked each non-entitlement locality to prepare and submit their own priority ranking of CDBG categories. At this time, none of the non-entitlement localities are planning to apply for a CDBG project this year. However, because DHCD now allows applications to be submitted year round, a locality may submit an application later in the funding cycle. Therefore, it remains important for the commission to approve the regional priority list.

On motion of Mr. Butler, seconded by Mr. Harrison, the Richmond Regional Planning District Commission unanimously approved the following priority list for submittal to the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Priority 1

Comprehensive Community Development
Economic Development – Development Readiness
Community Facilities

Priority 2

Economic Development – Job Creation and Retention
Housing – Housing Rehabilitation
Economic Development – Entrepreneurship Development

Priority 3

Community Service Facilities
Economic Development – Economic Environment Enhancement
Housing – Housing Production Assistance

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Announcements

Chairman Ringley complimented the PDC staff on an excellent job in assisting New Kent County in revising their Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. LaCombe announced, on behalf of the Town of Ashland Council and Hanover County Board of Supervisors, there will be an Ashland Variety

Show on March 27-29, 2003 at Randolph-Macon College. The Town Council and Board of Supervisors, to show their regional cooperation, are doing a number together called "Mutual Admiration." Ms. LaCombe invited everyone to attend the Variety Show.

Mr. Harrison advised the Commission that Powhatan County staff had prepared a list of legislation that would have been beneficial to local planning authority but which was not approved. He asked that RRPDC staff include that in the next PDC agenda for the benefit of all jurisdictions.

B. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports at this time.

C. For Your Information

There were no information items at this time.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Ringley adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Paul E. Fisher
Executive Director

Rebecca M. Ringley
Chairman