

RICHMOND REGIONAL PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
Minutes of Meeting
November 12, 2015

Members and Alternates (A) Present

Parker C. Agelasto.....	City of Richmond
Karin Carmack	Powhatan County
Timothy M. Davey	Chesterfield County
Bill Dupler (A)	Chesterfield County
Steve A. Elswick	Chesterfield County
Evan Fabricant.....	Hanover County
Daniel A. Gecker, Vice Chairman.....	Chesterfield County
Kathy C. Graziano, Secretary	City of Richmond
Jimmy Hancock.....	Henrico County
James M. Holland.....	Chesterfield County
Angela Kelly-Wiecek	Hanover County
Floyd H. Miles, Treasurer	Charles City County
Patricia S. O'Bannon	Henrico County
C. Harold Padgett	Hanover County
Ken Peterson.....	Goochland County
W. Canova Peterson	Hanover County
Edward W. Pollard	New Kent County
Rodney Poole	City of Richmond
Randall R. Silber (A).....	Henrico County
Emily Thomason (A).....	City of Richmond
Frank J. Thornton	Henrico County
Carson Tucker	Powhatan County
David Williams, Chairman.....	Powhatan County
Robert Witte	Henrico County

Members Absent

Daniel Arkin	City of Richmond
Jonathan T. Baliles	City of Richmond
Richard W. Glover	Henrico County
Russell J. Gulley.....	Chesterfield County
David A. Kaechele	Henrico County
*Dorothy Jaeckle.....	Chesterfield County
Michelle Mosby.....	City of Richmond
Tyrone E. Nelson.....	Henrico County
Faye O. Prichard.....	Town of Ashland
C. Thomas Tiller.....	New Kent County
Arthur S. Warren	Chesterfield County

*During approval of the minutes during the December 10, 2015 meeting, a correction was made to show that Ms. Jaeckle was in attendance during the November 12, 2015 meeting.

Others Present

John AmosRRPDC Legal Counsel
Cyane Crump Historic Richmond
Elizabeth Greenfield Richmond Association of Realtors
Steve Haasch.....Chesterfield County
Joanne Simmelink.....Chesterfield County
Carl Schlaudt.....Chesterfield County
Clara Stokes CARITAS

Staff Present

Barbara Jacocks..... Interim Executive Director/Director of Planning
Jo Evans.....Assistant Executive Director
Julie Fry..... Executive Secretary
Sulabh Aryal..... Planner
Anne DarbySenior Planner
Billy Gammel Planner
Chuck Gates Manager, Community Affairs
Barbara Nelson Director of Transportation
Kathy RobinsSenior Planner
Jackie Stewart.....Manager, Special Projects
Peter Sweetland Finance and Contracts Administrator
Tiffany DubinskyPrincipal Planner
Chris Wichman.....Senior Planner

Call to Order

Chairman Williams called the regularly scheduled November 12, 2015 RRPDC meeting to order at approximately 9:15 a.m. in the RRPDC Board Room. He then led members in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Certification by Commission Interim Executive Director of Meeting Quorum

Ms. Jacocks reported that a quorum of members was present.

B. Request for Additions or Changes to the Order of Business

Chairman Williams asked if there were any requests to change the agenda or order of business. No requests from members were received; however, Chairman Williams said he would like to add an item to the end of the agenda.

Following the presentation on Item IV. B., Chairman Williams said he would like to add a Closed Session during which a personnel matter will be discussed. He said if there were no objections, he would ask for a motion to add the Closed Session as Item IV. C. Mr. Gecker so moved and the motion was seconded by Ms. Graziano. There was no additional discussion and the motion to add Item IV. C. – Closed Session to the agenda carried unanimously.

There were no other requests to change the agenda and Chairman Williams indicated the agenda would stand as changed.

C. Open Public Comment Period

Chairman Williams opened the public comment period, noting that if anyone wished to address the members, to please come to a microphone and provide his or her name, locality of residence, and if appropriate the name of any organization being represented. Chairman Williams asked that any citizen speaker please limit comments to three minutes, and organizations should limit their comments to five minutes.

As there were no requests from the public to address members of the Board, Chairman Williams closed the public comment period.

