

**Blacksburg/Christiansburg/Montgomery Area  
Metropolitan Planning Organization  
755 Roanoke Street  
Christiansburg, VA 24073**

**Minutes**

**November 4, 2010**

PRESENT:	Anne McClung	-Town of Blacksburg
	Kevin Byrd	-NRV Planning District Commission
	Krishna Chachra	-Town of Blacksburg
	Richard Ballengee	-Town of Christiansburg
	Adam Carpenetti	-Town of Christiansburg
	Steve Mouras	-Virginia Tech
	Tammye Davis	-FhWA (via Teleconference)
	Doug Marrs	-Montgomery County
	Becky Martin	-Blacksburg Transit
	Dan Brugh	-BCM MPO
	Randal Gwinn	-Recording Secretary
ABSENT:	Craig Meadows	-Montgomery County
	Tony Cho	-Federal Transit Administration-Region 111
	Richard Caywood	-VDoT (Salem)
	Michael St. Jean	-VA Tech/Montgomery Regional Airport Authority
	Jeff Sizemore	-VA Department of Rail and Public Transportation
NON-MPO PRESENT:		
	David Clarke	-VDoT (Christiansburg)
	Lance Terpenney	-Guest

**I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-chair Anne McClung called the meeting to order at 2 P.M.

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On a motion by Richard Ballengee seconded by Doug Marrs and carried unanimously, the agenda dated November 4, 2010 was approved.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF August 5, 2010**

On a motion by Richard Ballengee, seconded by Krishna Chachra and carried unanimously, the minutes dated August 5, 2010 were approved.

**IV. PUBLIC ADDRESS**

There being no speakers, the Public Address session was closed.

## **V. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Resolution of Appreciation for R. Lance Terpenny**

On a motion by Steve Mouras, seconded by Krisha Chachra and carried unanimously, the MPO Policy Board approved a resolution of appreciation for Lance Terpenny who was then presented with a framed copy of the resolution and an engraved plaque and gavel set. The group then took a few moments to extend their comments of appreciation to Lance.

#### **RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION**

##### **R. LANCE TERPENNY**

**AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BCMA MPO HELD ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2010 AT 2:00 PM IN THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION MEETING ROOM OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER:**

**WHEREAS, R. Lance Terpenny** has served the Blacksburg/Christiansburg/Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization with dedication and integrity since the MPO was formed in 2003; and

**WHEREAS, R. Lance Terpenny** served as the Chairman of the Blacksburg/Christiansburg/Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization from August 2003 to August 2010; and

**WHEREAS,** the Blacksburg/Christiansburg/Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization recognizes his years of service, hard work, dedication, and leadership to the MPO;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** the Policy Board of the Blacksburg/Christiansburg/Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization hereby extends a unanimous vote of appreciation and gratitude to **R. Lance Terpenny** for his outstanding professional public service and dedication to the MPO and gives their best wishes for continued success in all his future endeavors.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the original of this resolution be presented to **R. Lance Terpenny** as a testimonial of the high esteem and appreciation in which he is regarded by the Blacksburg/Christiansburg/Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board and that a copy be a part of the official minutes of the Blacksburg/Christiansburg/Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Attest: **Craig Meadows, Chairman**

### **B. Approval of the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan –**

Dan Brugh gave a brief statement pertinent to the history of the TAC's efforts to develop a recommended list of projects for inclusion in the updated Long Range Transportation Plan. The draft was presented at a second public meeting on September 29, 2010 and there were no comments received. The draft Plan was posted on the MPO website, advertised in the local newspapers for 3 weeks, and email notifications were sent to the MPO Interested Parties, Environmental Regulatory Agencies, and the email list for the MPO. Dan referred the group to the Executive Summary in their meeting packets, and then on behalf of the TAC he recommended approval of the 2035 Long Range Plan.

On a motion by Krisha Chachra, seconded by Richard Ballengee and carried unanimously, the Draft 2035 Long Range Plan was approved.

## **Resolution Approving the Long Range Transportation Plan**

On a motion by Krisha Chachra, seconded by Richard Ballengee and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, a public meeting was advertised, and was held to solicit input for the development of the 2035 Long Range Plan update on August 18, 2010, and

WHEREAS, comments received were used in developing the draft 2035 Long Range Plan, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was advertised, and was held to solicit comment on the draft 2035 Long Range Plan on September 29, 2010, and

WHEREAS, comment was also solicited from the MPO Interested Parties List and the Environmental Regulatory Agencies as well as posted on the MPO website and sent to the MPO email list, and

WHEREAS, there were no comments received on the draft 2035 Long Range Plan, and

WHEREAS, the TAC recommends approval of the 2035 Long Range Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the BCM-MPO approves the draft 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan.

