

OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes

February 23, 2012
Pike County Government Center
Waverly, Ohio

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

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Bob Proud, OVRDC Chairman and Clermont County Commissioner, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. Mr. Proud stated that a quorum was present and he welcomed everyone to the Pike County Government Center in Waverly, Ohio. Mr. Proud asked for a moment of silence in memory of Lawrence County Commissioner, Paul Herrell who recently passed away. Mr. Proud asked Nick Gatz, Representative for Governor Kasich to lead the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Mr. Proud then asked for those present to introduce themselves.

Executive Committee Members:

	Attended	Proxy	
Roger Rhonemus, Adams County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Dane Clark, Adams County Private Sector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Ralph Jennings, Brown County Commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Ray Becraft, Brown County Member-at-Large	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Bob Proud, Clermont County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Tim Ross, Clermont County Private Sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Jack DeWeese, Fayette County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Faye Williamson, Fayette County Member-at-Large	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Joe Foster, Gallia County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Shane Wilkin, Highland County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Katy Farber, Highland County Member-at-Large	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Jerry Hall, Jackson County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Randy Heath, Jackson County Member-at-Large	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Jennifer Jacobs, Jackson Economic Dev.</u>
Les Boggs, Lawrence County Commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Lonnie Best, Lawrence County 911</u>
Bill Dingus, Lawrence County Member-at-Large	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Harry Rider, Pike County Commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Teddy West, Pike County Commissioner</u>
Bob Matthey, Pike County Private Sector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Doug Corcoran, Ross County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Jack Everson, Mayor of Chillicothe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Joyce Atwood, Ross County Member-at-Large	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Mike Crabtree, Scioto County Commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
David Malone, Mayor of Portsmouth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
VACANT, Scioto County Private Sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Eugene Collins, Sr., Scioto County Minority Representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Jerry Zinn, Vinton County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Ralph Neal, Vinton County Private Sector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

OVRDC Staff Present:

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

Guests Present:

Brad Biggs, ODOT Department of Jobs and Commerce
Sam Brady, Jackson County Economic Development
Nick Gatz, Representative for Governor Kasich
Linda Ayres-Louiso, USDA Rural Development
Danielle Nameth, Regional Representative for Senator Sherrod Brown
Fred River, ODOT District 9

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Proud stated that a draft of the January 26, 2012 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes was mailed to members, along with the meeting notice and he asked for any corrections or additions. Mr. Proud asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

IT WAS MOVED BY JERRY ZINN AND SECONDED BY RAY BECRAFT TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 26, 2012 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED.

3. FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Proud introduced Doug Corcoran, Ross County Commissioner and OVRDC Treasurer. Mr. Corcoran referred to Tab #3 and reviewed the balance sheet for the period ending December 31, 2011. Mr. Corcoran asked if there were any questions. Being none, Mr. Proud asked for a motion to accept the Finance Report as presented.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY ROGER RHONEMUS AND SECONDED BY BOB MATTEY TO ADOPT THE FINANCE REPORT AS PRESENTED AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

4. SPEAKER

Mr. Proud introduced Brad Biggs, Regional Manager, Southeast Ohio Office of Jobs and Commerce within the Ohio Department of Transportation. Mr. Biggs advised his office is working to bring jobs, commerce and transportation needs together in a timely fashion to overcome procedural issues and help businesses grow. They are working and partnering with JobsOhio and the Economic Development Offices in each county to support economic development projects. If you need additional information please contact Mr. Biggs at 614-752-6922.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Proud introduced John Hemmings, OVRDC Executive Director. Mr. Hemmings referred to the Director's Report located under Tab #5 and highlighted the various sections.

Mr. Hemmings advised during January 2012, Jason Gillow has been installing the new Trimble and ESRI software onto the new Trimble GeoXH 6000 unit and the computer. He has been learning how to set up and use the new GPS equipment. The main use of this equipment is to provide infrastructure and utility mapping services to local governments and communities through the use of geographic

information system (GIS) and geographic positioning system (GPS). Jason has been working with several OVRDC counties assisting them with mapping requests.