D. Approval of October 8, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Chairman Williams asked Ms. Graziano to present the minutes of the October 8, 2015 meeting.

Ms. Graziano asked if there were any changes or corrections to be made to the minutes.

There were no corrections or comments on the minutes, and on motion made by Mr. C. Peterson and seconded by Mr. Gecker, the minutes of the October 8, 2015 meeting were approved unanimously as presented.

E. Approval of September 2015 Financial Report

Chairman Williams asked Mr. Miles to present the financial report for September 2015.

Mr. Miles said if there were no corrections, he would move to accept the September 2015 financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gecker. There was no further discussion and the motion carried unanimously.

F. Chairman's Report

Chairman Williams noted his report will be made during the Closed Session.

G. Interim Executive Director's Report

Ms. Jacocks brought members' attention to the staff activity report, which is included in the agenda book under Tab 3 and details work being advanced by staff on behalf of the localities. She said staff will be happy to address any questions on what is included in the report.

Ms. Jacocks said staff is fully engaged in the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project with the City of Richmond. Focus is currently on the land use connectivity analysis. She noted there is a public meeting on this phase of the project scheduled for Thursday, November 19 at the central DMV office. Ms. Jacocks said members' attendance is encouraged if their schedules allow.

Ms. Jacocks reported that the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) effort is underway. Ms. Nelson attended the Governor's Transportation Conference and has been able to share with staff information received during the Conference.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

There were no items included on the Consent Agenda for this meeting.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business to bring before the Board.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Regional Forum Series – Chesterfield County: Special Area Plan – Northern Portion of Jefferson Davis Highway

Chairman Williams asked Ms. Jacocks to introduce today's speaker.

Ms. Jacocks said she will ask Mr. Gecker to introduce members of the Chesterfield County staff who will provide this morning's presentation. She said the presentation is part of the Regional Forum Series.

Mr. Gecker said he was pleased to introduce Chesterfield County's Deputy Administrator Bill Dupler, who will talk about the County's efforts along the northern portion of Jefferson Davis Highway. Mr. Gecker said that in 2012, the County passed a new comprehensive plan that focused on existing conditions in the County instead of any new initiatives. Instead of focusing on growth areas, the County decided to look again at established neighborhoods to see what could be done to revitalize the County's "first ring" suburbs.

Mr. Gecker noted that Jefferson Davis Highway was impacted with the construction of I-95. He said the County is glad to have the opportunity to look at the poverty and

planning issues in this portion of the County and to see how local government can assist in lifting up the citizens in this corridor. Mr. Gecker said he's worked with the County's planning staff for about sixteen years and considers them well qualified to study the issues and identify practical solutions that will benefit the public. He asked Mr. Dupler to introduce the other staff members in attendance.

Mr. Dupler said he was pleased to have with him Steve Haasch who is a Planner with the County and who is working on the new revisions on the Jeff Davis portion of the plan. Also in attendance is Carl Schlaudt, who heads up the County's Revitalization Office. He will also be working with Mr. Haasch on the plan. Mr. Dupler said that Joanne Simmelink is sitting in the audience. She has worked on outreach within the community to talk with people where they live.

Mr. Dupler said he will briefly touch on the successes the County has had along the Jeff Davis corridor as well as the challenges. Mr. Dupler said a lot of progress has been made since the first revitalization plan for the corridor was initiated in 1993. He provided a brief history of Jefferson Davis Highway, or Route 1. Mr. Dupler said this particular project was selected for presentation today because staff feels that the issues along the corridor have a lot in common with some areas in other jurisdictions.

The study area goes from the boundary with the City of Richmond in the north down to just south of Route 10 in the County, west to the CSX rail line and east to the James River. In this area, there are about 12,000 residents. Of these, about 27 percent are Hispanic. There are 5,200 residential units in the area and the median household income is \$33,500. Twenty-three percent of the residents are considered to be low income.

Mr. Dupler said there are several neighborhoods within the study area – Amphill, Bensley, Winchester Greens, and Rayon Park. Employers in the area include DuPont, Tranlin (planned), BizWorks, and the Defense Logistics Agency (Defense General Supply Center).