**Attest:** Dan Brugh, Executive Director

### **C. Acceptance of the Warm Hearth Transit Study -**

In April 2009 Montgomery County requested that the MPO conduct a study and demonstrate a need for public transit in the Warm Hearth and surrounding area. Blacksburg Transit conducted the study and the TAC reviewed the draft report as well as assisted in producing the final report. On behalf of the TAC, Dan Brugh recommends the MPO Policy Board accept the report for forwarding to the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors for consideration of further actions.

On a motion by Doug Marrs, seconded by Krisha Chachra and carried unanimously, the Final Report for the Warm Hearth Transit Study was accepted.

### **Resolution Accepting the Final Report from Blacksburg Transit for the “Montgomery County Request for the Feasibility of Public Transportation Services for the Warm Hearth Retirement Village and Surrounding Area” Study Report.**

On a motion by Doug Marrs, seconded by Krisha Chachra and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, Montgomery County requested a feasibility study of providing transit service to Warm Hearth Village and surrounding area be conducted by the MPO, and

WHEREAS, the study was conducted by Blacksburg Transit on behalf of the MPO with recommendations developed, and

WHEREAS, the TAC has reviewed the final report and recommends acceptance.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the BCM MPO accepts the final report entitled “Montgomery County Request for the Feasibility of Public Transportation Services for the Warm Hearth Retirement Village and Surrounding Area”.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MPO Executive Director is instructed to send the final report to Montgomery County.

**Attest:** Dan Brugh, Executive Director

#### **D. VAMPO Membership –**

Dan Brugh advised that, as directed by the General Assembly, a Virginia Association of MPOs has been formed with a set of Bylaws approved by the Executive Directors. Membership in VAMPO is optional, dues annually will be \$500, and a representative will need to be appointed which can be the Executive Director or any member of the Policy Board, if the MPO chooses to join. There will probably be no more than two meetings a year. The TAC has discussed this item and recommends that we join and see what benefits are derived from membership.

On a motion by Steve Mouras, seconded by Doug Marrs and carried unanimously, the Policy Board approved the BCM MPO becoming a member of VAMPO and designating Dan Brugh as the MPO representative.

#### **Resolution to join VAMPO and Appoint a Representative**

On a motion by Steve Mouras, seconded by Doug Marrs and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, the General Assembly through House Joint Resolution No. 756 directed the formation of a Virginia Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (VAMPO), and

WHEREAS, the purpose is to provide recommendations to the Virginia Secretary of Transportation and the Federal Assembly on statutory, regulatory and policy improvements for effective transportation planning in Virginia, and

WHEREAS, the Executive Directors of the State MPOs met and approved Bylaws on October 12, 2010;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Blacksburg/Christiansburg/Montgomery Area MPO agrees to join VAMPO and delegates Dan Brugh as its representative.

**Attest:** Dan Brugh, Executive Director

#### **VI. NEW BUSINESS –**

##### **Annual Self Certification Statement –**

The MPO is required annually to certify compliance with FhWA and FTA requirements. Dan Brugh asked that the Policy Board approve a resolution authorizing Chairman Craig Meadows to sign the Self Certification document included in the meeting materials packet.

On a motion by Richard Ballengee, seconded by Krisha Chachra and carried unanimously, the Policy Board approved the resolution authorizing Craig Meadows to sign the Self Certification document FY 2011-12.

## METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROCESS SELF-CERTIFICATION

On a motion by Richard Ballengee, seconded by Krisha Chachra and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, The Virginia Department of Transportation and the Blacksburg/ Christiansburg/Montgomery Area Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Blacksburg urbanized area(s) hereby certify that the transportation planning process for FY09-12 is addressing the major issues in the metropolitan planning area and is being conducted in accordance with all applicable regulations in accordance with 23 CFR 450.334:

- (1) 23 U.S.C. 134, 49 U.S.C. 5303, and this subpart;
- (2) In nonattainment and maintenance areas, sections 174 and 176 (c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7504, 7506 (c) and (d)) and 40 CFR part 93;
- (3) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d-1) and 49 CFR part 21;
- (4) 49 U.S.C. 5332, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, or age in employment or business opportunity;
- (5) Section 1101(b) of the SAFETEA-LU (Pub. L. 109-59) and 49 CFR part 26 regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in USDOT funded projects;
- (6) 23 CFR part 230, regarding the implementation of an equal employment opportunity program on Federal and Federal-aid highway construction contracts;
- (7) The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 *et seq.* ) and 49 CFR parts 27, 37, and 38;
- (8) The Older Americans Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101), prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance;
- (9) Section 324 of title 23 U.S.C. regarding the prohibition of discrimination based on gender; and
- (10) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794) and 49 CFR part 27 regarding discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

### Blacksburg/Christiansburg/Montgomery Area

Metropolitan Planning Organization

State Department of Transportation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Craig Meadows

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

November 4, 2010

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## AGENDA ADDENDUM-

### Regional Transit Organization Analysis –

Kevin Byrd, Executive Director of the New River Valley Planning District Commission, requested that the BCM MPO partner with them on a study project that would evaluate public transportation organizational models and recommend a model for the future of the area. Kevin added that given the transit expansion that has occurred and possible other expansion being considered, the timing is appropriate for developing recommendations for the future. The PDC will fund half of the study and requests the MPO provide funding in the amount of \$10,000 in FY11 and \$5,000 in FY12 to cover the other half.

