

AGENDA NOTE - HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM #1: MINUTES OF April 21, 2010

Minutes of the April 21, 2010 meeting are attached.

Attachment 1

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approval

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission
Quarterly Meeting
Minutes of April 21, 2010

The Quarterly Commission Meeting of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission was called to order at 9:35 a.m. at the Regional Boardroom, 723 Woodlake Drive, Chesapeake, Virginia, with the following in attendance:

COMMISSIONERS:

Bruce C. Goodson, Chairman (JC)	Regina V.K. Williams (NO)*
Stan D. Clark, Vice Chairman (IW)	Barclay C. Winn (NO)
William E. Harrell (CH)	J. Randall Wheeler (PQ)
Dr. Alan P. Krasnoff (CH)*	Kenneth L. Chandler (PO)
Dr. Ella P. Ward (CH)	Douglas L. Smith (PO)
Brenda G. Garton (GL)	Selena Cuffee-Glenn (SU)
Gregory Woodard (GL)*	John Seward (SY)
Molly Joseph Ward (HA)	Tyrone Franklin (SY)
Mary Bunting (HA)*	Harry E. Diezel (VB)
W. Douglas Caskey (IW)	Barbara M. Henley (VB)
Sanford B. Wanner (JC)	Louis R. Jones (VB)
Joe S. Frank (NN)	William D. Sessoms (VB)
Neil Morgan (NN)	James K. Spore (VB)*
Sharon P. Scott (NN)*	Jackson C. Tuttle II (WM)
Anthony Burfoot, (NO)	Jeanne Zeidler (WM)

*Late arrival or early departure.

COMMISSIONERS (ABSENT)

Amar Dwarkanath (CH)	Michael W. Johnson (SH)
Cliff Hayes (CH)	Anita T. Felts (SH)
June Fleming (FR)	Linda T. Johnson (SU)
Rosa Lawrence (FR)	Robert Dyer (VB)
Ross Kearney (HA)	John Uhrin (VB)
Paul Fraim (NO)	James O. McReynolds (YK)
Theresa Whibley (NO)	Thomas Shepperd (YK)
Gordon C. Helsel (PQ)	

OTHERS RECORDED ATTENDING:

John Gergely, Henry Ryto, Terri Boothe (Citizens); Ellis W. James – Sierra Club Observer; Bill Ginnow - HRMMRS; Earl Sorey (CH); Keith Cannady (HA); Rod Woolard, Bryan Pennington, Jeff Raliski - (NO); Ron Hodges – Traffix/HRT; Robert Bolich, Jessica Forbes – Ecology & Environment, Inc.; Quintin Kendall - CSX; L. Frank Mach – Mid-Atlantic/Maritime Administration; Ray Taylor – FHR; Christopher Moore – Maritime Administration-USDOT; Adam Jack, Dennis Heuer - VDOT; Wendy L. Vachet, NAVFAC Mid-Lant-CPLO; Peter Huber – Willcox & Savage; Germaine Fleet – Biggs & Fleet; Staff: Dwight Farmer, John Carlock, Rick Case, James Clary, Jennifer Coleman, Nancy Collins, Richard Flannery, Kathlene Grauberger, Greg Grootendorst, Juia Hillegass, Frances Hughey, Jim Hummer, Rob Jacobs, Claire Jones, Brett Kerns, Sara Kidd, Robert Lawrence, Mike Long, Brian Miller, Kelli Peterson, Camelia Ravanbakht, Joe Turner, Chris Vaigneur and Eric Walberg.

Chairman Goodson called the Hampton Roads Planning District Quarterly Commission meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENT

One person requested to address the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission.

Ellis W. James

Morning, thank you Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission My names is Ellis W. James, I am a Sierra Club Observer and I want to call something to your attention in or light of the fact that we are going to have this item number 8 on the agenda, offshore drilling update. For those of you who don't know, there has been a very tragic accident in the Gulf, 52 miles off of Venice, Louisiana. The Coast Guard is currently looking for fifteen missing men, and there are seven who are injured. There are no deaths thankfully at this stage. Why do I bring that up to you? You have heard me discuss my concern about offshore drilling. Accidents do happen and when they happen they have serious consequences. This is not directed directly at my friends from Virginia Beach. I understand their needs and what the budget crunch is at this stage. But the consideration of offshore drilling for both Virginia as well as North Carolina is not a good idea. There are too many aspects that raise serious risks and questions about what we would do here in the Commonwealth. There is a basic question, are we looking to eliminate NAS and NASA and its activities. I would like to remind you NASA within the last few months has signed a major commercial launching vehicle contract. Their down wind safety range is right near 220, the least sale potential site. I think these questions are very serious and I would like to suggest to you that when we have a discussion, whether it be before the Commission here or amongst ourselves across the Commonwealth of Virginia, the discussion needs to be more open and more honest and more complete from the standpoint about the information for what it is that we are considering. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