Successes from the 1993 revitalization plan include the following:

- Enterprise Zone (1994)
- flexible development standards
- proactive code enforcement
- formation of the Jefferson Davis Association (JDA)
- BizWorks incubator
- Historic Route 1 designation

Mr. Dupler said that between 1997 – 2013, the Enterprise Zone designation (the designation has since ended) resulted in the following successes:

- \$620 million in investments
- 1,100 new/expanded businesses
- 5,600 new jobs created

The Jefferson Davis Association was founded in 1992 and is a public/private partnership that works with the neighborhoods and businesses to improve the Jeff Davis corridor.

BizWorks was at first part of JDA. In 2001 it broke away from JDA and became a non-profit incubator to provide below-market rate space for businesses that wanted to expand and for entrepreneurs who were just beginning a business. Through a Community Development Block Grant, BizWorks has been able to support 68 businesses, creating/retaining 281 jobs that benefit low- to moderate-income workers.

Mr. Dupler said there are continuing challenges along the corridor and provided slide that illustrates each of the challenges:

- stale/inappropriate zoning
- incompatible land uses
- mobile home parks
- abandoned/obsolete property
- residential motels
- environmental remediation

Since 1991, Mr. Dupler said there has been a lot of redevelopment along the corridor. The County has been able to make strides in investing in infrastructure and continues to collaborate with the community.

Mr. Dupler provided examples of some of the redevelopment projects:

- Winchester Greens: 240 townhomes and 174 senior apartments
- Colony Village
- new shopping at Congress Road and Route 1
- new retail/business at Route 1 and Route 10

The County has extended public wastewater infrastructure in Rayon Park through a series of grants. This investment has resulted in the construction of 38 new homes (125 connections) as well as 1,400 feet of extension to an older area (Sherbourne Road) with 26 potential unit connections. Mr. Dupler noted that this infrastructure investment resulted in an increase in property assessments of 219 percent. The average assessment used to be \$60,000-\$60,500. The current average assessment is \$132,800 for family properties. Overall, the total property assessment increased from \$6.7 million for the subdivision to \$18.9 million.

Mr. Dupler also provided examples of new sidewalks and streetscaping along Jeff Davis Highway. Additionally, the County has a potential grant to purchase property along the James River to preserve greenspace and open recreation opportunities.

Another example of infrastructure investment is the construction of a new bridge on Route 1 south of the Defense Logistics Agency which will go over a railroad line. The bridge will also provide bicycle and pedestrian-friendly sidewalks.

Ms. Jaeckle added that this bridge is an example of how the County worked with VDOT to add the sidewalks along the bridge. Mr. Dupler said the project is a joint effort using VDOT and County funding.

Mr. Dupler provided examples of how the County is collaborating in the plan area to make improvements.

- Enterprise Zone transition to a Technology Zone: enterprise zones are limited to a 20-year lifespan; state law allows localities to create technology zones; there are no state benefits available in technology zones; all benefits are local – tax credits on rehabilitative efforts, BPOL and M&T exemptions, and fee waivers for utility connections
- Boots on the Ground: the County brought together several departments to review problematic issues in the community and to look for new solutions; an example was Chimney Corner where an old motel/mobile home park was demolished and the land converted into a park; relocation assistance was provided to the residents by bringing in County departments working in cooperation with community partners to find other housing, furniture, etc.
- Community Partnerships: community policing – Neighborhood Night Out (800 citizens); neighborhood watch support in six neighborhoods; and creation of civic associations in Bensley and Amphill in cooperation with JDA.

Mr. Dupler provided information on how the Special Area Plan will continue:

- community engagement
 - bike/walk facilities
 - crime reduction
 - quality, affordable housing
 - beautification
 - transit
- vision for the corridor's future
- collaborative, multidepartment approach
- identify revitalization tools and incentives

Mr. Dupler said he and the other staff members will be glad to answer any questions.

Chairman Williams asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Pollard asked how effective tax credits can be in attracting new businesses. Mr. Dupler said this has been marginally effective. He said if a business qualifies for a tax credit, it can be beneficial. He said there have not been a lot of applications for tax credits. The County has a goal to rework its tax plan.

