

**OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**

***Minutes***

*January 24, 2013*  
*Pike County Government Center*  
*Waverly, Ohio*

*Chairman: Bob Proud*  
*Vice-Chairman: Shane Wilkin, Interim*  
*Treasurer: Doug Corcoran*

**1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:**

Bob Proud, OVRDC Chairman and Clermont County Commissioner called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm and welcomed everyone to the Pike County Government Center in Waverly, Ohio . Mr. Proud stated that a quorum was present and he asked Shane Wilkin, Highland County Commissioner and OVRDC Vice Chair to lead the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Mr. Proud asked those present to introduce themselves since this was the first meeting of 2013 and new members were present.

**Executive Committee Members:**

	Attended	Proxy	
Brian Baldrige, Adams County Commissioner (Interim Caucus Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Dane Clark, Adams County Private Sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Caucus Chair Vacancy, Brown County	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Ray Becraft, Brown County Member-at-Large, (Interim Caucus Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Bob Proud, Clermont County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Vacant, 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, City Manager, Gallipolis</u>
Bryan Long, Gallia County Private Sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Shane Wilkin, Highland County Commissioner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Vacant, 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 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
David Malone, Mayor of Portsmouth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Kara Willis, Scioto County Private Sector	<input checked="" 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, Executive Director*  
*Juanita Bragg, Finance Director*  
*Michele Throckmorton, Development Director*  
*Sharon Clark, Administrative Assistant*

**Guests Present:**

*Linda Ayres-Louiso, USDA Rural Development*  
*Blaine Beekman, Pike County Commissioner*  
*Katy Farber, APEG*  
*Nick Gatz, Representative Governor Kasich*  
*Sharon Manson, Pike County CVB*  
*Debora Plymail, Workforce Connections, Adams County*  
*Teddy L. West, Pike County Commissioner*

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Proud stated that a draft of the November 15, 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 RAY BECRAFT AND SECONDED BY BLAINE BEEKMAN TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 15, 2012 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED.**

**3. FINANCE REPORT**

Mr. Proud introduced Doug Corcoran, Ross County Commissioner and OVRDC Treasurer who presented the Finance Report for the period ending November 30, 2012. Mr. Proud asked if there were any questions. Being none, Mr. Proud then asked for a motion to approve the report.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY HARRY RIDER AND SECONDED BY BRIAN BALDRIDGE TO ADOPT THE FINANCE REPORT AS PRESENTED AND THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Proud introduced John Hemmings, OVRDC Executive Director. Mr. Hemmings referred to the Director's Report included in the packet and highlighted the various sections. Mr. Hemmings advised on November 14th he attended a meeting of the Vinton County Broadband Committee in McArthur, Ohio to discuss OVRDC's Revolving Loan Fund program and its ability to assist with "last mile" projects driven by private sector wireless internet service providers.

Mr. Hemmings advised he scheduled and attended a meeting on December 7th with the Adams County Commissioners, Adams County Economic Development Director and representatives from the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) to discuss financing for the Adams County sewer project. The county is concerned about the rate increase that is required due to the project coming in over bid and is seeking any additional assistance OWDA can provide. OWDA staff stated they would follow-up with Ohio EPA to discuss options.

Mr. Hemmings indicated in November and December he continued to meet with the members of the Joint Economic Development Initiative of Southern Ohio to develop and finalize their strategic priorities and projects for potential funding through the Fluor B&W Portsmouth Opportunity Fund. The group includes Development Directors from Ross, Pike, Scioto and Jackson Counties. Mr. Hemmings advised the group signed its charter agreement, submitted its strategic priorities and projects to Fluor B&W and secured 2012 funds for the economic development offices of the participating counties.

Mr. Hemmings advised that on November 28, 2012, the Economic Development Administration (EDA) conducted its 3 year evaluation of the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission. Mr. Hemmings, along with Juanita Bragg and Michele Throckmorton from OVRDC, Bob Proud (OVRDC Chairman), Roger Rhonemus (OVRDC Vice-Chairman), and Jennifer Jacobs (Jackson Economic Development Board) participated. Lee Shirey, Ohio/Michigan Economic Development Representative for EDA conducted the evaluation and Greg DiDonato of OMEGA acted as the peer reviewer. The final results of the review have not been received.

## **5. OLD BUSINESS**

(a) ARC/EDA FY 2013 Project Update

Mr. Proud introduced Michele Throckmorton, OVRDC Development Director. Mrs. Throckmorton referred to the Appalachian Regional Commission and Economic Development Administration FY'2013 Priority Project Package summary included in the packet. Mrs. Throckmorton advised no projects have been approved at this time and any new updates will be forthcoming at the March Executive Committee Meeting.

(b) OVRDC Office Building

Mr. Hemmings advised the OVRDC building construction is progressing and a photo of the site is included in the packet. The next step, weather permitting, will be pouring the concrete.

