Adopted Minutes

Brooke-Hancock Regional Planning and Development Council (BH)
November 19, 2012

Kevin Beynon, Director/ Weirton Transit
Richard Blackwell, Mayor/ New Cumberland
John Brown, Executive Director/ Brooke-Hancock-Regional Planning & Development Council
Phil Diserio, West Virginia House of Delegates
Jay Eisenhauer, Mayor/ Bethany
Patrick Ford, Business Development Corporation of the Northern Panhandle
Danny Greathouse, Hancock County Commission
Mary Jo Guidi, Regional Coordinator/ US Senator Joe Manchin
Linda Harris, Weirton Daily Times
Mark Henne, City Manager, Wellsburg
George Kondik, Mayor/ Weirton
Mike Koon, Northern West Virginia Community College
Mark Henne, City Manager/Wellsburg
Brenda Mull, Weirton Chamber of Commerce
Richard Rekowski, Director/ Mary H. Weir Public Library
Sue Simonetti, Mayor/ Wellsburg
Marvin Six, Business Development Corporation of the Northern Panhandle
Weirton Area Port Authority. Nicole
Barb Zimnox, Sr. Community Development Specialist/Brooke-Hancock Regional Planning & Development Council

On November 19, 2012 at 4:30 in the WesBanco Banking Center in Weirton, the above persons met to (1) elect 2013 officers and adopt meeting dates for 2013 (2) adopt meeting minutes for November 19, 2012 (3) adopt the advertised and distributed five-year comprehensive economic development plan (4) hear and review progress for the Brooke-Hancock Broadband Regional Needs Study (5) hear comments from West Virginia's congressional staff (6) receive an update report from the Business Development Corporation of the Northern Panhandle (7) review staff's community and economic development status report and (8) consider other matters.

Chairman Henne called the meeting to order.

<u>Election of 2013 Officers and Meeting Calendar for 2013</u>

Chairman Henne provided the slate of officers as recommended by the Nominating Committee and considered nominations from the floor. Upon the motion of Pat Ford and a second by Mayor Simonetti, the following persons were approved as 2013 officers.

Mark Henne, Chair
Danny Greathouse, Vice-Chair

Valerie Means, Treasurer
Jay Eisenhauer, Secretary

Upon the motion of Richard Blackwell and a second by Jay Eisenhauer, the following 2013 quarterly meeting dates were set. February 22, May 23, August 22 and November 28

Adoption of Meeting Minutes for August 15, 2012

Upon the motion of Danny Greathouse and a second by Richard Blackwell, the August 15th minutes were adopted as presented.

Adoption of Advertised and Distributed Five-Year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Brooke-Hancock Region

Following the advertising and distribution of the proposed five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Brooke-Hancock Region, Dr. Brown overviewed the regional strategy and projects subsequent to this strategy. Dr. Brown walked through completed 2012 projects and priority 2013 projects. Pat Ford from the BDC requested a water line expansion project at Marsh Bellofram in Newell be added to the project list. Upon the motion of Mike Koon and a second by Phil Diserio, the CEDS was adopted as presented and with the addition of the Marsh Bellofram project.

Comments from Congressional Delegation

Mary Jo Guidi from Senator Manchin's office indicated the Senator was working hard to preserve the coal industry and to find financial accountability. West Virginia Delegate was congratulated on his recent reelection to the House. He offered his services to those attending.

Formation of the Brooke-Hancock Broadband Regional Needs Study

Barb Zimnox indicated the West Virginia Geological and Economic Survey had returned and executed contract between their agency and B-H in an amount not to exceed $50,000. $10,000 of this contract will be provided through donated regional hours. The contract expiration date is October 31, 2013. The contract will allow B-H to complete a regional needs assessment and develop a broadband strategic Plan. Thrasher Engineers and CityNet have been selected as the project consultant Persons interested in serving on the Broadband Committee should contact Ms. Zimnox.

BDC Report

Pat Ford overviewed the BDC's work in Chester @ the TS&T pottery, business retention work, recent coordination efforts with entities at Half-Moon Industrial Park and the marketing of surplus properties

Brooke-Hancock Brownfield Task Force

Dr. Brown indicated the next meeting of the BH Task Force is December 12th. He indicated 21 parcels had received a Phase I environmental evaluation while 11 parcels had received a Phase II evaluation. Within the BH region, the brownfield program is eight years old and the program advantages have increasingly gathered private sector interest. He noted both the BDC and BH were preparing brownfield funding grants for the next fiscal cycle. He noted the intense competitiveness for these grants and the value of these grants to job creation.

Community Development Status Report

Barbara Zimnox, Senior Community Development Specialist for BH, provided a community development status report. She overviewed seven water-sewer projects and several future projects including energy grants for nine council entities and transit work.

Economic Development Status Report

Dr. Brown unveiled the following unemployment numbers.

Unemployment Rate														
Years 2007 through September 2012														
Year	7	8	9	10	11	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
						J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S
Brooke	6.3	6.3	11.4	13.1	11.4	12.5	12.9	12.3	x	9.4	9.8	9.6	9.3	9.2
Hancock	5.9	6.6	11.5	13.5	12.0	12	14	12.9	x	9.6	9.6	9.5	9.2	8.2
WV	4.4	4.2	7.9	9.1	8.0	7.9	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.2	7.3	7.5	7.6
USA	5.0	6.7	9.3	9.6	9.0	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.1	7.8
Source: U.S. Department of Labor														

He overviewed seven key brownfield projects, funding through the Appalachian Regional Commission and recent grant submissions.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30. The announced next meeting date was February 22nd @ 4:30 @ the WesBanco Financial Center. Upon the motion of Mr. Henne and a second by Mr. Greathouse, the meeting was adjourned.