Ms. Jaeckle said that many businesses have told her that they located along the corridor because of the Enterprise Zone designation.

Ms. Kelly-Wiecek asked how the County approaches what Mr. Dupler called stale zoning. Mr. Dupler said the County evaluates the current land use and finds ways to encourage better land use through planning. Mr. Haasch said that through plan amendments, some uses can be taken out of the zone category. There is also a non-conformance clause that can be used. The County needs a better way to monitor businesses to determine if the use conforms with the zoning, such as when businesses are sold.

Ms. Carmack asked for more information on flexible development standards. Mr. Dupler said that some requirements for development were actually hindering development. Development standards for the corridor have been adjusted to fit the corridor and encourage redevelopment.

Mr. Thornton said he appreciates the new direction of the Board meetings. He said he sees these meetings as an opportunity to develop templates that can be used to address issues in the other jurisdictions. The templates can be modified to fit each locality's specific needs.

Chairman Williams said he believes these forums offer the elected officials an opportunity to learn applications that will address real problems. The jurisdictions all share similar issues and challenges. The forums provide ideas that can be applied without starting from scratch.

Mr. Agelasto said this type of redevelopment strategy can be helpful as the City of Richmond works to revitalize Midlothian Turnpike. The redevelopment strategy being used in Chesterfield County along Route 1 can help the City with its own efforts to revitalize the portion of Route 1 as it runs from the City into Chesterfield County.

Chairman Williams asked if the grants used for the wastewater extensions funded the entire project. Mr. Dupler said all of the funds from these grants were used for the projects.

Chairman Williams asked if the shopping centers that had gone through a revitalization had been part of the enterprise zone. Mr. Dupler said one was redeveloped as a result of market forces. The other center's redevelopment was a result of market forces along with investments through public/private efforts.

Ms. Jaeckle said Bermuda Square is being redeveloped piece by piece. She said in some of the older neighborhoods, there was decline. However, now those neighborhoods are beginning to turn around. She said she does not want to price out residents as redevelopment takes place. The key is to have a mix of development for all incomes.

Mr. Holland said he appreciates the forum format as well. He said as redevelopment advances, it will be important not to lose sight of affordable housing, education, and transportation as these are all regional issues. He said the Age Wave also needs to be considered to ensure there is adequate and affordable housing for seniors.

Chairman Williams thanked Mr. Dupler and his staff for bringing the information before the Board this morning.

B. Urban Crescent K-12 Funding Discussion

Chairman Williams asked Mr. Gates to provide this presentation.

Mr. Gates pointed out a memo regarding a request from Bob Crum, Executive Director of the Hampton Roads PDC, that is included in the agenda packet under Tab 4. Mr. Crum will invite the localities that make up the Urban Crescent (those localities in the Northern Virginia Regional Council, the George Washington PDC, the Crater PDC, the Hampton Roads PDC, and RRPDC), to meet in order to discuss the decline in state funding for K-12 education.

Mr. Gates reminded members that the Urban Crescent met a couple of years ago to discuss transportation funding. The Urban Crescent is credited for being one of the influences that caused the General Assembly and the Governor to reconsider a previously stated decision not to address transportation funding issues. As a result of other influences, including the Urban Crescent, the decision on transportation funding was reconsidered and there were changes made in transportation funding.

Mr. Gates said one of the Hampton Roads PDC's localities made a request for Mr. Crum to bring together the Urban Crescent to have a similar discussion on the decline in state funding for K-12 education. The JLARC report on this issue is also included in the agenda packet. Some localities have been trying to convince the state to readdress the trend in the decline of state funding allocated to localities for K-12 education.

Staff felt that this issue needed to be brought before the Board before staff became engaged in the Urban Crescent effort. Mr. Gates said K-12 education is not an issue that PDC staff engages in routinely and then only at the request of a member locality. Mr. Gates said education is not an issue that most PDCs normally handle.

Staff also discussed the issue with Chairman Williams, who directed staff to provide information to the Board for discussion today.

