

OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes

August 23, 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 called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm., since Bob Proud, Chairman was not in attendance. Mr. Rhonemus stated that a quorum was present and he asked Bob Matthey, 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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/>	_____
Bryan Long, Gallia County Private Sector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Shane Wilkin, Highland County Commissioner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Katy Farber, Highland County Member-at-Large	<input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Jack Everson, Mayor of Chillicothe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Joyce Atwood, Ross County Member-at-Large	<input 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 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, Economic Development Director

Guests Present:

Linda Ayres-Louiso, USDA Rural Development
Sam Brady, Jackson County Economic Development
Randy Finney, City Manager, City of Gallipolis
Jennifer Jacobs, Jackson County Economic Development
John Molinaro, President/CEO, Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth
Fred River, ODOT District 9
Teddy L. West, Pike County Commissioner

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Rhonemus stated that a draft of the June 28, 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 NEAL AND SECONDED BY RANDY HEATH TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 28, 2012 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED.

3. FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Rhonemus introduced OVRDC Treasurer and Ross County Commissioner, Doug Corcoran. Mr. Corcoran referred to Tab #3 and reviewed the Balance Sheet for the period ending June 30, 2012. Mr. Corcoran asked if there were any questions, being none, Mr. Rhonemus asked for a motion to approve the report.

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

4. SPEAKER

Mr. Rhonemus introduced John Molinaro, President and CEO of the Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth. Mr. Molinaro indicated the Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth (APEG) is committed to accelerating sustainable business growth, job creation, and advancing the southeast Ohio economy through targeted economic development support and regional collaboration.

The Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth is partnering with the Ohio Department of Development to rollout the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) services for a 29-county region, inclusive of all APEG's 25-county service area plus Brown, Clermont, Columbiana and Tuscarawas counties. Mr. Molinaro advised in the coming months, APEG will place MEP Field Engineers and Program Managers strategically around its region to support companies and community/economic development efforts. APEG staff will be out in the region working closely with business and community leaders to build sustainable, widely-shared prosperity. Mr. Molinaro advised he would be available after the meeting to meet and answer any questions.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Rhonemus introduced John Hemmings, OVRDC Executive Director. Mr. Hemmings referred to the Director's Report located in the packet and highlighted the various sections.

Mr. Hemmings advised on June 13 and 14, 2012 he attended the Network Appalachia and Export Trade Advisory Council (ETAC) meetings in Memphis, Tennessee. Presentations included the importance of logistics, upcoming trade shows ARC is promoting, and an update on the PIERS data and GIS project. A tour of the BNSF intermodal facility and FEDEX sorting facility at the Memphis International Airport were provided.

Mr. Hemmings indicated Michele Throckmorton, Jason Gillow and he met with Bret Allphin and Misty Casto of Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District. This meeting was about developing a partnership between the two LDD's to offer online GIS mapping services to communities within the OVRDC Region through an annual \$500 data maintenance fee to develop online GIS services that are part of OVRDC's Infrastructure Mapping Program.

Mr. Hemmings advised during the months of June and July, 2012, he met with Steve Shepherd of the Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative (SODI), Jennifer Jacobs of the Jackson County Economic Development Board, Chris Ervin of the Pike County Community Development Office, Chris Manegold of the Economic Development Alliance of Southern Ohio, and Steve Wells of the Scioto County Economic Development Office regarding a plan of action to present to Fluor/B&W Portsmouth LLC for funds from the Community Commitment Plan for economic development marketing for the region. Mr. Hemmings indicated on June 15, 2012, Jason Gillow presented to the group about OVRDC's GIS activities in mapping industrial parks. On June 23, 2012, the group met with Jerry Schneider and Jim Bruce of Fluor/B&W Portsmouth LLC about how they could help the group. It was decided that each county would compile a list of their 3 to 4 best properties and 2 to 3 buildings and schedule tours of these facilities with Jim Bruce and "Buzz" Canup to analyze the marketability of these properties. The accumulation of this data is ongoing.

6. OLD BUSINESS

(a) OVRDC Office Building

Mr. Hemmings advised the OVRDC building project is moving forward. He indicated that the OVRDC staff is in the process of packing for the move to the temporary location during the week of August 27th and that the office will be closed that week to complete the move and will reopen on Tuesday, September 4.

Mr. Hemmings also advised the geotechnical survey has been completed and the land is very suitable for building; therefore, the architect is proceeding with electrical, plumbing, HVAC and structural designs. Mr. Hemmings said he has signed off on the schematic design and brought the final floor plans of the building, along with a 3-D rendition of the final building to today's meeting for review by those interested.

Mr. Hemmings also again advised we have 4 office desks and office supplies we will not be utilizing in the new building which we are offering free to political subdivisions and private non-profit organizations in our region.

(b) Memo of Understanding with SODI

Mr. Hemmings advised he was given authorization by the Executive Committee at the June 28, 2012 meeting to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative (SODI) to proceed with financing and other particulars for the OVRDC Office Building. Mr. Hemmings indicated he is working on the MOU and will report to the Executive Committee at the September meeting.