Dan Brugh commented that adequate funding is available under the Special Studies portion of the MPO budget and the TAC has reviewed this request and recommends approval.

On a motion by Steve Mouras, seconded by Krisha Chachra and carried unanimously, the Policy Board approved the resolution to provide funding to the New River Valley Planning District Commission for a joint study entitled “Regional Transit Organization Analysis”.

**From:** Kevin Byrd [mailto:kbyrd@nrvpdc.org] **Sent:** Friday, October 29, 2010 4:39 PM **To:** Dan Brugh **Cc:** 'Elijah Sharp' **Subject:** Regional Transit Organization Analysis Task Order

Hello Dan, Please find attached a Task Order for the MPO’s consideration pertaining to a Regional Transit Organization Analysis. We originally discussed this project last spring with both the MPO TAC and Policy Board before FY 11 started. Now that we are one-quarter through FY 11 hopefully the MPO long range plan is far enough along to consider taking on this project. The PDC is contributing 50% of the funding for this project through the rural transportation program with VDOT. Essentially, we would like to partner with the MPO because transit is an issue both the MPO and rural transportation programs have in common.

The timing is most appropriate for this project due to the potential expansion of transit in the City of Radford and Warm Hearth, along with the recent expansion of Christiansburg. Please let me know if you have any questions. Elijah will be attending the TAC meeting and I plan to attend the Policy Board meeting to field any questions.

Regards,  
Kevin

*Kevin R. Byrd, AICP* Executive Director New River  
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## **REGIONAL TRANSIT ORGANIZATION ANALYSIS TASK ORDER**

Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Montgomery County MPO and New River Valley Planning District Commission

## **REGIONAL TRANSIT ORGANIZATION ANALYSIS**

### **Task Order between Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Montgomery County MPO and New River Valley Planning District Commission**

1. Agreement: This TASK ORDER is issued pursuant to the terms and conditions of this agreement between the Blacksburg, Christiansburg, Montgomery County MPO (hereinafter referred to as MPO) and the New River Valley Planning District Commission (PDC).
2. Scope of Service: The scope of services contained under this TASK ORDER include, but are not limited to the following:

#### *Task 1: Getting Started*

- Establish a *Regional Transit Stakeholder Committee* to have a minimum of the following representation: Blacksburg Transit, Pulaski Area Transit, Community Transit, Smart Way, Virginia Tech, Radford University, Town of Blacksburg, Town of Christiansburg, City of Radford, Montgomery County, Pulaski County, MPO and PDC. This Committee shall meet once every other month unless otherwise determined by the Regional Transit Stakeholder Committee.
- Obtain and compile data from existing transit operators within the region, incorporate recent study information, and other available information as needed.
- Task estimated completion: February 2011

#### *Task 2: Evaluate Public Transportation Organizational Models*

- Overview of each organizational model:
  - Transportation District
  - Service District
  - Regional Transit Authority
  - Independent Jurisdictional Operation
  - Evaluation of organizational models pros/cons as applied to the region.
  - Task estimated completion: April 2011

#### *Task 3: Provide case studies for each Organizational Model*

- Summarize the four (4) organizational models identified in Task 2 and review how each has been applied in Virginia.
- Apply each model and formally evaluate implementation potential in the region.
- Evaluate the performance and efficiency differences between each model.
- Task estimated completion: April 2011

#### *Task 4: Stakeholder Interviews*

- Conduct interviews with each stakeholder to discuss regional vision for public transportation in the NRV.
- Obtain feedback on organizational models and their applicability to the region.
- Compile stakeholder input and present to Regional Stakeholder Committee.
- Task estimated completion: June 2011