Mr. Gates said he provided four discussion points to help members reach a decision on how to direct staff's involvement:

- Are the trends of Virginia's funding of K-12 education a concern for the localities of the Richmond region?
- Are the localities of the Richmond region interested in joining with localities from Virginia's Urban Crescent to advocate on this issue?
- Are there other advocacy groups that are working to address this issue?
- Would engagement by the RRPDC add value to advocacy efforts on this issue?

Ms. O'Bannon said both the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) and the Virginia Municipal League (VML) have taken on this issue as a top priority for their legislative programs this year. She said a resolution has been provided by VACo and VML to jurisdictions for their consideration. Ms. O'Bannon said the state's constitution requires the state to fund K-12 education.

Ms. O'Bannon pointed out that every time RRPDC joins with Hampton Roads PDC and the Northern Virginia Regional Council, it seems that RRPDC loses its fair share of funding. She said she does not believe this is an issue RRPDC should become involved with along with Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia. VACo and VML are working on the issue, and members of the General Assembly are aware of the efforts of VACo and VML. Ms. O'Bannon said she would encourage the jurisdictions to pass the resolution sent to them by VACo and VML.

Mr. Gates said he appreciates Ms. O'Bannon's point that there are other groups that have more expertise on the education issue than the PDCs. He said RRPDC made the point to Mr. Crum that VACo and VML are the experts, along with other education professionals and advocacy groups. Mr. Gates said that Hampton Roads has modified the meeting agenda to include VACo and VML as speakers.

Mr. Gates reported that Hampton Roads PDC and Northern Virginia Regional Council will be co-hosting the meeting, which will take place on December 11, and will be held at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg. Invitations will be sent to each jurisdiction's chair of the governing bodies, the chief administrative official, the superintendent of schools, and the chairman of the local school board. Mr. Gates said the only assistance that RRPDC staff provided was to confirm the names of each of those individuals for the jurisdictions in the Richmond region.

Mr. C. Peterson said he believed staff has done all that needs to be done. He said he agrees with Ms. O'Bannon that the jurisdictions should make their own decision as to whether or not to attend the meeting.

Mr. Agelasto said that members of this Board discuss workforce development and work with the community colleges on training needs at a regional level. He said there has been no regional discussion on K-12 needs. The population of the region is mobile. A student who begins school in the City of Richmond may finish a school year in Chesterfield County. Mr. Agelasto said he feels this is a conversation the Board needs to have. The City is not a member of VACo but does participate in VML. However, VML's focus is larger than the region's needs. Mr. Agelasto said in a discussion with Dr. [Patrick] Kinlaw, Superintendent of Henrico County's public schools, Dr. Kinlaw is in agreement that the composite index should be reviewed. The City of Richmond supports this as well, but the composite index will benefit Northern Virginia more than the Richmond region.

Chairman Williams said he needed to suspend discussion on this item in order to maintain a quorum for the Closed Session that was added to the agenda. Mr. Amos,

RRPDC legal counsel, agreed that the discussion could resume once the Closed Session has concluded.

C. Closed Session (item added)

Chairman Williams said there is a need for the Board to go into Closed Session to discuss a personnel matter and asked if there was a motion to that effect.

Mr. Gecker moved that the RRPDC Board go into closed session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A) (I), *Code of Virginia*, 1950, as amended, for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter, during which all recording of the meeting will cease. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion.

Chairman Williams said there is a motion before members that the RRPDC Board go into closed session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter, during which all recording of the meeting will cease. Such closed session will be exempt from the public meeting requirements of Code Section 2.2-3707, pursuant to subsection A.1 of the Code Section 2.2-3711. He asked if there was discussion on the motion. There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously. Chairman Williams asked staff and guests to leave the meeting.

At this time, recording of the meeting’s proceedings ceased.

Reconvened Session

Chairman Williams called the meeting back into public session and asked members if they each certified that, to the best of their knowledge, only public matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and that only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened, were heard, discussed, or considered. He asked the Executive Secretary to poll the members for their response.

