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COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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Director

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Commission on Local Government

10:00 a.m., July, 11, 2019

The Virginia Housing Center

Board Room

4224 Cox Rd.

Glen Allen, Virginia

Members Present

R. Michael Amyx, Chair
Rosemary M. Mahan, Vice-Chair
Diane M. Linderman, PE
Kimble Reynolds, Jr.
Dr. Stephanie Davis

Members Absent

Staff Present

J. David Conmy, Local Government Policy Administrator
Ali Akbor, Senior Public Finance Analyst
Cody Anderson, Legislative and Board Affairs Coordinator

I. Call to Order

The Commission on Local Government (CLG) Chair, Mr. R. Michael Amyx, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

II. Administration

A. Approval of the Draft Agenda

Staff recommended moving the resolution commending Lindsay Barker to before the Policy Administrator's report. A motion was made and properly seconded to amend the draft agenda. The motion was passed unanimously.

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Minutes

Regular Meeting

10:00 a.m., July 11, 2019

Page 2

B. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Ms. Diane Linderman motioned for the approval of the Oral Presentation minutes from May 8th, 2019. This motion was seconded by Mr. Kimble Reynolds. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Reynolds motioned for the approval of the Public Hearing minutes from May 8th, 2019. This motion was seconded by Ms. Rosemary Mahan. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Reynolds motioned for the approval of the Regular meeting minutes from May 9th, 2019. This motion was seconded by Ms. Mahan. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Public Comments

Mr. Amyx opened the floor for public comment. No public commenters presented themselves.

III. Resolution to Commend Lindsay Barker

Mr. Amyx presented Ms. Lindsay Barker a resolution commending her hard work and dedication as a staff member of the DHCD Commission on Local Government staff.

IV. Administration (continued)

D. Policy Administrator's Report

Mr. David Conmy welcomed Dr. Stephanie Dean Davis as the newest Commissioner of the Commission on Local Government.

Mr. Conmy communicated to the Commission that commission staff member Kristen Dahlman, who since last meeting had been out on maternity leave, had given birth to a healthy daughter that they named Madison Dahlman.

Mr. Conmy reported that two staff members, himself and Mr. Akbor, had joined the newly formed Diversity Task Force at DHCD to promote diversity in the workplace.

Mr. Conmy reported to the Commission on various news of interest from across the Commonwealth. Several articles related to potential cases that may come before the Commission in the future.

V. Culpeper Annexation Report

Mr. Conmy thanked everyone involved in the Culpeper County citizen annexation case. He gave a brief summary of events surrounding the case including the various steps that the Commission had taken leading up to the current Commission meeting.

Mr. Conmy detailed staff findings based on the standards outlined by state code for citizen-initiated annexation cases. His presentation concluded with noting that the Commission's report does

Minutes

Regular Meeting

10:00 a.m., July 11, 2019

Page 3

not recommend approval of the annexation request.

Ms. Linderman recommended minor changes to the report for clarity purposes as it related to several graphs. She also suggested speaking to additional matters in the public works section, as well as details about certain timing factors related to the formation of the Voluntary Settlement Agreement in relation to the citizen's purchase of the property.

Ms. Mahan motioned to approve the report, pending the recommended changes. Ms. Diane Linderman seconded the motion. The motion was approved by Mr. Amyx, Mr. Reynolds, Ms. Mahan, and Ms. Linderman. Ms. Stephanie Davis abstained from the vote.

VI. Fiscal Stress Report

Mr. Ali Akbor presented the Fiscal Stress report to the Commission. . He stated that this report reflects 2017 data for all localities except for Hopewell, which utilizes their 2016 revenue figures due to their lack of filing with the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA). Mr. Akbor assured the Commission that utilizing this data does not have a significant impact on the scoring. Mr. Akbor presented some key findings of the report to include: that cities have a higher fiscal stress than counties, approximately half of the localities in the Commonwealth are experiencing above average or high fiscal stress, and that since FY2016 only five localities improved their stress category while two have declined.

Mr. Akbor also noted that he received Hopewell's 2017 data after the preparation of this report, and he will update the fiscal stress score accordingly.

Ms. Mahan noted that this was not the first time that Hopewell had failed to present the required data. She inquired as to whether there were repercussions or regulations on localities that failed to meet this obligation. Mr. Akbor explained that per VA Code §15.2-251, any localities that fail to comply with the statutory November 30 deadline for the submission of the final audited financial reports to the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) are required to – post a statement on their website, if such website exists, declaring that the required audit is pending, the reason for the delay, and the estimated date of completion. Such statement shall also be posted and made available to the public at the next scheduled meeting of the local governing body and also be sent to the Auditor of Public Accounts. The statement shall continue to be posted and updated until the audit is complete.

Mr. Conmy relayed to the Commission that traditionally, the Fiscal Stress report was issued in January; however, in recent years the Commission has included a 6-month grace period to give any delinquent localities additional time until the Commission adopts the report in July.

Dr. Davis suggested that staff should update the fiscal stress score with the Hopewell's 2017 data to calculate the accurate state reimbursement rate for the state aid to the localities.

After discussion, the Commission suggested to update the fiscal stress score based on Hopewell's 2017 data and add it to the presented report. Ms. Linderman motioned for the approval of the Fiscal Stress report with the suggested amendments, which was properly seconded by Ms. Mahan and unanimously approved by the Commission.

VII. Report on Boundary Line Changes

Mr. Conmy presented to the Commission a report on boundary line changes between the town of Ashland and Hanover County, as well as between the town of Hillsboro and Loudoun County.

Mr. Reynolds motioned for the approval of the report. Ms. Mahan seconded this motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

VIII. Other

There were no other issues discussed.

IX. Upcoming Events and Schedule of Regular Meetings

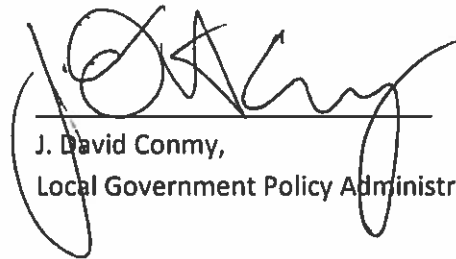
Mr. Conmy relayed to the Commission upcoming events of interest including the Virginia Association of Planning District Commission's Conference, the Virginia Municipal League annual conference, the Virginia Association of Counties annual conference, and the annual Virginia Governor's Housing Conference. He also reviewed the schedule for the rest of the Commission on Local Government meetings through the end of 2019.

X. Adjournment

By consensus of the Commission, Mr. Amyx called the meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m.



R. Michael Amyx,
Chair



J. David Conmy,
Local Government Policy Administrator