

Un-Adopted Minutes  
Brooke-Hancock Regional and Development Council  
August 2, 2017

Present were:

Mark Henne, Weirton Transit Corp.  
Barb Zimnox, Region XI PDC  
Adrienne Ward, BHJ  
Mike Paprocki, Executive Director, BHJ  
Sue Simonetti, Mayor of Wellsburg  
Rick Rekowski, City of Weirton- Mary H. Weir Library  
Libby Reasbeck, Congressman McKinley Office  
Clay Riley, The Thrasher Group  
Jessica Gum, Weirton Planning and Development  
Mark Zatezalo, WV House  
Donna Gialluco, Weirton Transit Corp.  
Steve Maguschak, City of Wellsburg

Mark Henne called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM. He asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of the May 3, 2017 meeting. Steve made a motion. Sue seconded. Motion carried.

Mike went over the Resolution for Statistical Port Designation, Mark asked if anyone had any questions about the Resolution, there were no questions so Mark asked if there was a motion to support the Resolution for Statistical Port Designation. Rick Rekowski made a motion and Steve seconded. All in favor motion passes.

Mike then went over the Approval of MOU between BH, BDC and Jefferson County Port Authority for EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant. Mike asked if there were any questions. Rick Rekowski asked if they can use this grant for any other areas not listed in this document. Mike said you can use this grant for any projects in the Brooke, Hancock, and Jefferson area. They meet at the Brownfields Task Force Meeting to find the sites to use for this grant. Sue said she moved to accept this MOU and Steve Seconded. All in favor motion passed.

Mike went over the Director's Report. He said he just wanted to go over the email from Guy Land. He gave us a legislative update on House passing the national security "minibus" appropriations bill. He said it appears that the ARC is very popular and the EDA. Despite what we might see out of the White House proposal they have given the ARC a positive vote. He said that keeps our planning funds from the ARC.

He then gave an update on the state legislature, he said he had a conversation with James Bush from the WV Development office. They are still up in the air with finding out what the state legislature did when it comes to the development office with our allocation. Reorganization going on at the development office so it's been holding things up.

Mark then gave his Chairman's report. He just wanted to thank everyone for being at the meeting. He's interested in hearing about the bridge update and he's also interested in hearing about the upcoming bond issue.

Mike then said he doesn't have much on the CEDS update other than the city of Weirton is going through their comprehensive plan update. He let Jessica talk about that. She said on August 16, 2017 they are having two separate groups at the Milsop center one is at 9 am and the next one is at 11 am. She said they are basically inviting the business owners to come in and to see what they want to focus on and what their ideas are for the comprehensive plan. Mike then said he wanted to follow up and let everyone know that Travis came to visit him at the office and to invite him to be a part of the core working group. He then went over the year-end report and mentioned the per cap letters that were sent out. Through the state legislature in law it says there is a basic requirement that the per caps should be set aside in your budget and these projects should be included in your comprehensive development strategy and if you are not part of the regional council or MPO that may disqualify in the future from federal and state funding. He said the state and development office is getting stricter with this, he and Barb have to certify the project is in the CEDS. He said he is required to show what they do with these dollars and that's why he is passing out the year-end report. He asked if anyone had questions.

Mike then went over the Transportation update. Wellsburg Bridge is in the engineering phase. He said it appears ODOT is ready to take over the area in Brilliant that was the south west machine it appears to be their construction headquarters. They are also working with the railroad to make a passage across the tracks. He said the dollars spent are about 5% so they are doing some work. He mentioned Dave Snelting and Nick Orsay went to a meeting in Charleston with WVDOT with all the MPO's to explain the MPO process. Mike said he met with Tom Smith and Congressman McKinley in New Martinsville. Tom went through the process and what he plans to do, he foresees between 2-3 billion dollars in highway money and those dollars he plans to spend in a 2-5 yr. window. The increase in the BMV for registration is collecting 10 Million a month they are estimating for 30 Million in the fund for transportation. They increased the GARVEE bonding 300 Million to 500 million, most of this money will go into interstate projects this will be Oct 7, 2017. Mike said road projects are already on the drawing board for our two counties. The governor wants projects in all 55 counties.

Next they moved on with the Brownfields Update, Mark and Mike said if you are interested in hearing about this please come to the next meeting on October 11, 2017 meeting.

Libby Reasbeck then gave her Congressional update. Mark Zatezalo had a question about the Appalachian storage hub. Libby said things seem to be progressing. She mentioned that the Flood insurance will be reauthorized in September.

Mark Zatezalo gave his update he most of increases you see on taxes are for the roads. He also said they gave the governor a disciplined budget, he didn't sign it but he let it go into law. He's vice chairman on the energy board and they are looking to do a large group of bills for oil and gas development and you will hear about it if they are fortunate enough to get this moving.

Barb then gave her update on the community development planning project update. She said her report was in the packet and to look it over if you had any questions you can contact her. Hazard mitigation plan has been submitted to the state for their comments. They did have a few comments that went back to the consultant Jeff Harvey and they are working on them and they should be taken care of soon and that will be approved for anyone who needs FEMA funds. She went over the Water Finance Clearinghouse and she recommends everyone to go onto the website and it shows all the resources you can use for water and sewer projects.

Clay Riley from Thrasher Group talked about the storm sewer utility source for starting to take care of failing storm sewers failing. He said as storm water regulations continue to increase and within the municipal boundaries feel the pain. He said WV is behind on Storm water requirements and a mechanism to fund some of those. He said the challenge in WV is that the regional utility act is the only act that allows multiple county and municipal group to come together to form a group that can operate across boundaries and county lines and the problem is it was only written for water and waste water ARTICLE 16-13D-1. He explained how Jefferson county does their utility and storm water and it's a problem in WV because of the act and he mentioned that this act needs modified.

Mark then gave everyone a chance to discuss any other items they would like. Rick mentioned a public meeting at the library then also he wanted to mention the webinar on Oil and Gas. Steve said Adrienne then mentioned Pat Apologized he couldn't make it tonight and he wanted to mention that Pat Ford was going to be talking at the Bethany council meeting on the CEDS Main street Revitalization.

With no further business Mark asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sue made a motion and Steve Seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:00PM