

CENTRAL VIRGINIA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION



Central Virginia Metropolitan Planning Organization

Central Virginia Planning District Commission Offices ~

MINUTES

April 18, 2019, 4:00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT

- Sara Carter Town of Amherst
Kenny Craig Liberty University
Robert Hiss Bedford County
William Mays, Vice-Chair Amherst County
Turner Perrow City of Lynchburg
Dean Rodgers Amherst County
Frank Rogers Campbell County
Daniel Sonenklar Dept. of Rail and Public Transportation
Bonnie Svrcek City of Lynchburg
Dwayne Tuggle Town of Amherst
Chris Winstead VDOT Lynchburg District

MEMBERS ABSENT

- Brian Booth Greater Lynchburg Transit Company
John Sharp, Chair Bedford County
Charlie Watts Campbell County

OTHERS PRESENT

- Gary Christie CVPDC
Susan Cook CVPDC
Carrie Dungan News & Advance
Kelly Hitchcock CVPDC
W. Scott Smith CVPDC/CVMPO
Chris Wichman Office of Intermodal Planning & Investment
Rick Youngblood VDOT Lynchburg District

1. Call to Order

Will Mays, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes – October 18, 2018 Meeting

Upon a motion by Turner Perrow to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2018 meeting, seconded by Bonnie Svrcek, the motion carried by unanimous vote.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment – There were none.

4. Adoption of FY 2019-2020 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Scott Smith explained that the Work Program outlines what the MPO will do for the next year.

Funding is received from four different sources to do planning work for the MPO:

- 1) Federal Highway Administration
- 2) Federal Transit Administration
- 3) Dept. of Rail and Public Transit
- 4) VDOT

The Planning District Commission also contributes a local match.

The Work Plan is divided into two sections, one being highway related work, and the other is transit related work.

The primary area of work for this year will be the Long-Range Transportation Plan Update. Other areas of work will be supporting the Connectivity Study, the CEDS, staffing the Lynchburg Pedestrian Advisory Committee, assisting localities with SMART SCALE and other grant applications, and providing support to GLTC. The Van Pool Study has been postponed until next year.

Dean Rodgers requested the plan be amended, as suggested by Frank Rogers, to reflect the grant objective be specifically written to include a pedestrian connection between Lynchburg and Amherst.

Mr. Smith explained that there are two resolutions being presented for approval. One authorizes the MPO to proceed with the highway side of the plan, and the other authorizes the MPO to proceed on the transit side.

Turner Perrow asked what the source of funding is for the budgeted amount for the local match. Mr. Smith advised that this comes from the PDCs general fund, with the MPOs match being 10%.

The motion was made by Frank Rogers, and seconded by Turner Perrow, to approve the Unified Planning Work Program as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Report from Bylaws Subcommittee

Turner Perrow explained that the major change to the bylaws is the name change. The Metropolitan Planning Organization will be known as the Central Virginia Transportation Planning Organization. This may require a change in the charter. Other changes are:

- The voting membership includes one member designated by the Secretary of the Commonwealth. Listed as non-voting membership is the Secretary, or PDC representative and Liberty University.
- Voting by proxy will be permitted by the designated alternate representative of the voting member.
- Electronic ballot voting will be allowed.
- Terms of office for the Chair and Vice-Chair are now limited to no more than two consecutive terms. They must also be voting members.
- A quorum will be designated as five voting members.

The motion was made by Turner Perrow, and seconded by Frank Rogers, to approve the amended bylaws. The motion was unanimously approved.

The amended bylaws will come back for ratification at the July meeting, following the required 30-day period to be read.

6. Adoption of Resolution of Support for Potomac River Long Bridge Expansion Project

Scott Smith explained that the Long Bridge, built in 1904, handles all passenger and freight rail traffic on the east coast. The bridge is operating at 98% capacity, and because of this no further expansions to Virginia's passenger rail can take place.

The plan is to build a parallel structure that would have two tracks. Once this structure is complete, the Long Bridge would be rehabbed, resulting in double capacity of four tracks.

A resolution is being presented to the MPO to support this project. The motion was made by Bonnie Svrcek and seconded by Turner Perrow to adopt the resolution. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. Election of FY 2019-2020 Officers

Turner Perrow made the motion that the Chair appoint a committee to nominate a slate of officers for the next fiscal year that would be in a rotating sequence, to be voted on at the July meeting. The motion was seconded by Frank Rogers, and was unanimously approved.

8. Presentation on VTrans 2045 Update

Chris Wichman, from the Office of Intermodal Planning & Investment, talked to the group about the state-wide VTrans 2045 Update. He explained that VTrans is the state-wide long range plan, and is updated every five years.

The first step in this process is a system-wide analysis, followed by establishing the vision and goals for transportation in the Commonwealth. Mid-term and long-term needs are established, which ties it to eligibility criteria for SMART SCALE.

A set of recommendations is developed, in the form of projects, planning activities, and policy ideas.

A needs assessment is state-wide, and done by looking at the state at a few different levels, using the 2040 plan as a base line:

- 1) The highest level of analysis is to look at corridors of state-wide significance.
- 2) Examining commuter flows between counties and cities within the same region
- 3) Look at urban development areas and their needs
- 4) Safety

Mr. Wichman advised that they will be back next fall to present a set of needs.

Gary Christie asked how rural areas are incorporated into the plan that are not part of the MPO. Mr. Wichman advised that they are still working through this, and the CTB will make a recommendation to address those gaps.

9. Matters from the Members

Scott Smith introduced Robert Hiss, the new Bedford County Administrator.

Bonnie Svrcek thanked Dean Rodgers and Frank Rogers for supporting the 221-501 project at the VDOT meeting last week. John Sharp also spoke on behalf of the MPO in support of this project.

10. Adjournment – There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Approved: 

Date: 7-18-19