Task 5: Final Report and Recommendations

- Provide recommendation for a future public transportation organization model based on formal evaluations, case study findings, and stakeholder interview feedback.
  - Identify steps for implementation of recommended organizational model.
  - Submit draft report to stakeholders for review and feedback.
  - Revise plan as needed and prepare final report.
  - Task estimated completion: September 2011
3. Period of Performance: The work to be performed under this TASK ORDER shall be started on or about November 15, 2010 and continued until September 30, 2011 unless otherwise amended under the provisions of this TASK ORDER.
  4. Cost of Service: The cost of service shall be up to \$15,000 billed to the MPO. The MPO will be billed monthly for project costs.
    - Tasks 1-4 will be completed prior to June 30, 2011 and will cost \$10,000.
    - Task 5 will be completed prior to September 30, 2011 and will cost \$5,000.
  5. Not-to-Exceed Cost: The not-to-exceed cost for providing services specified in this Task Order is \$15,000. Cost will not exceed \$10,000 for FY 11 with the remaining \$5,000 in FY 12.
  6. The MPO agrees to make available any and all information, documentation or records requested by the Planning District Commission in order to complete the identified services outlined in this Task Order.
  7. Amendment and Termination: This TASK ORDER may be amended or terminated at any time by written agreement between the MPO and the New River Valley Planning District Commission.

Accepted for the New River Valley  
Planning District Commission

Accepted for Blacksburg, Christiansburg,  
Montgomery County MPO

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution to provide funding to the New River Valley Planning District Commission for a joint study entitled “Regional Transit Organization Analysis”.**

On a motion by Steve Mouras, seconded by Krisha Chachra and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, the New River Valley Planning District Commission requested the MPO to participate in a study analyzing transit organizations within the region in order to have a comprehensive analysis, and

WHEREAS, the study will inventory all transit within the region and develop a recommendation for a future transportation organization model, and

WHEREAS, the study the study is to be funded equally by both the PDC and MPO, and

WHEREAS, the TAC has reviewed the proposed study and recommends approval.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the BCM MPO approves the Task Order entitled “Regional Transit Organization Analysis” for a not to exceed cost of \$15,000.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MPO Executive Director is authorized to sign the Task Order on behalf of the MPO.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that costs not to exceed \$10,000 in FY10-11 will be billed to the MPO upon completion of designated phases.

**Attest:** Dan Brugh, Executive Director

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT –**

### **a) Town Hall meeting with Senator Edwards regarding Passenger Rail**

Dan Brugh attended Senator Edwards’ Town Hall Meeting recently held in Roanoke, VA. Interest in bringing rail passenger service back to Roanoke and possibly the New River Valley has increased with the success of the Lynchburg to Washington, DC Amtrak service. This will not however be cheap or easy to do as sections of single track roadbed will have to be supplemented with an additional set of tracks in order to operate both passenger and freight services. An interim solution has been suggested, i.e. operation of a “Bus Bridge” service utilizing express SmartWay Bus trips between VA Tech and Lynchburg, with stops in Christiansburg and Roanoke. This led to a brief discussion concerning funding and logistics of such a service

Dan also took this opportunity to announce that “Megabus”, a low fare express bus service that will be starting a Washington, DC to Knoxville, Tenn. route in December, has expressed interest in utilizing the Exit 118 Falling Branch Park and Ride as a stop to pick up and disembark passengers.

More will be forthcoming on these two subjects as they will be topics of discussion at the next SmartWay Steering Committee meeting November 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **b) Sustainable Communities Grant**

Kevin Byrd gave an overview of the Sustainable Communities Grant recently awarded to the NRVPCDC by the HUD/DOT/EPA and his plans to soon begin formation of a consortium of the NRVPCDC, the MPO localities, the City of Radford, and some nonprofit agencies to coordinate planning efforts in many different areas of interest.

### **c) SmartWay Bus Update**

Dan Brugh distributed SmartWay ridership charts from Qtr. 1 of 2011 and pointed out that the August and September numbers are significantly higher than those of last year.

### **d) Tiger II Grant**

Dan Brugh gave the final update on the progress of the Tiger II Grant application. Unfortunately, Southgate Interchange project did not receive funding.

### **e) VDRPT Audit –**

Dan Brugh thanked Blacksburg Transit for their assistance in the MPO audit by VDRPT. No errors were found and no corrective actions were required. An email from VDRPT was attached.

**f) Governor's Transportation Conference –December 8-10 at Hotel Roanoke**

The entire group discussed the upcoming Transportation Conference. Becky Martin pointed out that an agenda was now available on the registration website and Dan Brugh will email out the link to the site for those who wish to view it or register to attend.

**g) Transit Development Plan Update**

Becky Martin outlined the process that Blacksburg Transit will use to develop the Transit Development Plan. This update is a requirement placed on BT by the state and is due next spring. A consultant from VDRPT will be developing the TDP and once it is complete, the MPO should amend their Long Range Plan to include the TDP.

**h) Other Items**

Richard Caywood mentioned a series of meetings planned in mid December which will bring the Secretary of Transportation, VDoT, and localities together to discuss desired projects on the I-81 corridor. There will be one meeting in Stanton, one in Salem, and one elsewhere. There will be more to come on this as the logistics are worked out.

**VIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**IX. NEXT MEETING**

The next scheduled meeting is December 2, 2010.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 PM