(Mayor Krasnoff arrives)

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contained the following items:

Minutes of March 17, 2010

Treasurer's Reports

Regional Reviews

A. PNRS Items Review

Strategic Communications and Communications Support – Chesapeake Bay Program

A proposal to Implement Beach Monitoring and Risk Communications Plans for Coastal Beaches in Virginia

Dredge Essex Main Engine Repower Project

Mid-Atlantic Regional Marine Repower Project

Regional Approach to Increasing Recycling in the Mid-Atlantic States

Forest Heights Road Neighborhood Improvement

King William – Scotland Landing Acquisition

Lynnhaven Oyster Restoration and Estuary Protection

B. Environmental Impact Assessment/Statement Reviews

Roadway Improvements to Intersection Rt. 165 & Fentress Airfield Road; DOD/Navy; Chesapeake

The Rockefeller, Norfolk; USHUD; Norfolk

Landstown-Virginia Beach 230kV Transmission Line Rebuild; State Corporation Commission; Virginia Beach

Taxiway Pavement Rehabilitation, Newport News-Williamsburg International; USDOT/FAA; Newport News

Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge: Draft Environmental Assessment and Comprehensive Plan; DOI, Fish and Wildlife Services; Virginia Beach

Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2012-2017; DOI/Minerals Management Service (MMS); HRPDC

Geological and Geophysical Exploration on the Mid- and South Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf; DOI/Minerals Management Service (MMS); HRPDC

Preliminary Revised 5-Year Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2007-2012; DOI/Minerals Management Service (MS); HRPDC

Hampton Roads Green Infrastructure Plan – Final Report

Regional Climate Change Report – Final Report

Commissioner Caskey Moved to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Commissioner Harrell. The Motion Carried.

Stormwater Management Program – Town of Windsor

Chairman Goodson introduced Ms. Julia Hillegass to present the Town of Windsor Stormwater Management Program. Ms. Hillegass stated that the current Virginia Stormwater Regulations are suspended at this time and that eventually all localities in Virginia will be required to have a stormwater program. Qualifying local programs, meaning those programs approved by the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board, can accept delegation of the general permit program. The Windsor plan provides background about the town and evolution of state stormwater regulations provided for the Town of Windsor with some analysis and also recommendations for strengthening existing related programs. To achieve a fully compliant stormwater program, the Town of Windsor will have to develop an ordinance, which should include using Best Management Practices (BMP) that are consistent with the new state technical criteria.

Ms. Hillegass stated the internal review process, such as plan submission and review, may need to be revised to accommodate the new requirements. Some areas that all localities will need to think about is how they will begin to assess and collect fees if they decide to accept delegation of issuing the construction general permits for the state which inspectors will be using to ensure compliance on development projects. They may require additional training and development of standard operating procedures for enforcement. The HRPDC has worked with localities already permitted to provide methods for dealing with issues such as inspections and record keeping through its web based reporting system known as Permit Administration and Review System (PARS). This system allows localities to catalogue all their BMPs, search them by project and type, and also provides inspection forms for different types of BMPs, and will setup calendars for the inspection cycle. The Town of Windsor formally adopted this program in March of this year.

Ms. Hillegass stated it would be beneficial for localities to begin preparation for adoption of a local program if they do not already have one. If DCR staff handles the program for a locality, the locality loses all control of development, and that may mean lengthier setbacks for the review process.

Chairman Goodson stated that he wanted to highlight the important functions the Commission does for localities that are too small to handle this type of work themselves, and it benefits all localities to have a regional group that works on this type of issue.

Commissioner Sessoms Moved to accept this report for distribution; seconded by Commissioner Krasnoff. The Motion Carried.

(Commissioner Williams arrives)

Hampton Roads Watershed Roundtable

Chairman Goodson introduced Eric Walberg to present the Hampton Roads Watershed Roundtable Report. Mr. Walberg stated that in 2001, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation established watershed roundtables for each of the major watersheds in the State. The goal was to try and get a broad constituency such as local government staff, business representatives, agricultural and forest communities, fishing interests and environmental nonprofit groups at the table to talk about watershed related

issues. This effort was targeted for the tributary strategies program. In 2001, DCR was looking at mechanisms to provide input and opportunities to provide education on the tributary strategies program and associated water quality goals.

Mr. Walberg stated that in 1995, local governments were working together to establish a steering committee associated with the tributary strategies program. In 2001, in conjunction with DCR efforts, the lower James River Roundtable was established but did not include the southern watershed of Virginia Beach and Chesapeake, and also did not include some of the tributaries that empty directly into the Chesapeake Bay such as the Back River in Hampton.