Jurisdiction	Member	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ashland	Ms. Prichard*				x
Charles City	Mr. Miles*	x			
Chesterfield	Mr. Davey				x
	Mr. Elswick*	x			
	Mr. Gecker*	x			
	Mr. Gulley				x
	Mr. Holland*	x			
	Ms. Jaeckle*	x			
	Mr. Warren*				x
Goochland	Mr. K. Peterson*	x			
	VACANT Planning Comm				
Hanover	Mr. Fabricant	x			
	Ms. Kelly-Wiecek*	x			

	Mr. Padgett	x			
	Mr. C. Peterson*	x			
Henrico	Mr. Glover*				x
	Mr. Hancock	x			
	Mr. Kaechele*				x
	Mr. Nelson*				x
	Ms. O'Bannon*	x			
	Mr. Thornton*	x			
	Mr. Witte				x
New Kent	Mr. Pollard	x			
	Mr. Tiller*				
Powhatan	Ms. Carmack	x			
	Mr. Tucker*	x			
	Mr. Williams*	x			
Richmond	Mr. Agelasto*	x			
	Mr. Arkin				x
	Mr. Baliles*				x
	Ms. Graziano*	x			
	Ms. Mosby*				x
	Mr. Poole				x
	Alternates (vote only if elected official* is absent)				
Ashland	Mr. Henson				x
Charles City	Mr. Trogdon				x
Chesterfield	Mr. Dupler				x
Goochland	Mr. Alvarez				x
Hanover	Mr. Davis				x
Henrico	Mr. Silber				x
New Kent	Ms. Le Duc				x
Powhatan	Mr. Melton				x
Richmond	Ms. Thomason	x			

Mr. Gecker made a motion that the Board appoint Ms. Martha Shickle as RRPDC Executive Director per the recommendation received from the Executive Committee and subject to the specific terms discussed in this morning's Closed Session. The motion was seconded by Ms. O'Bannon. There was no additional discussion and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Urban Crescent K-12 Funding Discussion (continued)

Chairman Williams asked Mr. Fabricant if he would continue the question he had prior to the Closed Session.

Mr. Fabricant asked if members needed to provide authorization today to participate in the Urban Crescent meeting.

Ms. Jacocks said staff is requesting direction from members on whether or not staff should attend the meeting as an observer and to report back to members on any discussions or actions taken by Urban Crescent localities.

Ms. O'Bannon said the Richmond region is being asked to join with the other Urban Crescent localities in the discussion. She said she would prefer to discuss the issue as a region instead of acting with the other, larger regions. She said any regional problems that are identified could then be taken forward. Ms. O'Bannon said traditionally when the Richmond region has joined with the larger regions, Richmond tends to be overwhelmed and any benefits realized favor the larger regions.

Mr. Gates said at this time, the Urban Crescent localities are only meeting to determine if there is a consensus to take some sort of action. The Urban Crescent has only met on one other occasion and was staffed primarily by all staffs from the various Urban Crescent PDCs. He said everyone agrees there is a problem with the decline in state funding of K-12 education. Mr. Gates said the question is whether or not the Urban Crescent is the right forum by which to address the problem. He said this is what Ms. O'Bannon is relating. Mr. Gates said the other question is whether or not the PDC is the right expert to discuss the problem. One of the PDC's roles is to act as a convener. When the Urban Crescent met previously to discuss transportation, the PDCs were the experts on that issue. Education is not a rural versus urban issue.

Mr. Fabricant said he would be in favor of sending a representative to the meeting to show the region's interest. Mr. Fabricant said he would make a motion that the RRPDC send a representative to the Urban Crescent meeting on December 11. The motion was seconded by Mr. C. Peterson. Chairman Williams asked if there was any discussion.

Ms. Kelly-Wiecek asked if RRPDC should create a supportive resolution that indicates all of the RRPDC's jurisdictions agree there is concern regarding the decline in state funding for K-12 education.

Mr. C. Peterson said he would be reluctant to take that action until a report from the meeting is received.

Mr. Agelasto said as this funding issue is a concern for all of the localities, he would suggest that members discuss this as a group in order to bring a regional voice to the issue. He said he understood that the Richmond region was accused of not cooperating on the transportation funding issue when it was addressed during the previous Urban Crescent meeting.

Chairman Williams asked if Mr. Agelasto was recommending this topic for discussion at the next RRPDC Board meeting to build a consensus around the problems. Mr. Agelasto said he believed it would be beneficial to discuss this issue as a Board and to have someone attend the December 11 meeting as well.