Mr. Hemmings advised on January 21st he attended a Roundtable Discussion with Senator Sherrod Brown and several leaders from the south central Ohio region about the eventual use of the former Gaseous Diffusion Plant at Piketon once Decontamination and Decommissioning is completed. The discussion centered on the vast amount of metals on site that can be recycled provided the correct technologies are implemented.

Mr. Hemmings indicated during the month of January, Michele Throckmorton has been working with the City of Greenfield on their potential EDA rail project.

Following the Director's Report, Mr. Hemmings included a news release advising that Judge Phillip Rose was sworn in by Speaker of the House William Batchelder as interim state representative of the 87th District to replace John Carey. The 87th District includes Vinton, Jackson and Gallia counties as well as portions of Lawrence and Ross Counties.

4. OLD BUSINESS

(a) OVRDC Office Building and Draft Resolution #2012/02-01

Mr. Hemmings advised he is continuing to work with the Pike County Commissioners on developing the Zahn's Corner property and possibly co-locating with the Pike County Economic Development Office or on our own. Mr. Hemmings indicated he has been approached by several people in the county that have property or buildings for sale and he is keeping all options open at this time.

Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #6 and the Draft Resolution requesting the transfer of \$50,000 from the Agency Operations-General Fund line item to the Committed Funds-Office Building line item on the Balance Sheet in order to prepare for securing new office space. The resolution also requests authorizing the Executive Director to make application for \$250,000 to the Governor's Office of Appalachia. Mr. Hemmings asked to amend this portion of the resolution to read "make application for a minimum of \$250,000" in the event additional funding through GOA becomes available.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RAY BECRAFT AND SECONDED BY DOUG CORCORAN TO APPROVE DRAFT RESOLUTION #2012/02-01 AUTHORIZING THE OVRDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR A MINIMUM OF \$250,000 TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF APPALACHIA FOR A GRANT TO ASSIST WITH CONSTRUCTING NEW OFFICE SPACE FOR OVRDC AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE ANY RECEIVED GRANT AGREEMENT FOR SAID CAUSE.

Mr. Proud asked if there were any questions and Bob Matthey, OVRDC Pike County Private Sector Representative stated the word "constructing" should be removed from the resolution since we are keeping all options open. Following some discussion of Mr. Matthey's comment,

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RAY BECRAFT AND SECONDED BY DOUG CORCORAN TO AMEND THE PREVIOUS MOTION TO APPROVE DRAFT RESOLUTION #2012/02-01 AUTHORIZING THE OVRDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR A MINIMUM OF \$250,000 TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF APPALACHIA FOR A GRANT TO ASSIST WITH NEW OFFICE SPACE FOR OVRDC AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE ANY GRANT AGREEMENT FOR SAID CAUSE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

5. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Audit Committee Report

Mr. Proud introduced Juanita Bragg, OVRDC Finance Director. Ms. Bragg advised she and Mr. Hemmings met with members of the Audit Committee (OVRDC Officers Bob Proud, Chairman, Roger Rhonemus, Vice Chairman and Doug Corcoran, Treasurer) on Thursday, February 23, 2012 at the Pike County Government Center. Also attending the meeting was Kathy Lambert and John Sams from the audit firm, Whited Seigneur Sams & Rahe (WSSR) who are performing the audit for 2011, 2012 and 2013. Ms. Bragg advised the meeting was scheduled to determine the timeline for the audit. OVRDC will have all information prepared so that the auditors will have the month of April to prepare and submit a draft audit to OVRDC. Ms. Bragg indicated the audit should be completed and ready to present for approval at the May 24, 2012 Executive Committee Meeting.

Mr. Proud advised a discussion was held with the audit firm during the meeting regarding negotiating the price of the audit. The firm could not guarantee any reduction in the price but would evaluate the cost based on the time spent in conducting it.

