

OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes

June 24, 2010
Pike County Government Center
Waverly, Ohio

Chairman: Bob Proud
Vice-Chairman: Roger Rhonemus
Treasurer: Doug Corcoran

1. WELCEOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Roger Rhonemus, OVRDC Vice-Chairman presided over the meeting since Bob Proud, OVRDC Chairman was not in attendance due to the death of a soldier from Clermont County. Mr. Rhonemus called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm and stated that a quorum was present and welcomed everyone to the Pike County Government Center in Waverly, Ohio.

Executive Committee Members:

	Attended	Proxy	
Roger Rhonemus, Adams County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Debra Plymail, Adams County Member-at-Large	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Margery Paeltz, Brown County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Ben Houser, Brown County Private Sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Bob Proud, Clermont County Commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Ken Morrison, Clermont County Member-at-Large	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Jack DeWeese, Fayette County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Doug Marine, Fayette County Private Sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Joe Foster, Gallia County Commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Justin Fallon, Gallia County Commissioner</u>
Lori Neal, Gallia County Member-at-Large	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Gary Heaton, Highland County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Charles Stevens, Highland County Private Sector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Tom Walton, Jackson County Commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Rick McNelly, Jackson County Private Sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Les Boggs, Lawrence County Commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Rick Griffith, Lawrence County Private Sector Representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Harry Rider, Pike County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Roger Kemper, Pike County Member-at-Large	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Doug Corcoran, Ross County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Joseph Sulzer, Mayor of Chillicothe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Tom White, Ross County Private Sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Mike Crabtree, Scioto County Commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Jane Murray, Mayor of Portsmouth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Gary Coleman, Scioto County Member-at-Large	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Eugene Collins, Sr., Scioto County Minority Representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Tom Morgan, Vinton County Commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Rick Reynolds, Vinton County Member-at-Large	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

OVRDC Staff Present:

John Hemmings, OVRDC Executive Director
Michele Throckmorton, OVRDC Development Director
Juanita Bragg, OVRDC Finance Director
Sharon Clark, OVRDC Administrative Assistant

Guests Present:

Gary Abernathy, Representative for Senator Voinovich
Tommy Arnold, ODOT, District 8
Betty Bishop, City of Greenfield
Ed Burghard, Ohio Business Development Coalition
Cindy Cunningham, Representative for Congressman Zack Space
Debra Fought, ODOT, District 10
Nick Gatz, Representative for Senator Voinovich
David Hodapp, Representative for Senator Brown
Karen Pawloski, ODOT, District 10
Lynn Stevens, USDA Rural Development

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Rhonemus stated that a draft of the May 27, 2010 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes was mailed to members, along with the meeting notice and he asked for any corrections or additions. Mr. Rhonemus asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

IT WAS MOVED BY GARY HEATON AND SECONDED BY MARGERY PAELTZ TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 27, 2010 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED.

3. FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Rhonemus introduced Doug Corcoran, OVRDC Treasurer. Mr. Corcoran referred to Tab #3 in the packet which included the Balance Sheet for May 31, 2010. Mr. Corcoran stated the balance sheet reflected the total assets of \$768,813.81; total liabilities of \$69,253.65 and total equities of \$699,560.16 and a balance of \$0.00. Mr. Corcoran asked if there were any questions. Being none, Mr. Rhonemus asked for a motion to accept the Finance Report as presented.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY HARRY RIDER AND SECONDED BY TOM WHITE TO ADOPT THE FINANCE REPORT AS PRESENTED AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

4. ENTERPRISE APPALACHIA

Mr. Rhonemus introduced the afternoon's speaker, Mr. Edward Burghard, Executive Director of the Ohio Business Development Coalition. The Ohio Business Development Coalition is a nonprofit organization charged with developing and executing a targeted, proactive sales and marketing strategy to position Ohio for aggressive competition for business investment and expansion opportunities. It is funded with a combination of public and private sector funds. The primary objective of the OBDC is to provide the Ohio Department of Development, the state's regional economic development organizations and chambers both qualified leads and effective tools to retain and expand Ohio companies, and attract new companies to Ohio.

