



Minutes
Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Meeting
Via Zoom Video Conferencing – February 1, 2021, 5:00 p.m.

Member Jurisdiction Representatives					
	Augusta County		City of Staunton		Staff
✓	Butch Wells	✓	Carolyn Dull, Vice Chair	✓	Bonnie Riedesel, Executive Director
✓	Pam Carter	✓	Sharon Angle	✓	Rebecca Joyce, Community Program Manager
	Vickie Moran		Rockbridge County	✓	Elizabeth McCarty, Deputy Director
✓	Leslie Tate	✓	Jay Lewis	✓	Ann Cundy, Director of Transportation
	Bath County	✓	Chris Slaydon	✓	Lee Bell, Finance Director
✓	Edward Hicklin		Rockingham County	✓	Rita Whitfield, Office Manager
	City of Buena Vista	✓	Steven Schofield	✓	Nathan Garrison, Regional Planner
✓	Billy Fitzgerald	✓	Rhonda Cooper	✓	Grace Blanchard, Regional Planner
	City of Harrisonburg	✓	Kim Sandum	✓	Hunter Moore, Regional Planner
✓	Laura Dent			✓	Nancy Gourley, Transit Manager
✓	George Hirschmann, Secretary		City of Waynesboro	✓	Pat Lancey, Fiscal Technician
✓	Adam Fletcher	✓	Terry Short, Treasurer		
	Highland County		Rusty Johnson		
✓	David Blanchard				Others
	City of Lexington			✓	Laura Kornegay, Central Shenandoah Health District
✓	Frank Friedman, Chair				

Call to Order

Governor Ralph Northam declared a state of emergency in Virginia on March 12, 2020, in response to COVID-19. In light of this emergency, the February 1, 2021, CSPDC meeting was conducted via Zoom Video Conferencing. The February 1, 2021, Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Zoom Video Conference was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairperson Friedman.

Public Comment

Chairperson Friedman opened the floor to the public for comments. There were no public comments.

Minutes

Chairperson Friedman presented the minutes from the December 21, 2020, CSPDC Commission Zoom Video Conferencing meeting. There being no corrections or additions, Chairperson Friedman declared the minutes approved as presented. He introduced and welcomed Laura Dent, new Commissioner representing the City of Harrisonburg.

Executive Director’s Report

Under Executive Director’s Report, Ms. Riedesel reported on COVID-19 Recovery: 2020 Locality Cares Funding. She noted that a total of \$52,507,872 was received through the CARES Act for the

region. Ms. Riedesel stated that staff worked with the localities in inventorying and aggregating their use of local CARES funding through the CARES Act. She presented the survey responses from the 10 localities in the Central Shenandoah Planning District in June and October 2020, showing each locality's initial and total CARES allocations, and expenditures; and reviewed the locality CARES expenditures for business and nonprofit support.

Treasurer's Report

Chairperson Friedman presented for consideration the Treasurer's Report for November 2020. Mr. Short gave a review on the Treasurer's Report, noting that the Commission was awaiting several invoices and have not yet closed the books for December. Mr. Bell welcomed and introduced Pat Lancey, new Fiscal Technician. Ms. Dull moved, seconded by Mr. Hirschmann, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Presentation

Chairperson Friedman welcomed and introduced Laura Kornegay, MD, MPH, Health Director for the Central Shenandoah Health District (CSHD). Dr. Kornegay gave a report on CSHD's efforts in distributing COVID-19 vaccines to people across the region in the Shenandoah Valley. She noted that the biggest challenge was the limited supply of vaccines and gave an update on the CSHD's vaccine distribution efforts. Dr. Kornegay noted that the distribution of vaccine from the federal government to Virginia has been limited, which has affected the ability of local health departments and community partners to obtain vaccines to offer to priority groups. She stated that for the third week of January, approximately 106,000 first doses were available for distribution throughout the Commonwealth, and this was approximately half the amount of vaccines requested by the health department and health systems throughout Virginia. Dr. Kornegay reported that CSHD is narrowing the focus of their vaccination efforts to finishing up Phase 1a and concentrating on Phase 1b vaccination efforts and listed the priority groups based on order of vaccination planning. Questions were raised regarding information on registration information, vaccination efforts on priority groups and phases, and scheduling the second dose of vaccinations. Dr. Kornegay stated that CSHD will provide updated vaccine efforts on their website and individuals can sign up to receive updates.

EDA CARES Update

Chairperson Friedman presented EDA CARES Update. Ms. McCarty gave an update on the EDA CARES Act program. She noted that the CARES Act funding is provided through the Economic Development Administration (EDA), providing aid to communities and regions as they recover from the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic. Ms. McCarty noted that the CSPDC is using funds to assist the region with pandemic recovery and resiliency activities. She reported that staff is centered on four tasks and gave a brief description on each: development of a regional Pandemic Recovery and Resiliency Plan, coordinating recovery efforts, providing technical assistance to the localities, and implementing technology to effectively communicate.

Central Shenandoah Regional Wildfire Protection Plan Update

Chairperson Friedman presented the Central Shenandoah Regional Wildfire Protection Plan Update. Ms. Joyce gave an update on the Plan, noting that as a companion document to the Central Shenandoah Hazard Mitigation Plan, CSPDC staff recently completed the Central Shenandoah Regional Wildfire Protection Plan (CSRWPP). She stated that the CSRWPP is a planning tool with the primary goals to protect lives, reduce property loss due to wildfire, and create safer

wildland interface communities by identifying wildfire risk and mitigation measures. Ms. Joyce presented the signed Resolution by the Executive Director for the CSPDC (attached to file minutes). She stated that the localities will adopt the CSRWPP when they adopt the updated Hazard Mitigation Plan in early spring of 2021.

SMART SCALE Applications Update

Chairperson Friedman presented SMART SCALE Applications Update. Ms. Cundy gave an update on SMART SCALE applications, noting that VDOT staff presented a preliminary list of transportation projects recommended for funding through the SMART SCALE program with the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) on January 20th (project list attached to file minutes). She noted that the CSPDC, Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (HRMPO), Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (SAWMPO), and member jurisdictions were very successful this round, with 16 projects recommended for funding out of 21 applications submitted.

Consideration of Resolution Authorizing the Application for State and Local Aid for Rideshare

Chairperson Friedman presented for consideration a Resolution Authorizing the Application for State and Local Aid for Rideshare. Ms. Thompson gave a review on the Central Shenandoah Rideshare Program and reviewed the following cost share:

- Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation Share (80%) - \$76,000
- Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission Share (20%) - \$19,000
- Total Application Request - \$95,000

She reviewed the principal goal of the CSPDC's Rideshare Program and how funds will be used. Ms. Thompson stated that the CSPDC will continue its partnership with the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission in providing the Rideshare program across both planning districts. Mr. Short moved, seconded by Mr. Lewis, to endorse the Resolution authorizing the application for State and Local Aid for Rideshare. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Adjournment

Chairperson Friedman announced that the next CSPDC meeting would be held on April 19, 2021. There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion for adjournment was unanimously passed at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita F. Whitfield
Clerk to the Commission

Approved:

George Hirschmann
CSPDC Secretary