

OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes

April 26, 2012
Pike County Government Center
Waverly, Ohio

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

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Roger Rhonemus, OVRDC Vice Chairman and Adams County Commissioner presided at the meeting since Bob Proud, OVRDC Chairman and Clermont County Commissioner was not in attendance due to illness. Mr. Rhonemus called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. Mr. Rhonemus stated that a quorum was present and he asked Doug Cade, Lawrence County Engineer 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"/>	_____
Dane Clark, Adams County Private Sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Ralph Jennings, Brown County Commissioner	<input checked="" 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 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"/>	_____
Jay Cremeans, Gallipolis City Commission	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Randy Finney, Gallipolis City Manager</u>
Bryan Long, Gallia County Private Sector	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Doug Cade, Lawrence County Engineer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Bill Dingus, Lawrence County Member-at-Large	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Harry Rider, Pike County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Bob Matthey, Pike County Private Sector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Doug Corcoran, Ross County Commissioner	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
David Malone, Mayor of Portsmouth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Kara Willis, 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

OVRDC Staff Present:

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

Guests Present:

Linda Ayres-Louiso, USDA Rural Development
Nick Gatz, Representative Governor Kasich
Jennifer Jacobs, Jackson County Economic Development Director
Fred River, ODOT District 9

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Rhonemus stated that a draft of the March 29, 2012 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 RALPH JENNINGS AND SECONDED BY SHANE WILKIN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 29, 2012 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED.

3. FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Rhonemus introduced Juanita Bragg, OVRDC Finance Director. Ms. Bragg referred to Tab #3 and reviewed the balance sheet for the period ending February 29, 2012. Ms. Bragg advised total assets of \$1,135,538.88, total liabilities of \$59,157.15, total equity \$1,076,381.73 with a zero balance. Mr. Rhonemus 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 RANDY HEATH AND SECONDED BY RAY BECRAFT TO ADOPT THE FINANCE REPORT AS PRESENTED AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Rhonemus introduced John Hemmings, OVRDC Executive Director. Mr. Hemmings referred to the Director's Report located under Tab #4 and highlighted the various sections.

Mr. Hemmings advised he, along with Bob Proud and Sharon Clark attended the Development District Association of Appalachia (DDAA) and National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Conferences in Arlington, Virginia March 18-21. Bob Proud was chosen by the DDAA to receive the 2012 Donald R. Myers Humanitarian Award for his exemplary efforts to provide support and assistance to the families of members of the US Armed Services from Clermont County. While in Washington, meetings were held with staff of Congresswoman Jean Schmidt, with Congressman Steve Stivers and his staff and with Congressman Bill Johnson and his staff as well as with Senator Rob Portman and his staff.

On March 6, 2012, Mr. Hemmings met with Bart Winegar and Ben Fooj of ConnectOhio to discuss the next steps for completing the "last mile" infrastructure for the Appalachian region of Ohio. Mr. Hemmings advised Mr. Winegar and Mr. Fooj updated him on the ConnectAppalachia Task Force and its work and wanted to get input from the Ohio Local Development Districts (LDDs) on means by which the "last mile" might be funded.

Mr. Hemmings included registration information for Livable Regions and Communities Workshops for 2012. Dates for the workshops are May 15, Cartersville, Georgia, July 12, Kingsport, TN, and August 16, California, PA. For additional information contact Kathy Nothstine at knothstine@nado.org or 202-624-5256 or www.nado.org/archworkshops.

The workshop is being offered to local Development District board members and staff; local government officials and staff; business, nonprofit, and philanthropic leaders in Appalachia. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about best practices in creating strong, vibrant rural communities; to discuss the opportunities and challenges related to promoting quality growth in Appalachia; to identify opportunities to link economic development strategies with transportation plans, regional development frameworks and local initiatives to support long-term community goals.

5. OLD BUSINESS

(a) OVRDC Office Building (Land Transfer)

Mr. Hemmings advised he was informed by the present owners of our office space that we will have to vacate our office by February 2013 when our lease is up. Mr. Hemmings said the owners originally said they may allow us additional time beyond February 1. Since this is no longer an option and since completion of the proposed building at Zahns Corner cannot be completed by this time, we will have to move to a temporary office until the building is completed. Mr. Hemmings is reviewing options for this move and will inform the board at the May 31st meeting.

Since we need to move forward quickly, Mr. Hemmings advised he is preparing to send out a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for an architect and project manager. He will also request quotes from surveyors to parcel off the 2 acres of land at Zahns Corner in order to secure a deed. If the cost for these services is under \$5,000 in accordance with the OVRDC Bylaws, Mr. Hemmings will proceed. If the quotes are more, Mr. Hemmings will bring the matter before the board at the May 31st meeting for a motion to approve.

