

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

**Monday, March 27, 2023 at 6:00 pm**

**Location:** 406 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401, GWRC Board Room

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** All attending in-person: **Chair Jason Graham – City of Fredericksburg;** Jon Gerlach, – **City of Fredericksburg;** Annie Cupka – **King George County;** Chris Yakabouski, Lori Hayes – **Spotsylvania County;** Meg Bohmke – **Stafford County.** Attending Virtually - Jeff Black – **Caroline County,** Pamela Yeung (Alternate) – **Stafford County;**

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jeff Sili – **Caroline County,** Cathy Binder – **King George County,** Tim McLaughlin (Alternate), David Ross (Alternate) – **Spotsylvania County;** Darrell English & Crystal Vanuch (Alternate) – **Stafford County**

**STAFF:** Attending In-Person: Chip Boyles, Michele Dooling, Kate Gibson, Leigh Anderson, Kerry McKenney, King Mitchell, Kari Eaves, Sarah Oldaker, and Meredith Keppel. Attending Virtually: Sam Shoukas

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Graham called the GWRC meeting to order at 6:00 pm. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and then Mr. Boyles took roll and indicated a quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF GWRC MEETING AGENDA –** Mr. Graham asked for a motion to approve the March 27, 2023 meeting agenda. Meg Bohmke Motioned for approval of the agenda, Mr. Gerlach seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Graham asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2023 GWRC Board Meeting. Ms. Cupka motioned for approval of the minutes, Ms. Bohmke seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Ms. Dooling presented on the February, 2023 financial report, hitting on the highlights from the cashflow and revenue. All financial reports are included in the meeting packet and Executive Director’s Memo. There were no questions from the Board.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT:** There were no written public comments.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Kari Eaves gave a presentation on the King George County Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan which is included in the packet. Ms. Eaves took questions from the Board about pedestrian signals, VDOT involvement, and next steps. Ms. Eaves answered the Board’s questions and indicated that she would like to bring the plan back in front of the King George County Board of Supervisors for approval. Ms. Cupka indicated that it will be brought back before the King George Board of Supervisors and also answered questions from the other Board members.

The Board discussed approval of the plan by the GWRC Board and agreed that King George would need to approve the plan and then it would come back in front of the GWRC Board for approval.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update**

Mr. Graham directed the Board to Meredith Keppel who presented on the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Update. Ms. Keppel informed the Board that the HMP plan had been approved pending adoption by FEMA, and that the staff for each jurisdiction would be bringing the plan in front of them in their own jurisdictions for approval. The Board asked questions regarding readiness for disasters, the difference between the HMP and the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), and about changes to the HMP. Ms. Keppel and Mr. Boyles answered the Board's questions and let them know to be on the lookout for it when it comes before their Board of Supervisors or City Council.

### **Introduction Draft Rural Transportation Work Program FY24**

Mr. Graham directed the Board to Ms. Eaves who presented the Introduction Draft Rural Transportation Work Program FY 24, which was included in the packet. The presentation covered plans for King George County and Caroline County. Ms. Cupka and Mr. Black thanked Ms. Eaves for working on the plan for the rural counties. Ms. Eaves took questions from the Board regarding the plan, and Mr. Boyles informed the Board that the plan will be back in front of the Board in April for approval.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Boyles went over his Executive Director's Report which is available in the packet. He let the Board know that staff has been very busy and the report included updates on their activities.

Mr. Boyles directed the Board's attention to a portion of the Director's Report dealing with how to handle future letters of support. The Board briefly discussed the current process and any possible changes. Mr. Boyles indicated that the Board will discuss a potential new policy regarding letters of support in the future.

Mr. Graham asked for an update and information on the workforce development grants. Mr. Boyles discussed the Governor's Amended Budget and potential workforce development funding. Ms. Oldaker informed the Board about the recent Talent Pathways Initiative (TPI) and workforce development projects recently approved through GO Virginia. Ms. Bohmke discussed the work the Bay Consortium Workforce Development Board is doing.

## **COMMISSIONER ORIENTATION & STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

Mr. Boyles then directed the Board to the Commissioner Orientation presentation. The Board was provided a print copy of the orientation presentation. Mr. Boyles went over the slides covering general history and information on the GWRC and PDC's, the budget and financials of the GWRC, and the different programs.

## **CORRESPONDENTS**

Mr. Graham asked if the only correspondence was the letter that was in the packet. Mr. Boyles confirmed.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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Mr. Graham asked for any other comment. No comment was received. The March 27, 2023 George Washington Commission Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2023 at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Chip Boyles, Executive Director  
(Draft Minutes prepared by Sarah Oldaker)