Mr. Burghard discussed the Enterprise Appalachia concept which is in the 3rd month of a 6-month pilot study. He indicated the goal is to build a strong entrepreneur community as a solid foundation for long-term economic growth by targeting entrepreneurs in Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Indiana and Michigan with a promise that Enterprise Appalachia provides the perfect balance of access to 1) capital, 2) knowledge and skilled labor, 3) supply chain and 4) market. For additional information contact Mr. Burghard at www.ohiomeansbusiness.com/enterprise_appalachia or eburghard@me.com.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

John Hemmings, OVRDC Executive Director was introduced by Mr. Rhonemus. Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #5 and highlighted the various sections.

Mr. Hemmings advised on May 14th, Michele Throckmorton attended a meeting in Jackson regarding a wood fuel company possibly moving into the Gettle Industrial Park. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss possible funding to upgrade the city's rail to the industrial park which will be needed by the company.

On May 18th, Mr. Hemmings and Mrs. Throckmorton attended a meeting in Jackson regarding a potential business which makes component parts for solar panels that is interested in locating in the Jackson CIC building. A discussion was held about possible grant and loan resources that might be available for the project. A tour of the Jackson CIC building was also completed.

Mr. Hemmings, along with Jason Gillow and Mrs. Throckmorton met with board members from the John P. Parker Historical Society from the Village of Ripley. The purpose of the meeting was to provide technical assistance regarding a grant they had received from HUD.

Mr. Hemmings advised he attended a meeting in New Boston to discuss the possible funding sources for New Boston and Portsmouth regarding getting their flood levee system certified to meet FEMA's new flood mapping requirements. Mr. Hemmings indicated FEMA is permitting Portsmouth and New Boston time to have the flood levies checked to see if there are any voids in the system and make the proper repairs to obtain certification or property owners will be required to buy flood insurance.

Mr. Hemmings advised Jason Gillow participated in an EDA and NADO sponsored webinar called, "Know your Region: Pursuing Regional Innovation and Competitiveness" on May 13th. This will assist Jason in preparing the CEDS document.

On May 14th Mr. Hemmings met with Betty Bishop, Greenfield Interim City Manager, and Elizabeth Scott, Governor's Regional Representative about a solar and wind farm project at the Greenfield Industrial Park in Greenfield, Ohio.

6. OLD BUSINESS

(a) ARC/EDA FY' 10 Project Status

Mr. Rhonemus introduced Michele Throckmorton, OVRDC Economic Development Director. Mrs. Throckmorton referred to Tab #6a and advised the changes since the last report are bolded and are as follows: Area Development: Holzer Regional Medical Imaging System (Gallia) – Forwarded to GOA and Distressed County Projects: Richland/Jackson Townships Waterline Extension (Vinton)- Forwarded to ARC and Hamden Sledge Handling Project (Vinton)-Forwarded to ARC.

(b) Connecting Appalachia Update

Mr. Hemmings advised he talked with Tom Reid regarding the grant application submitted by Horizon to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and was advised the application has reached the due-diligence phase. Mr. Reid thinks a decision about funding for the project may come as early as July.

(c) Amended RBOG Resolution #2020/03-02

Mr. Hemmings advised the original Resolution #2010/03-02 was passed by the board on March 24, 2010 requesting \$50,000 for a regional economic development marketing project through the USDA Rural Development, Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG) program. Mr. Hemmings asked for approval to amend the resolution to increase the amount requested to \$70,000 for two years to be matched with other cash and in-kind resources in the amount not to exceed \$30,000 for a total project cost of \$100,000. Mr. Rhonemus asked for a motion to approve amending Resolution #2010/03-02.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DOUG CORCORAN AND SECONDED BY MARGERY PAELTZ TO APPROVE DRAFT RESOLUTION #2010/03-02 TO AUTHORIZE THE OVRDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO USDA/RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING A REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MARKETING EFFORT UNDER THE RBOG PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$70,000 FOR TWO YEARS TO BE MATCHED WITH OTHER CASH AND IN-KIND RESOURCES IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$30,000 FOR A TOTAL PROJECT COST OF \$100,000. THE MOTION CARRIED.

7. NEW BUSINESS

(a) District 15 Schedule

Mrs. Throckmorton referred to Tab #7a which included the Tentative Schedule for OPWC District 15, Round 25.

