

THOMAS JEFFERSON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
Draft Minutes, March 2, 2017

Commissioners Present:

Rick Randolph – Albemarle County
Brad Sheffield – Albemarle County
Bob Fenwick – Charlottesville
Keith Smith – Fluvanna County
Dale Herring – Greene County
Andrea Wilkinson – Greene County
Tommy Barlow – Louisa County
Stephanie Koren – Louisa County
Tim Padalino – Nelson County

Commissioners Absent:

Genevieve Keller – Charlottesville
Tony O’Brien – Fluvanna County
Larry Saunders – Nelson County

Staff Present:

Chip Boyles, Executive Director
Billie Campbell, Senior Program Manager

Guests Present:

Dick Havasy, Louisa BOS
Allyson Finchum, Louisa Comm. Dev. Director

Call to Order: Chair Andrea Wilkinson called the Commission meeting to order.

Matters from the Public:

Comments from the Public: None

Louisa County Welcome and County Presentation: Stephanie Koren shared information about Louisa’s efforts in Broadband. The County will begin erecting towers in July or August. The County has requested a partnership with the Louisa County Schools, and sent a letter to Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to ask what they would be interested in. The County has committed \$1.2 million for the towers, and is working with Andrew Cohill of Wide Open Networks/Design Nine. The Broadband Authority is sending letters to Wireless Internet Service Providers (WISPs) to begin conversations regarding their potential location on the towers as well as input on tower locations. The County has promised its citizens good, affordable Broadband services. The County is being a good steward, conscious of the costs through very detailed research. The Spring Creek area is the biggest growth area in the County.

Tommy Barlow talked about the water line coming in. The County has 8 Major Business Parks which are currently in operation or ready to go. The County has a new 250-acre Solar Farm and a newly approved Solar Farm which will occupy 750 to 800 acres. There are two cider works. Cavalier Produce and Zion Crossroads continue to grow. Sales tax us up 10% and the County has \$25 million in new commercial growth. Some invested taxpayer funds are now creating a return. 100 citizens were engaged in the Lake Anna Small Area Study. The study looked at five dimensions of the community: infrastructure, environment, recreation, land use and design guidelines. The County sees opportunity for economic development there.

Louisa County has been very active in the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo), and is the only locality in the Planning District that is part of Region 7. Louisa won awards for the VACO Go Green Initiative for two years running. The County also won VACO Achievement Awards for two years running for the Sheriff’s Department’s Learn and Win (LAW) program and its Classroom Breakfast and School Garden Program. The County also received the Government Finance Officers Association’s (GFOA) Distinguished Budget and CAFR Recognition.



Dick Havasy talked about the School District's Career and Technical Education (CTE) program. This is one of the most varied and successful on-campus CTE programs in the state. Students can hone job skills, and earn industry certifications and licenses in fields such as the culinary arts, firefighting, cosmetology, building trades, turf management, nursing, and many more. A 4-year college degree is very expensive, and not all jobs require that level of education. Students who enjoy working with their minds and hands can make a good living with targeted training.

Tommy Barlow reported that operation of the County's landfill was turned over to the County staff. The landfill only accepts trash generated within the County. The County saved \$79,000 per year in operations, and has been written up in a professional magazine.

Allyson Finchum noted that the County staff is lean, and steps up to the plate to get things done. She talked about the recent conditional permit process for a solar field. The land is currently zoned for agriculture, but would be revised for this industrial use. The conditions in the permit would put a cap on the amount of production by megawatt and address view-shed issues through buffering. If the Board of Supervisors accepts the recommendations of the Planning Commission, a solar farm could be developed in any use area. The County would realize revenue from the project, with the first revenue resulting from the property coming out of land use. Allyson can provide the conditions to other localities upon request.

Consent Agenda: The consent agenda consisted of the draft minutes of the February 2 meeting and financial reports for January 2017. Andrea Wilkinson noted a correction needed on page 3 of the minutes, Executive Director's Report, third bullet. The areas for planning in Greene County should be the Ruckersville and Corner Store areas (not County Store). Rick Randolph inquired about the impact of possible reduction in Federal funds on TJPDC's budget and revenue. Chip Boyles noted that most of the TJPDC's federal funds are pass-through to sub-recipients for the HOME program, and would not have a large impact on the TJPDC's operations budget. **On a motion by Rick Randolph, seconded by Tim Padalino, the Commission unanimously approved the Consent Agenda**, with corrections to the February minutes as noted, and Keith Smith abstaining on the minutes.

Resolutions:

CDBG 2017 Regional Priorities: Chip Boyles reviewed the form to be submitted to DHCD indicating the three priority levels for Competitive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) categories, to be submitted to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) by March 24, 2017. Priority #1 was proposed to include Housing – Housing Rehabilitation, Housing – Housing Production Assistance, and Community Service Facility; Priority #2 was proposed to include Comprehensive Community Development, Economic Development – Job Creation and Retention, and Community Facility; Priority #3 was proposed to include Economic Development – Site Redevelopment, Economic Development – Development Readiness, and Economic Development – Business District Revitalization. The only competitive application expected from the planning district is Nelson County's proposal for a Community Service Facility, through renovation of a former nursing home in Lovingson, requesting \$700,000. A Planning Grant proposal is also expected for Community Service Facility plan and study for a multi-county Department of Social Services facility in the Scottsville area. **On a motion by Tim Padalino, seconded by Rick Randolph, the Commission unanimously endorsed the submission of the priorities as presented and authorized the TJPDC to submit a Letter of Support for the Nelson County submission.**

Resolution for Amendment of TJPDC Bylaws: Chip Boyles noted that all suggestions and changes recommended at the Commission's February meeting have been incorporated into the draft included in the meeting packet. In Article X Parliamentary Procedure, the 8th bullet point in Section 2 was seen by the Commission as being in conflict with the 2nd bullet point and was removed from the document. The removed text read "Motions are still in order to close or limit debate, including limiting times one can

speak on a motion.” **On a motion by Brad Sheffield, seconded by Keith Smith, the Commission unanimously approved the Resolution for the TJPDC Amendment of Bylaws**, with the 8th bullet point in Article X, Section 2 removed as noted.