(b) District 15-Round 26 Update

Mr. Proud introduced Kim Reynolds, OVRDC Community Development Coordinator and asked for an update on the District 15, Round 26 OPWC Projects. Mrs. Reynolds distributed spreadsheets for the District Fund, the LTIP Fund and the Small Governments Fund. She stated that the District 15 Executive, Full Integrating and Small Government Committees met on January 25, 2012 to review and approve the project package. Mrs. Reynolds stated that applications will be delivered February 24, 2012 to Ohio Public Works Commission for consideration. In the District Fund (SCIP), the top 14 projects will be submitted for funding consideration, and in the LTIP Fund, the top 3 projects will be submitted. For Small Governments 7 applications will be delivered with the top 5 being reviewed and ranked competitive with the remaining districts in Ohio for funding.

(c) Fiscal Year 2013 President's Budget

Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #7c which included the proposed FY2013 President's Budget Summary. Mr. Hemmings highlighted the various sections of the report. The FY2013 President's Budget requests \$64.8 million for the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) non-highway programs, a 5% reduction. Under the Appalachian Development Highway System, \$470 million is authorized. The Local Development Districts are held harmless at \$6.2 million. Under EDA, 21st Century Innovation Infrastructure (Successor to Public Works) is budgeted for \$65 million a decrease of \$71 million; Partnership Planning (Successor to Planning) is budgeted for \$27 million, down \$2 million; Technical Assistance is budgeted at \$12 million, level funded; and Economic Adjustment Assistance is budgeted at \$65 million, representing an increase of \$10 million. Mr. Hemmings then covered other pertinent federal programs briefly such as USDA Rural Development, FEMA, HUD/CDBG, Transportation, and Energy as it relates to the cleanup at the Piketon Gaseous Diffusion Plant site.

(d) Ohio International Market Access Grant for Exporters

Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #7d which included information regarding the Ohio International Market Access Grant for Exporters (IMAGE). The Ohio International Market Access Grant for Exporters is a program funded by the State of Ohio and the US Small Business Administration as part of the National Export Initiative to double U.S. exports by 2015. IMAGE is designed to increase exports and create jobs by helping small companies promote their products and services in new international markets. The IMAGE program is administered by the Ohio Department of Development's Office of Export Assistance. IMAGE funds will reimburse companies a maximum of \$6,000 (50% on qualifying expenditures up to \$12,000) for activities associated with new international marketing initiatives. Companies located in the Ohio Appalachian region may qualify for an additional 50% reimbursement up to \$2,000 to use toward eligible export-related activities. The additional stipend for Ohio Appalachian region companies is funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission and was strongly supported by the Ohio Local Development Districts. For additional information contact IMAGE@development.ohio.gov.

(e) OVRDC Revolving Loan Fund Update

Mr. Proud introduced Michele Throckmorton, OVRDC Development Director. Mrs. Throckmorton advised since the last meeting we have had 2 loans paid off. X-Mil, Inc payoff was approximately \$90,400 on February 2, 2012 and Immanuel Holdings, LLC payoff in the amount of \$56,477 was received on February 10, 2012. Mrs. Throckmorton said this means loan funds available through OVRDC is roughly \$840,000. She asked those present to assist OVRDC in identifying potential loan clients in the region.

6. OVRDC MEETINGS

Mr. Proud announced the next Executive Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, March 29, 2012 at 4 pm in Brown County at the Southern Hills Career & Technical Center, 9193 Hamer Road, Georgetown, Ohio.

He also announced the Full Commission Banquet & Election of Officers which will also be held on Thursday, March 29, 2012 at the Southern Hills Career & Technical Center, 9193 Hamer Road, Georgetown, Ohio in Brown County. Registration will begin at 5:30 pm and Dinner/Program at 6:00 pm.

7. ADJOURN

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

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DOUG CORCORAN AND SECONDED BY BOB MATTEY TO ADJOURN THE FEBRUARY 23, 2012 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED.

John W. Hemmings III, Executive Director & Commission Secretary

APPROVED:

Robert Proud, Chairman