(b) 2010 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Mrs. Throckmorton referred to Tab #7b and reviewed the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission 2010 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Timeline.

(c) Water Access to Every Residence Task Force

Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #7c which included a bill introduced by Senator Carey to create the “Water Access to Every Residence” Task Force. The Task Force shall identify residential communities and geographic areas of Ohio in which potable drinking water is not readily accessible. The Task Force shall develop strategies for providing access to potable drinking water, including strategies for financing drinking water projects. The Task Force will issue a report to the General Assembly of its findings and recommendations regarding strategies for providing access to potable drinking water in Ohio. The bill is still in committee. Mr. Hemmings stated there might be a role for OVRDC to assist with this new legislation.

(d) H.R. 5226 Appalachian Veterans Outreach Improvement Act

Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #7d which included information regarding the “Appalachian Veterans Outreach Improvement Act”. This pending legislation was introduced by Congressman Wilson for the purpose of increasing the access to and use by veterans of Federal, State, and local programs providing compensation and other benefits for service in the Armed Forces. Mr. Hemmings stated that his concern was the possibility of ARC funds for local development projects being utilized to support this initiative and stated that he would keep track of the legislation. David Hodapp of Senator Brown’s office indicated that Senator Brown had introduced the same bill in the Senate and the intent was not to take ARC funds for this initiative.

(e) Contract with Clinton County Commissioners

Mr. Hemmings asked for approval to enter into a contract with Clinton County Commissioners for office space and secretarial support, not to exceed \$20,000 for the Economic Development Coordinator, Rafael Underwood.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JUSTIN FALLON AND SECONDED BY KEN MORRISON TO APPROVE THE OVRDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE CLINTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR OFFICE SPACE AND SECRETARIAL SUPPORT, NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000 FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

(f) Personnel Committee Recommendations

Mr. Rhonemus asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the report of the Personnel Committee Meeting which was held at 11:00 am at the OVRDC Office on June 24, 2010.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MARGERY PAELTZ AND SECONDED BY GARY HEATON TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 2:40 PM. THE MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting reconvened at 3:00 pm and Mr. Rhonemus asked for a motion to approve each of the Personnel Committee's recommendations:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MARGERY PAELTZ AND SECONDED BY CHARLES STEVENS TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE WHICH MET JUNE 24, 2010 TO AUTHORIZE THE OVRDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO INCLUDE THE BOOKKEEPER/SECRETARY POSITION ON THE OVRDC ORGANIZATION CHART. THE MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY HARRY RIDER AND SECONDED BY GARY HEATON TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE WHICH MET JUNE 24, 2010 AUTHORIZING THE UPDATE OF THE OVRDC CLASSIFICATION AND SALARY PLAN AS PRESENTED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. THE MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DEBORA PLYMAIL AND SECONDED BY MARGERY PAELTZ TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE WHICH MET JUNE 24, 2010 TO AUTHORIZE THE OVRDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR A BOOKKEEPER/SECRETARY POSITION. THE MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY TOM WHITE AND SECONDED BY DOUG CORCORAN TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE WHICH MET JUNE 24, 2010 TO OFFER THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST POSITION TO JESSICA HOLLIS AT AN ANNUAL SALLARY OF \$24,000 AND AFTER A SATISFACTORY 6 MONTH EVALUATION, AN INCREASE TO \$25,000 ANNUALLY. THE MOTION PASSED.

8. ANNOUCEMENTS

Mr. Rhonemus referred to the June 2010 Announcements.

9. OVRDC MEETINGS

Mr. Rhonemus advised members the next Executive Committee Meeting will be changed to Thursday, August 19, 2010. He also advised attendees to mark their calendars for the Full Commission Appreciation Banquet and Meeting to be held at the US Grant Career Center in Clermont County on September 23, 2010.

10. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Mr. Rhonemus asked for a motion to adjourn.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY GARY HEATON AND SECONDED BY MARGERY PAELTZ TO ADJOURN THE JUNE 24, 2010 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AT 3:15 PM. THE MOTION CARRIED.

John W. Hemmings III, Executive Director & Commission Secretary

APPROVED:

Roger Rhonemus, Vice-Chairman

Attachment: Resolution #2010/03-02