(c) Renegotiation of Current Lease/Office

Mr. Hemmings, as a follow up explanation of this topic from the June 28th Executive Committee meeting, advised that Hadsell Chemical Processing negotiated a lease agreement with Wastren (WAI) of Pike County to provide free office space including utilities to OVRDC until June 1, 2013. It is in the interest of both companies for OVRDC to vacate the offices in Waverly at Hadsell Chemical Processing in order that the companies can begin expansion and create 50 jobs in Pike County at the facility. Our present lease with Hadsell Chemical will be voided since we have accepted this offer. Mr. Hemmings also advised he spoke with Gene Collins of Wastren and asked if our new building was not completed by June 1, 2013 could OVRDC continue to pay the lease amount of \$2,000 per month until our building is ready for occupancy.

Mr. Collins indicated this would be agreeable. Mr. Hemmings has received a copy of the signed lease between Hadsell Chemical Processing and Wastren for its records.

(d) ARC/EDA FY'12 Project Status

Mr. Rhonemus introduced Michele Throckmorton, OVRDC Development Director. Mrs. Throckmorton advised since the last Executive Committee Meeting report in May of 2012, projects changed or added to the list are: Under Area Development Projects-UC Clermont College Center for Advanced Manufacturing (Clermont County) has been submitted to ARC and Highland District Hospital (Highland County) has been submitted to ARC. Under Distressed County Projects-City of Waverly Bridge Street Sanitary Sewer Main Rehabilitation Project (Pike County) has been approved, Vinton Station Waterline Extension Project (Vinton County) has been approved, North Gate Sewer Expansion (Pike County) has been submitted to ARC, Tri-County Road & S.R. 247 North Waterline Rehab Project (Adams County) has been submitted to ARC.

7. NEW BUSINESS

(a) ARC/EDA FY'13 Proposed Project Package

Michele Throckmorton, OVRDC Development Director, referred to the FY'2013 OVRDC Project Package for Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding. Mrs. Throckmorton advised that on July 26, 2012, the Project Review Committee met and approved the FY' 2013 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 RALPH JENNINGS AND SECONDED BY RANDY HEATH TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED ARC/EDA PROJECT PACKAGE AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR FISCAL YEAR '2013. THE MOTION PASSED.

(b) OVRDC Community & Economic Development Conference

Mrs. Throckmorton advised OVRDC will be holding an all-day Community and Economic Development Conference on October 11, 2012 at the Shawnee Lodge and Conference Center, 4404B S.R. 125, West Portsmouth, Ohio. This conference will feature speakers delivering information on how to fund and support your infrastructure projects and systems. A Registration Form is included in the packet and the brochures will be mailed out soon.

(c) Surface Transportation Bill/Map21/ADHS

Mr. Hemmings referred to information in the meeting packet regarding the Federal Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill (H.R. 4348), Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century "MAP-21" which was signed into law by President Obama on July 6, 2012.

Mr. Hemmings indicated MAP-21 impacts the Appalachian Development Highway System (ADHS) in that each state will receive Federal Highway Administration dollars as a block grant (including ADHS dollars) and the state can spend them on any highway project for FFY 2013 or FFY 2014. New dollars (FFY 13 and 14) don't have to be spent on ADHS. He indicated that FFY 2012 ADHS dollars and earlier FFY dollars that have already been allocated must be spent on ADHS and that there is about \$2.1 billion unspent in ADHS from prior years. The \$2.1 billion can be utilized at 100%.

If a state does utilize new FHWA dollars on ADHS projects, then there is no state match required. ADHS projects could receive 100% FHWA dollars whereas other state selected projects would still require a 20% match. The 100% ADHS continues through FFY 2021 but could change.

Mr. Hemmings also advised there is no formal process for communities in the OVRDC area to participate in decisions about federal and state transportation funding since we are outside metropolitan areas represented by Metropolitan Planning Organizations. He also indicated that NADO has been promoting Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs) to serve areas outside the boundaries of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) for over a decade. As a part of MAP-21, states "may"

recognize RTPOs serving rural areas and OVRDC should pursue such designation by the Ohio Department of Transportation.

Mr. Hemmings suggested preparing a resolution to present to the Executive Committee in September to support OVRDC to be designated as a Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) for our member counties. This designation would give local communities a voice in the distribution of federal and state highway funds in the region. It was the consensus of the Executive Committee to support Mr. Hemmings preparing the resolution for the September meeting.

Mr. Hemmings also indicated that Governor Kasich is an advocate for the completion of the Appalachian Development Highway System in Ohio and that the majority of the uncompleted projects is in the OVRDC area. One project which is ready is the Portsmouth By-pass. Mr. Hemmings said he will meet with the Scioto County Commissioners, state elected officials, and members of ODOT to encourage them to pursue a portion of the \$2.1 billion of ADHS funds for completion of the Portsmouth By-pass.

(d) OVRDC Temporary Contact Information

Mr. Hemmings included new contact information for OVRDC Staff to be used beginning September 4, 2012.

8. OVRDC MEETINGS

Mr. Rhonemus announced that the next Executive Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, September 27, 2012 at 4:00 pm at the Vinton County High School Cafetorium, 63910 US Highway 50, McArthur, Ohio. Mr. Rhonemus also referred to the "SAVE the DATE" notice in the packet announcing the Annual Full Commission Appreciation Banquet which will be held Thursday, September 27, 2012 at the Vinton County High School. Registration will begin at 5:30 pm and the banquet/dinner at 6:00 pm.

9. ADJOURN

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

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MIKE CRABTREE AND SECONDED BY DOUG CORCORAN TO ADJOURN THE AUGUST 23, 2012 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED.

John W. Hemmings III, Executive Director & Commission Secretary

APPROVED:

Roger Rhonemus, Vice-Chairman