

OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes

August 19, 2010
Pike County Government Center
Waverly, Ohio

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

1. WELCEOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Bob Proud, OVRDC Chairman, 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. Mr. Proud then asked Margery Paeltz, Brown County Commissioner to lead the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

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 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Les Boggs, Lawrence County Commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Rick Griffith, Lawrence County Private Sector Representative	<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>
Roger Kemper, Pike County Member-at-Large	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Mike Crabtree, Scioto County Commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Jane Murray, Mayor of Portsmouth	<input 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 checked="" 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
Jessica Hollis, OVRDC Economic Development Specialist

Guests Present:

Patrick Bell, Jackson County
Gary Abernathy, Representative for Senator George Voinovich
Cindy Cunningham, Representative for Congressman Zack Space
Justin Fallon, Gallia County Commissioner
Debra Fought, ODOT – District 10
Nick Gatz, Representative for Senator George Voinovich
Karen Pawloski, ODOT – District 10
David Rose, ODOT – District 10
Fred River, ODOT – District 9
Lynn Stevens, USDA Rural Development

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Proud stated that a draft of the June 24, 2010 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 GARY HEATON AND SECONDED BY MARGERY PAELTZ TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 24, 2010 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED.

3. FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Proud introduced Doug Corcoran, OVRDC Treasurer. Mr. Corcoran referred to Tab #3 in the packet which included the Balance Sheet for June 30, 2010. Mr. Corcoran stated the balance sheet reflected the total assets of \$816,587.19; total liabilities of \$73,359.42 and total equities of \$743,227.77 and a balance of \$0.00. 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 CHARLES STEVENS AND SECONDED BY ROGER RHONEMUS TO ADOPT THE FINANCE REPORT AS PRESENTED AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

John Hemmings, OVRDC Executive Director was introduced by Mr. Proud. Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #4 and highlighted the various sections.

Mr. Hemmings advised David Hodapp is leaving Senator Brown's staff to attend law school and said OVRDC will miss Mr. Hodapp's assistance to our region but wishes him well in his future endeavors. Mr. Hodapp's replacement is Danielle Namath.

On June 15, Mr. Hemmings stated he and Michele Throckmorton participated in a project tour in the Village of Hamden with Earl Gohl, ARC Federal Co-chair. Also attending were Fred Deel and Chris Schaffer of the Governor's Office of Appalachia. Later that afternoon, the co-chair did a check presentation for the S.R. 850 Access Road project in Gallia County. Mr. Hemmings said he is going to invite the Federal Co-chair to speak via video conference or tape at the OVRDC September Full Commission which will be held in Clermont County, if the details can be worked out.

Mr. Hemmings participated in a conference call on June 1, regarding the Masco plant closing in Waverly, Ohio. ODOT officials updated those in attendance on efforts to assist the workforce and efforts to find a buyer for the facility.

Mr. Hemmings included a news release from the US Department of Energy advising it has selected a contractor for the next phase of the cleanup at the Portsmouth site. Fluor-B&W Portsmouth LLC will be the prime contractor for the decontamination and decommissioning (D&D) of the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (GDP). The project and the new contract will save and create jobs locally, building on the job creation that has resulted from the Department's cleanup efforts to date. The contract is valued at \$2,079,800,451 over 10 years, which includes an initial five-year contract period plus a potential five-year extension depending on contractor performance and the government's need.

Mr. Hemmings also included in the packet a news release from the Portsmouth Daily Times advising Magnitogorsk Iron & Steel Works, or MMK will not be opening a \$1 billion steel plant at Haverhill, citing low steel demand. In the release, Mark Barbash, Assistant Director of the Ohio Department of Development said his agency will continue to pursue opportunities to develop the Scioto County site.

Mr. Hemmings also discussed a sheet included in the Director's Report of important dates for Census 2010 Data Product Release.

Patrick Ball of Jackson County recognized OVRDC for the assistance provided in the Village of Hamden. Mr. Ball indicated the residents are taking pride in their new town as a result of new sidewalks and water systems and wanted to thank Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission for their dedication.

5. OLD BUSINESS

(a) Connecting Appalachia Update

Mr. Hemmings advised he received a call from Congressman Space's Office earlier this week, advising the Connecting Appalachia Ohio Broadband application did get funded for \$66.5 million, with nearly \$28.5 million in match from Chillicothe-based Horizon-Telcom. This Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP) stimulus grant, awarded by the National Telecommunications Infrastructure Administration (NTIA), will fund 70% of the \$94.9 million project, with Horizon providing the remaining funding. This project designated the Connecting Appalachian Ohio Middle Mile Consortium (CAOMMC) will provide high-capacity broadband services with speeds of up to 10 Gigabits per second over a 1,960-mile network to approximately 600 regional community anchor institutions including 212 healthcare facilities, 25 community colleges, 15 universities, 231 K-12 schools, 34 county public safety answering points, 32 MARCS towers and 34 industrial parks.

