

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
GEORGE WASHINGTON REGIONAL COMMISSION**

July 20, 2020  
GWRC Conference Room

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair, Cathy Binder, **County of King George**; Jason Graham & Matt Kelly, **City of Fredericksburg**; Jeff Black & Nancy Long (In at 6:00 p.m.), **Caroline County**; Annie Cupka, **King George County**; Tim McLaughlin & Chris Yakabouski, **Spotsylvania County** & Meg Bohmke & Tom Coen, **Stafford County**

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Paul Agnello, Spotsylvania County; Alex Owsiak & Jason Towery, Stafford County; Eric Gregory, Hefty Wiley & Gore; & George Tryfiates

**STAFF:** Linda Millsaps; Leigh Anderson, Kari Barber, Jordan Chandler, Michele Dooling, Stacy Feindt, Kate Gibson, Adam Hager & Matthew Lehane

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Binder called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. with a quorum present; which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Gibson read the Declaration in regard to the July 20<sup>th</sup> meeting being held in a virtual and remote setting.

*\*\* Due to the nature of the Declaration of a State of Emergency due to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pursuant to Code 2.2-3708.2, this meeting is to be held by electronic communications, via the web platform GoToMeeting. The catastrophic nature of this declared emergency makes it impossible and unsafe to assemble a quorum in a single location and the purpose of this meeting is to discuss or transact the business statutorily required or necessary to continue operations of the public body.*

**APPROVAL OF GWRC MEETING AGENDA - Meeting July 20, 2020**

Upon motion made by Mr. Kelly & seconded by Ms. Bohmke, with all concurring, the July 20<sup>th</sup> GWRC meeting agenda was approved as submitted.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a.) **Resolution 21-01: Approving the George Washington Regional Commission Round 4 Smart Scale Project Applications (Action Item) – Adam Hager**

Mr. Hager advised that GWRC submitted five project applications for consideration in Round 4 of the Smart Scale application process. Mr. Hager relayed 4 of the 5 projects are projects submitted from Stafford County and the remaining project is one from King George County. Even though all

5 projects received initial approval; however, only a maximum of 4 projects can be submitted during the final submission process from each specific entity.

There was unanimous consent from GWRC to endorse the King George County project being moved forward. There was a request to Stafford County for the locality to re-evaluate their remaining 4 projects and determine the 3 that will be endorsed from Stafford County to move forward. There was consent from GWRC to endorse the 3 selected Stafford County projects accordingly. Mr. Hager relayed that FAMPO will be conducting a special called meeting on August 10<sup>th</sup> for endorsement of the final 4 project applications being submitted by FAMPO.

Upon motion by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Ms. Bohmke, with all commission members concurring, request to defer adoption of the 4 GWRC Smart Scale applications until August 10<sup>th</sup>, with the understanding and consent that the King George County application project will move forward after conclusion of tonight's July 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**b.) Resolution 21-02: Supporting King George County and Caroline County 2020 Smart Scale Project Applications (Action Item) – Adam Hager**

Mr. Hager advised that both King George and Caroline Counties are submitting Smart Scale projects individually and not under the umbrella agencies of either FAMPO & GWRC; however, consistently in past years, both FAMPO & GWRC have adopted a resolution in support of the individual locality projects.

Upon motion by Ms. Cupka and seconded by Mr. Black, with all concurring, Resolution 21-02 was adopted by GWRC at the July 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**c.) Broadband Discussion – Dr. Linda Millsaps**

Dr. Millsaps advised that Mr. Black had expressed interest in regard to establishing a regional broadband committee with GWRC facilitating. Dr. Millsaps stated that even though each locality has explored broadband independently and some localities already have an agreement in place; however, GWRC could become the regional advocate for grant applications, regional collaboration efforts, etc. There was committee consent to move forward with establishing a regional broadband committee. Dr. Millsaps asked that each locality recommend an IT staff member to serve on the regional committee. Dr. Millsaps asked that the respective locality representatives be provided at the upcoming August 17<sup>th</sup> GWRC meeting and then GWRC staff will move forward on forming the committee, setting meeting dates/times, etc.

**d.) 5307 Update – Dr. Linda Millsaps**

Dr. Millsaps advised that a brief update on 5307 funding will be given to GWRC at tonight's meeting. Dr. Millsaps stated this item will be discussed in more detail at tonight's FAMPO meeting. Dr. Millsaps advised no action is needed tonight from GWRC and the information is being given tonight for informational purposes only. Dr. Millsaps relayed that GWRideConnect is a recipient of 5307 funding to the region as a result of data provided monthly to NTD from registered van pool operators in the Fredericksburg region. In years past, the funding received has been allocated to FRED for operational projects. However, other entities such as VRE for platform improvement

projects, etc. could also qualify for use of the 5307 funding the region receives. Dr. Millsaps advised that GWRC determines how 5307 funds are allocated.

Dr. Millsaps relayed that FAMPO administers how CMAQ funding allocations are distributed. Dr. Millsaps stated that at tonight's FAMPO meeting a discussion will be held in regard to the possibility of a funding swap/exchange whereby 5307 funding is utilized for a qualifying project and in return CMAQ funding will be provided from FAMPO for continued support of the GWRideConnect program. Mr. McLaughlin asked that for the upcoming August 17<sup>th</sup> GWRC meeting that an agenda item be included that discusses the GWRideConnect program and where it should fall. Currently, it falls under GWRC; however, Mr. McLaughlin stated that GWRideConnect involves transportation so it may should fall under the realm of FAMPO supervision.

**ADJOURN GWRC MEETING** – The July 20<sup>th</sup> GWRC Executive Committee meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m. The next special called GWRC meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, August 10, 2020. The purpose of the special called August 10<sup>th</sup> meeting will be for the purpose of adopting the four GWRC final project applications for submission to the CTB for Round 4 of the Smart Scale application process. The August 17<sup>th</sup> meeting is a regularly scheduled GWRC meeting that will begin at 6:00 p.m. Both meetings will be conducted via virtual/electronic settings.

Respectfully Submitted, Dr. Linda Millsaps, Executive Director  
(Draft Minutes prepared by JoAnna Roberson)