Executive Director’s Report:

The written report was included in the meeting packet. Chip Boyles reviewed the status of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and highlighted some items from his report, not covered elsewhere in the meeting:

Atlantic Coast Pipeline Update: The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) via the DEQ’s Office of Environmental Impact Review (OEIR), and comments were closed on February 16, 2017. The FERC is expected to rule on the pipeline in the coming months. The last public input session was held in Nelson County on February 22, 2017. Tim Padalino noted that he was expecting about a dozen special use permits, related to the flood plain.

Items highlighted from the ED’s Report:

MPO and Rural Transportation Items:

- The City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County have accepted the final report on Regional Transit coordination and organizational options within the MPO area. An Advisory Board will be formed, similar to an Authority, but without powers. A trial period will be conducted to determine if an Authority is needed. Movement toward more coordinated services is expected.
- The draft study on the Harrisonburg to Charlottesville Public Transit is now complete and under review. The Staunton-August-Waynesboro (SAW) MPO is considering a contract change order for running business models and pro forma for the recommended services. The SAW MPO may apply for a grant and match funds for this work. The needed amount to complete the study is \$12,000, which the SAW MPO has asked the CA MPO to fund.
- The Advisory Panel for the small area plan around the Hydraulic/29 intersection and Hydraulic Extended South projects met March 9, and will meet semi-monthly. An agreement with the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County would provide \$60,000 in match for the \$450,000 VDOT grant. This would provide funding for the TJPDC to provide management and administration. The agreement is moving forward.
- The MPO Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is kicking off for a May 2019 completion date. TJPDC staff will be going to modeling training, since the LRPT will require a traffic modeling update. The LRPT be the major activity for the MPO for the remainder of FY17 and for FY18.
- The Rural Long Range Plan (RLRP) is underway. Louisa’s proposed legislation for an Airport Authority was successful. The RLRP will address the airport in the plan, considering issues such as longer runways for larger planes. This may position airport projects for Federal and state funding.

Regional Items:

- Staff has been presenting the concept of identifying annual hours assigned to each locality and the region as part of the TJPDC’s Work Program development for FY18. The number of hours of staff time varies from 20 hours for Nelson County to 100 for Albemarle County. Examples of potential projects include the Fluvanna Economic Development brochure for Zion Crossroads, and a contract with Nelson County with a reduced cost by applying per capita hours.
- GO Virginia funding has been largely restored for planning and capacity activities to occur in FY17 and FY18. TJPDC and the Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission (RRRC, PDC #9) are working together to provide a proposal to the Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development (CVPED) for administrative and planning management work for GO Virginia. The

plan must be in place first, before any funding is available for actual projects. A project must provide at least 200 high-quality jobs, which may be a long-shot for our region.

Commission Orientation Update: Chip Boyles briefly reviewed a PowerPoint presentation, providing an overview of the TJPDC and its work. Slides are available on-line in pdf format with the materials for the March 2, 2017 meeting (<http://tjpd.org/media/5b.-Combined-Orientation-Documents-2017.pdf>). Chip will also meet individually with new Commissioner Stephanie Koren.

Other Business:

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2017. The meeting will include a public hearing on the Action Plan for HOME, the Rural Transportation Scope of Work for FY18, the Draft FY18 Operating Budget presentation, and an update on the FY15-18 Strategic Plan. A nominating committee will be appointed. Andrea noted that three people would be needed for the committee.

TJPD Commissioner Roundtable Reports:

- Albemarle: Rick Randolph reported that the Board of Supervisors approved moving forward with a Broadband Authority for the County. The board would include 2 Supervisors, 2 staff, and 1 citizen. Brad Sheffield added that the small area plan for Rio/29 was taking a more aggressive approach in regard to form-based code. Despite recent news regarding the dispute between the County and City over bicycling in the Ragged Mountain Natural Area, the two jurisdictions have a lot of ongoing cooperation in other areas, as provided for in Memoranda of Understanding.
- Fluvanna: Economic Development groups are meeting, particularly regarding Zion Crossroads. Keith Smith inquired about the possibility of UVA becoming a member of the TJPD Commission. Chip Boyles noted that this would require enabling legislation, and that he participates in a monthly meeting with Pat Hogan, UVA's Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.
- Nelson: Tim Padalino indicated that the Rockfish Valley area plan would be presented to the Nelson Board of Supervisors in March. The Route 29 Corridor study is moving along, with the final report scheduled for April
- Greene: Dale Herring expressed appreciation for Louisa's presentation on Broadband. Greene is currently conducting a survey distributed through tax bills and report cards. Results will be presented at a public meeting. Greene would love to have someone from another jurisdiction participate in that. The County is reviewing its ordinances and exploring funding sources.
- Charlottesville: Bob Fenwick noted that the City was looking for a place to relocate the Lee statue. He expects the Rivanna Renaissance work to pay big dividends.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.