Mr. Hemmings included handouts containing an executive summary and background information of the plan along with news releases. The news release from Congressman Space said the Connecting Appalachia Ohio Broadband Plan is expected to create 725 jobs during its construction, in addition to the economic opportunities created by the broadband network.

Cindy Cunningham, representative from Congressman Space's Office attending today's meeting advised Congressman Space has worked diligently for this project and would like to thank Mr. Hemmings and OVRDC for their work and support.

Mr. Hemmings advised a meeting of the Broadband Committee, which is comprised of representatives from each OVRDC county, will be scheduled to allow local input as the project progresses.

(b) Economic Development Specialist Update

Mr. Hemmings advised last month the board approved hiring OVRDC's newest staff member, Jessica Hollis, as Economic Development Specialist effective July 12, 2010. In her new position, Jessica will be responsible for providing technical assistance and research with economic development and business development planning/research projects. He asked that everyone welcome Jessica to the OVRDC family. Jessica was asked by Mr. Proud to tell the committee a little about herself. Jessica gave a brief biography to the committee.

6. NEW BUSINESS

(a) ARC-EDA Appropriations Update

Mr. Hemmings referred to tab #6a and advised that an unnumbered Commerce-Justice-Science spending bill provides \$317.85 million for the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA). The House CJS Appropriations Subcommittee recommendation is \$24.85 million above the FY 2010 level and \$31.66 million above the administration's request. The full breakdown, along with committee report language, of the House bill will not be available until the measure moves to full committee later this summer.

Mr. Hemmings also advised in its FY 2011 budget request, the agency is seeking to shift more than \$90 million from its public works program to the economic adjustment assistance program.

Mr. Hemmings advised regarding Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) the Senate Bill 3635 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act 2011 has included \$76 million for ARC which is good news since this represents level funding for ARC.

Mr. Hemmings advised the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee approved HR 5897 to reauthorize Economic Development Administration (EDA) at \$500 million annually for five years. The bill includes several National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) supported provisions including increasing overall mandatory funding for planning grants including Economic Development Districts such as OVRDC.

(b) New EDA Project Review Process

Mr. Hemmings advised he and Michele Throckmorton attended a meeting in July at the Federal Building in Columbus with the staff of the Chicago Regional Office of EDA and the new Ohio Economic Development Representative Lee Shirey, who has replaced Bob Hickey. Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #6b and reviewed the new EDA FY 2011 Project Process. He advised EDA is converting to a new Data Driven Process and he highlighted the various sections.

(c) ARC/EDA FY 2011 Proposed Project Package

Michele Throckmorton, OVRDC Development Director, referred to Tab #6c in the packet regarding the FY'2011 OVRDC Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)/Economic Development Administration (EDA) Project Packages. Mrs. Throckmorton advised that on July 29, 2010, the Project Review Committee met and approved the FY'2011 Project Packages for ARC Area Development, Distressed County, Access Road projects, and for EDA Public Works and Economic Development, Economic Adjustment Assistance, and Technical Assistance projects, and recommended them to the Executive Committee for approval.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY GARY HEATON AND SECONDED BY RICK MCNELLY TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED ARC/EDA PROJECT PACKAGE AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011. THE MOTION PASSED.

(d) Columbia Gas of Ohio Jobs Growth Fund Program

Mr. Hemmings included under Tab #6d a release from Columbia Gas of Ohio (COH) regarding the Jobs Growth Fund Program. This program is a \$1.55 million grant program. The funds provide financial assistance to new and existing companies that create new jobs within COH's service territory. The grant awards range from \$50,000 to \$250,000. COH will fund approximately 2 to 4 industry and regionally diverse

projects per year. The funds will be awarded through April 2012 or until funds are exhausted. For additional information contact www.columbiagasohio.com/JobGrowthFund.

(e) ODOT Tiger II Preapplications & Proposed TRAC Applications

Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #6e regarding an update from the Ohio Department of Transportation regarding TIGER II Discretionary Grants Program. TIGER II Discretionary Grant Program is a \$600 million competitive grant program for surface transportation projects. Mr. Hemmings referred to the Pre-Application summary included in the packet and advised Lawrence County submitted a project for "The Point Intermodal River Port Facility".

Mr. Hemmings also referred to Tab #6e regarding the list of 2010 Proposed TRAC Applications for the Ohio Department of Transportation. Mr. Hemmings highlighted the projects for Districts 6, 8, 9, and 10.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Proud referred to the August 2010 Announcements.

8. OVRDC MEETINGS

Mr. Proud 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 and to be sure to send in their registration.

9. ADJOURN

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

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MARGERY PAELTZ AND SECONDED BY RICK MCNELLY TO ADJOURN THE AUGUST 19, 2010 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AT 2:35 PM. THE MOTION CARRIED.

John W. Hemmings III, Executive Director & Commission Secretary

APPROVED:

Bob Proud, Chairman