Ms. Jaeckle said education is an open-ended issue and may dilute the regional issues that members are already addressing. She said a discussion on education will take up staff time and time from members. Ms. Jaeckle said she agreed with Mr. Agelasto that this is a regional concern, but she didn't know if RRPDC could effectively impact the issue.

Ms. O'Bannon said this is an issue the elected school boards need to take on.

Ms. Graziano said she agreed that everyone sees the statewide issue with K-12 funding. She said she did not believe RRPDC has the expertise to address education issues in the localities. She said she did not believe this is the mission of the RRPDC. There are elected school board officials who should handle education issues.

Mr. Agelasto said he did not disagree with having school boards tackle the issue. He said it's up to the local governing bodies to address funding for the schools and for determining funding mechanisms for schools. Mr. Agelasto said he believes this is what the Board should discuss as a region given the fact that children in the region are mobile and may attend school in several jurisdictions during their school career.

Ms. Kelly-Wiecek said the motion on the floor is to send a representative to the Urban Crescent meeting. She said her point earlier with regard to the motion is that a supportive resolution should be considered simultaneously.

Mr. Holland said the overriding issue is funding. There is also a concern regarding efficiencies and how to use the funding. Receiving more funding may not be the answer unless there are best practices in place.

Ms. O'Bannon noted there are changes coming to the Comprehensive Services Act, which is now referred to as the Children's Services Act, during the General Assembly. The motion on the floor is to send a representative to the Urban Crescent meeting. The other education advocacy groups are addressing the funding issue.

Mr. C. Peterson said he believed everyone was in agreement to send a representative to the meeting.

Mr. Pollard said he's in agreement to send a representative to the meeting but he would not want to make any decisions on funding before speaking with his school board members and superintendent.

Chairman Williams said the motion is to send an observer to the Urban Crescent meeting without representing any particular point of view. Chairman Williams noted that a quorum of members had been lost, so the motion is vacated. He asked if there was a consensus to send an observer to the Urban Crescent meeting on December 11. Those members in attendance were in agreement to send an observer.

Ms. Jacocks noted that for the next Regional Forum discussion in December, the Goochland County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. James Lane, will be providing a

presentation on some of the County's best practices as they relate to County schools. She said this will keep the discussion going.

V. **OTHER BUSINESS**

- Announcement of revised FY16 holiday schedule for RRPDC staff as approved by the Executive Committee

Chairman Williams asked Ms. Jacocks to provide the revised holiday schedule to members.

Ms. Jacocks said that per the RRPDC Personnel and Operating Policies Manual, any additional holidays announced by the Governor for state employees will be observed by RRPDC staff with prior approval given by the RRPDC Executive Committee.

Currently, the Governor is providing additional holiday time for state employees as follows:

- the afternoon of Wednesday, November 25 (day before Thanksgiving)
- all day on December 24 (Christmas Eve)

During this morning's Executive Committee meeting, members voted to approve the additional holiday time for RRPDC staff as approved by the Governor for state staff.

This will provide an additional four hours of holiday time for agency staff on Wednesday, November 25 (the agency would typically work a full day) and four additional hours on Thursday, December 24 (the agency would typically close at noon).

- Recognition of Interim Executive Director

Chairman Williams said he would like to offer his thanks to Ms. Jacocks for her leadership over the past six months as the search for a new Executive Director took place. Members joined with Chairman Williams by offering a round of applause to thank Ms. Jacocks. Chairman Williams said he really appreciated Ms. Jacocks' willingness to step up to serve as Interim Executive Director and noted that she has done a remarkable job in the position.

Ms. Jacocks said she appreciated the support she's received from the Board and from staff during her tenure in the position. She said she is very proud of the Planning staff for continuing their efforts with minimal supervision from her. Ms. Jacocks said she is very excited about the opportunities that will be available to the agency under the guidance of Ms. Shickle.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no additional business to bring before the Board, Chairman Williams adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:00 a.m.

Barbara V. Jacocks
Interim Executive Director

David T. Williams
Chairman