Regarding funding the building, Mr. Hemmings advised the cost to complete the building/parking lot would be approximately \$600,000. He was advised by Karen Fabiano that the Grant Agreement for \$250,000 has been approved and we should be receiving it in the next couple of weeks. The board approved \$150,000 toward the building which leaves \$200,000 required to complete the project. Mr. Hemmings has talked with the Pike County Commissioners and they support us moving into the building on our own, as well as possibly borrowing the \$200,000 additional monies needed to complete the project for us on a lease to own basis since OVRDC cannot borrow money. Mr. Hemmings stated that there had been discussion about OVRDC sharing office space with the Pike County Development Office in a new building at Zahns Corner Industrial Park but that seemed unlikely now. SODI has also offered to assist with the financing if needed. A decision will need to be made regarding choice of a financing partner and hopefully we can do so by the next OVRDC Executive Committee meeting.

(b) RLF/OPM Consent Agreement

Mr. Hemmings referred to the March 29th Executive Meeting Minutes and the motion presented to allow the OVRDC Executive Director to sign the consent agreement to permit the merger of Ohio Precious Metals and Precious Metals, LLC contingent on the recommendation of the Loan Review Committee. Mr. Hemmings advised the Loan Review Committee recommended approving the signature of the agreement consenting to the merger. Upon receipt of approval by the Loan Review Committee the agreement was signed by Mr. Hemmings and sent to Mr. Stockmeister.

(c) Federal Surface Transportation Bill

Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #5c which included a memo from NADO regarding the Federal Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill. The memo requested NADO members to urge their Senators and Representatives to support the House of Representatives language for Regional Transportation Planning Organizations, which increases the level of participation for rural local officials to "cooperation". The

Senate version of the bill sets the level of participation at "consultation". "Cooperation" means that the parties involved in carrying out the transportation planning and programming processes work together to achieve a common goal or objective. "Consultation" means that one or more parties confer with other identified parties in accordance with an established process and, prior to taking action(s), consider the view of the other parties and periodically inform them about action(s) taken. Mr. Hemmings asked Executive Committee members to contact their Senators and House members to encourage them to support the House version of the Federal Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill.

6. NEW BUSINESS

(a) OVRDC Code of Ethics/Conflict of Interest/Sexual Harassment Forms

Mr. Hemmings advised each year it is required that our Executive Committee members sign the Code of Ethics/Conflict of Interest and Sexual Harassment Compliance Forms. Mr. Hemmings stated that the forms were distributed by email prior to the meeting and several had been sent back by members. Copies were also made available at the meeting for members if they needed to complete them. Forms will be mailed to those members not present.

(b) RLF/Sardinia Feed and Farm Supply Collateral Release

This item was tabled at the March 29th Board Meeting. OVRDC RLF client Sardinia Feed and Farm Supply has requested we consider the release of mortgages on 3 personal residences we took as collateral since the OVRDC loan commitment letter stated it would be considered after 3 years. The loan was closed in 2008. We contacted the Loan Review Committee and they suggested before this is done to check financial statements. Mr. Hemmings advised he has looked over the financial information provided and has questions regarding the stability of the company.

A discussion was held and it was determined to secure additional financial information for consideration and recommendation by the Loan Review Committee before the release of collateral.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RALPH JENNINGS AND SECONDED BY RANDY HEATH TO TABLE THIS AGENDA ITEM IN ORDER TO SECURE ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION TO PRESENT TO THE LOAN REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR THEIR RECOMMENDATION. THE MOTION CARRIED.

(c) County Resolutions Supporting ARC Programs Federally

Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #6c which included a resolution for OVRDC members to consider supporting the House Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee's FY 2013 request of \$75.317 million for the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and supporting the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission as their ARC Local Development District. Mr. Hemmings indicated this resolution was for each OVRDC member county's board of commissioners to consider, approve and submit to their respective federal legislators. Mr. Hemmings advised he will email a draft of the resolution to each county for action and will also send to all Executive Committee members if they wish to take action on it as well.

(d) Piketon Gaseous Diffusion Plant Public Tours

Mr. Hemmings referred to Tab #6d and information included from the U.S. Department of Energy announcing six public tour dates of the former uranium enrichment facilities in Piketon, Ohio. The first tour was April 7. Other tour dates set for 2012 include May 5, June 2, August 4 and September 1. For more information, call Sandy Childers at (740) 897-2336 and leave a message to schedule.

7. OVRDC MEETINGS

Mr. Rhonemus announced the next Executive Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, May 31, 2012 at 2 pm at the Pike County Government Center in Waverly, Ohio.

8. ADJOURN

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

A MOTION WAS MADE BY RALPH JENNINGS AND SECONDED BY MIKE CRABTREE TO ADJOURN THE APRIL 26, 2012 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED.

John W. Hemmings III, Executive Director & Commission Secretary

APPROVED:

Roger Rhonemus, Vice-Chairman