Mr. Hemmings advised the construction bid does not include installing network wiring in the building for internet and phones, etc. He indicated OVRDC has had a long working relationship with the South Central Ohio Computer Association (SCOCA) for at least 15 years and they host our website and provide email addresses. SCOCA also serves as host of the county schools website server. He indicated SCOCA was previously part of the Pike County Career Center and has since established themselves as a Council of Governments (COG). He indicated SCOCA's pricing is very competitive and he would like to contact OVRDC's attorney regarding contracting with SCOCA to install the wiring in the new building since they are a public entity in order to expedite the process without going through the bidding process. Whereas, OVRDC is also a public entity, it should be feasible to contract with SCOCA without bidding. Consultation with OVRDC's attorney is to insure such action is legal.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY SHANE WILKIN AND SECONDED BY RAY BECRAFT TO AUTHORIZE THE OVRDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO CONTACT OVRDC ATTORNEYS REGARDING CONTRACTING WITH SOUTH CENTRAL OHIO COMPUTER ASSOCIATION (SCOCA) TO INSTALL THE NETWORK WIRING IN THE NEW BUILDING AND IF DEEMED LEGAL BY THE ATTORNEYS TO AUTHORIZE THE OVRDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO PROCEED WITH AWARDING THE CONTRACT TO SCOCA. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

(c) OVRDC Health Insurance

Mr. Hemmings presented an update on OVRDC health insurance benefits for staff and advised the Executive Committee approved in November to change the Opt-Out offer from a \$1,000 payout to employees who opt out their dependents to a payout of 20% of the yearly savings realized by OVRDC from employees opting out their dependents. Mr. Hemmings informed the committee that due to this change one staff member opted out their spouse; one staff member chose to drop family and choose single coverage and another staff member opted out both herself and her family. This resulted in a savings of \$14,808 in premium.

(d) Bookkeeper/Secretary Position

Mr. Hemmings advised interviews were conducted and a candidate was chosen. He has called the candidate and she is to let him know today regarding accepting the position.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

(a) Nominating Committee Report

Mr. Proud introduced Jack DeWeese, OVRDC Nominating Committee Chairman and Fayette County Commissioner. Mr. DeWeese advised the Nominating Committee met today at OVRDC's temporary location on Shyville Road in Pike County at 12 Noon. Members present were Mr. DeWeese, Eugene Collins (Scioto County), Debora Plymail (Adams County), and Harry Rider (Pike County). Mr. DeWeese presented the slate of officers chosen during this meeting which are to be considered during the March 2013 Full Commission Meeting. They are: Bob Proud, Clermont County Commissioner as Chairman, Shane Wilkin, Highland County Commissioner as Vice-Chairman and Blaine Beekman, Pike County Commissioner as Treasurer. Mr. Proud asked for a motion to accept the slate of officers.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY JACK DEWEESE AND SECONDED BY RANDY HEATH TO ACCEPT THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR THE SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2013-2014 TO BE PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION DURING THE MARCH 22, 2013 FULL COMMISSION MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

(b) 2013 OVRDC Annual Budget Approval

Mr. Proud introduced Juanita Bragg, OVRDC Finance Director. Ms Bragg referred to the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year January 1, 2013 -December 31, 2013 included in the meeting packet indicating the total budgeted for 2013 is \$646,593. Mr. Proud asked for a motion to approve the annual budget.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY DOUG CADE AND SECONDED BY DAVID MALONE TO APPROVE THE OVRDC ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR JANUARY 1, 2013 TO DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND THE MOTION CARRIED.**

(c) 2013 First Round Caucus Schedule

Mr. Hemmings referred to the revised 2013 First Round Caucus Schedule included in the packet which indicates Lawrence and Scioto County Meetings have been changed to February 7, 2013 and Adams and Brown County Meetings have been changed to February 25, 2013.

(d) Revised 2013 Executive Committee Meeting Schedule

Mr. Hemmings advised the 2013 Executive Committee Meeting Schedule was included in the packet. He indicated if the new building is completed in the spring, the meetings will be held at the Progress Drive location.

(e) Regional Transportation Planning Organization RFP

Mr. Hemmings advised the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is soliciting proposals from multi-county regional planning agencies, which are not recognized as Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), to participate in a two (2) year Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) Pilot Program. Mr. Hemmings included in the packet the RFP from ODOT and indicated he will complete the RFP which is due March 15, 2013. Also included in the packet is a Resolution of support for members to

take back to their counties for completion. He asked that the resolutions and/or support letters be returned to OVRDC.

**7. OVRDC MEETINGS**

Mr. Proud announced that the next Executive Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 21, 2013 at 1:30 pm at the Pike County Government Center in Waverly, Ohio.

**8. ADJOURN**

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

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY RANDY HEATH AND SECONDED BY BRIAN BALDRIDGE TO ADJOURN THE JANUARY 24, 2013 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

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John W. Hemmings III, Executive Director & Commission Secretary

APPROVED:

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Robert L. Proud, OVRDC Chairman