

Executive Committee
DRAFT Minutes
January 4, 2016

Present were: D. La Haye, B. Atwood, L. Hill-Eubanks, J. Potter, T. Ruth, D. Strong, L. Hebert, B. Waninger, and L. Emery.

There were no members of the public in attendance.

The agenda was adjusted to add acceptance of the Commission minutes of November 10, 2015 since there was no quorum at the December Commission meeting when the minutes would have been moved for acceptance. The minutes were posted to the website within five days of the meeting.

The minutes of the November 30, 2015 Executive Committee were accepted as written.

The Commission minutes of November 10, 2015 were accepted as written with one abstention.

Financial Report: L. Emery updated members on the December 31, 2015 financial report noting that the 12/31/15 pension liability had been paid and the 3rd quarter contract payment for the Agency of Commerce and Community Development had been invoiced.

Executive Director's Report: Legislation was introduced last session to allow Vermont regional planning commissions to also be COG's or council of governments. This arrangement would allow for RPC's to contract with interested towns for shared services and administer the services on behalf of the towns who signed a contract. Regional planning would still occur as it does now, but it would be under the arm of the COG and would be advisory to the COG as it relates to land use planning. Only towns who had a specific interest in a shared service would participate in that shared service and share the cost of said service. The COG would not have taxing authority. It was noted that there are multiple regional organizations, including the VT League of Cities and Towns, that offer services on a regional basis that towns use. It doesn't seem necessary or warranted to add another layer. It was suggested that before pursuing forming a COG, CVRPC should query the member towns to see if they are interested in sharing services or having an organization coordinate and administer services on their behalf.

Eco-Restoration Program (ERP) Grant Update: We previously authorized signing this ERP grant for work to be done in Northfield. However, signature was held until the grant agreement was modified so that it reflects that ownership of all data, reports, etc belong to the grantee rather than solely to the State.

Community Development Block Grant # 00018 (CDBG): This grant is for completion of the flood inundation and elevation study for the Mad and Winooski Rivers affecting Duxbury, Fayston, Middlesex, Moretown, Waitsfield, Warren, and Waterbury. The grant agreement is signed by the Executive Director once the Executive Committee adopts a resolution designating the Executive Director as the authorizing official. The work will be managed by Dan Currier and that is also authorized by adopting the resolution. The grant is for \$62,250 with a match of \$6,250 in field work by CVRPC personnel. CVRPC will also receive \$2,250 for program delivery/administration of the grant. It was moved, seconded, and

unanimously voted to sign the resolution authorizing the Executive Director as the authorizing official for the grant and Dan Currier with administrative responsibility.

Budget Reformatting: The budget is being reformatted to include all pass through funds. A reserve amount of \$250,000 minimum would be a 6 month operating reserve, which is the goal.

Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies (VAPDA): VAPDA is asking each regional commission to participate in the amicus brief regarding the B&M Realty Act 250 application. The case is about whether a plan is a plan or a regulatory/zoning document. The Judge in the case decided that Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission's plan was more zoning than planning and regional commissions believe that is wrong and should be challenged. Plans are planning documents; not regulatory, and this case if it stands could invalidate plans. Concern was expressed that the various municipal and regional plans are too different one from another and CVRPC should not participate in the case. Others felt that it's a statewide issue and we should support VAPDA in their appeal of the decision, and that the judge was wrong in his opinion and it should be reconsidered. It was moved, seconded, and voted to participate by name and up to \$1,000.

Commission Meeting Agenda for January 12, 2016 was accepted.

Executive Session: The executive session was tabled to the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2016.