Mr. Walberg stated that in 2007 the HRPDC staff began to work with DCR to broaden the watershed roundtable to cover the entire geography of Hampton Roads. Mr. Walberg indicated that recently a training session was held on public involvement strategies for local government and private non-profits. The participants who have been a part since 2009 included local governmental staff, environmental groups, Chamber of Commerce, soil and water conservation districts and citizen groups. Moving forward to 2010, the HRPDC staff is establishing a digital regional calendar for watershed events including small groups for inclusion in the round table.

Commissioner Frank Moved to accept this report for distribution; seconded by Commissioner Clark. The Motion Carried.

(Commissioner Scott arrives)

Offshore Energy Development Update

Chairman Goodson stated Mr. Walberg would also present the offshore energy development update. He indicated that he and Mr. Walberg serve on a local task force sponsored by the Federal Minerals Management Service that is looking into offshore energy development.

Mr. Walberg indicated that he would provide information on both wind energy and what is happening with oil and gas development. Mr. Walberg stated the Minerals Management Service has been working with the Department of Defense (DOD) to get the right people to participate and there will be a presentation on Virginia Capes operations and compatibility issues for the Request for Interest (RFI) area. Representatives from the Coast Guard will report on activities in the RFI area. The Request for Interest will go out to solicit bids for a lease sale for wind energy development.

Mr. Walberg indicated that in oil and gas development there are a number of opportunities for review and comment with Minerals Management Service. The comment period for the draft environmental impact statement has re-opened for the period of 2007 to 2012. Mr. Walberg indicated that HRPDC has submitted comments to DEQ many which has not been addressed. These include several maps which do not show many of the region's parks, wildlife refuges, military installations and the Virginia Capes training area. DEQ will submit them to the Minerals Management Service. Mr. Walberg indicated the next comment opportunity is now open, the impact statement on the environmental effects of multiple geological and geophysical exploration activities. He indicated there are a number of

environmental concerns associated with this impact on marine mammals and the potential conflicts between military training activities and seismic exploration.

(Commissioner Woodard arrives)

Mr. Walberg stated the offshore activity has potential for significant impacts in Hampton Roads and the extent to which the economic impacts are positive will largely be dependent on effective management of use conflicts and any adverse environmental impacts.

Mayor Frank stated that DOD will be representing the Navy and other defense agencies to find request for interest, and that he did not see where NASA is participating. He requested that the HRPDC staff contact NASA concerning this matter.

Mr. Walberg indicated that Minerals Management Service has contacted NASA and they are represented.

(Commissioner Bunting arrives)

Mr. Smith indicated HRPDC and Hampton Road Partnership have submitted Vision Hampton Roads Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy that the U.S. Department of Commerce will approve. He thought the HRPDC should play a significant role in coordinating the implementation of the energy development part of the economic Strategy.

Hampton Roads Metropolitan Medical Response System (HRMMRS)

Chairman Goodson introduced Mr. Bill Ginnow, Program Manager, Hampton Roads Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) to provide the briefing.

Mr. Ginnow indicated he wanted to give an update and review of what MMRS is doing in term of mass casualty preparedness, medical special needs planning and funding situations. He indicated that MMRS is a federal grant administered through the Department of Homeland Security. Hampton Roads is one of the largest, and oldest and most active Metropolitan Medical Response Systems in the region.

(Commissioner Spore arrives)

Mr. Ginnow indicated the purpose of MMRS is to integrate public safety, health and medical operations in a mass casualty event to ensure a coordinated response. To aid in the response, there are eight disaster medical support units which include the ability to care for casualties in the region during an incident and transport them to the facilities they might need such as shelters, hospitals, or out of the area. The units are large trailers with supplies required for care to the most critical patients and can support up to 250 patients depending on the nature of their injuries. Federal grant funds were utilized to purchase the units, and were donated to the jurisdictions which are responsible for maintenance and transport to an incident as a mutual aid resource. All of the units are identical to facilitate their use by a first responder at an incident.

Mr. Ginnow indicated that there are also three completed mass casualty evacuation transport units. These units are school buses converted to have the capacity of over eleven ambulances to transport people, and they have multi functions to be used in evacuations from nursing homes or hospitals.

Project Status Report

No questions or comments were noted.

Correspondence of Interest

No questions or comments were noted.

For Your Information

Chairman Goodson indicated that the information on the hurricane forecast for 2010 is interesting. They are forecasting more activity during hurricane season this year, and this was something all should note.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Dwight L. Farmer
Executive Director/Secretary

Bruce C. Goodson
Chairman