

Counties

- Alamance
- Caswell
- Davidson
- Davie
- Forsyth
- Guilford
- Montgomery
- Randolph
- Rockingham
- Stokes
- Surry
- Yadkin

Municipalities

- Archdale
- Asheboro
- Bermuda Run
- Bethania
- Biscoe
- Boonville
- Burlington
- Candor
- Clemmons
- Cooleemee
- Danbury
- Denton
- Dobson
- East Bend
- Eden
- Elkin
- Elon
- Franklinville
- Gibsonville
- Graham
- Green Level
- Greensboro
- Haw River
- High Point
- Jamestown
- Jonesville
- Kernersville
- King
- Lewisville
- Lexington
- Liberty
- Madison
- Mayodan
- Mebane
- Midway
- Mocksville
- Mount Airy
- Mt. Gilead
- Oak Ridge
- Pilot Mountain
- Pleasant Garden
- Ramseur
- Randleman
- Reidsville
- Rural Hall
- Seagrove
- Sedalia
- Stokesdale
- Stoneville
- Summerfield
- Thomasville
- Tobaccoville
- Trinity
- Troy
- Village of Alamance
- Walkertown
- Wallburg
- Walnut Cove
- Wentworth
- Winston-Salem
- Yadkinville
- Yanceyville



Piedmont Triad Regional Council Executive Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

12:00 noon

PTRC Headquarters

1398 Carrollton Crossing Drive

Kernersville, NC 27284

Members Present:

- Councilwoman Marikay Abuzuaiter, City of Greensboro
- Commissioner Kevin Austin, Yadkin County
- Alderman Renee Bryant, City of Randleman
- Councilman Darryl Carter, City of Eden
- Mayor Rick Cross, Town of Bermuda Run
- Commissioner Benita Finney, Davie County
- Mayor Alvin Foster, Town of Yanceyville
- Chairman Darrell Frye, Randolph County
- Councilwoman Peggy Leight, Town of Walkertown
- Councilman Rick McCraw, City of King
- Commissioner Rick Morris, Stokes County
- Commissioner Scott Needham, Town of Pilot Mountain
- Commissioner Damon Prince, Town of Troy
- Commissioner Mark Richardson, Rockingham County
- Mayor Carla Strickland, Town of Pleasant Garden
- Commissioner Don Truell, Davidson County
- Mayor Larry Ward, Town of Denton
- Commissioner Steve Yokeley, City of Mount Airy

Members Absent

- Commissioner Eddie Boswell, Alamance County
- Commissioner Alan Branson, Guilford County
- Council Member Jim Butler, City of Burlington
- Commissioner Fleming El-Amin, Forsyth County
- Commissioner Nathaniel Hall, Caswell County
- Councilman Ricky Hall, City of Graham
- Councilman Victor Jones, City of High Point
- Councilman John Larson, City of Winston-Salem
- Commissioner Wayne Moore, Town of Jonesville
- Commissioner Terry Renegar, Davie County
- Commissioner Dottie Robinson, Montgomery County
- Commissioner Van Tucker, Surry County

Chairman Kevin Austin welcomed the PTRC Executive Committee and called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m. Mr. Austin requested a moment of silence and then led the Executive Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1) Presentation: Healthy Opportunities Update, Ms. Jen Nixon, HOOP

- a) Ms. Jen Nixon provided the most recent guidance on the Healthy Opportunities proposal. PTRC, through the PTRDC, put forth a very credible proposal to be the Lead Pilot Entity (LPE) for the Healthy Opportunities Pilot. North Carolina is working towards creating a system that improves health and promotes value by looking outside of hospital and doctors when treating people's medical needs. DHHS is hoping to accomplish this with the Healthy Opportunities Pilot which will transition Medicaid to Managed Care and address non-medical factors.
- b) Ms. Nixon stated that this was a huge collaboration between PTRC, Cone Health and the Human Service Organizations (HSO). We received 50 letters of support and 30 letters of intent. It took over three months to prepare the proposal.
- c) The proposal process allowed us to assess PTRC's fitness to run a program like this. NC is one of the first states to take this approach and PTRC could be one of three LPEs.
- d) The State will make their decision on May 15th. They received a total of nine applications.
- e) But the work hasn't stopped once the proposal was submitted. While waiting, we are creating an outline for HSOs that want to join to show what it would mean to partner and receive Medicaid dollars, creating job descriptions, and creating communication models with HSOs.
- f) As far as the timeline, once we receive the final word in May, we will have an effective contract date of early June. At that time we will be ready to capacity build for the next two years. March 2021 is the date to have the program up and running.
- g) Mr. Mark Richardson asked if PTRC still felt confident that expenditures would be on the service items while keeping administrative costs low. Ms. Nixon stated that Mr. Jarrod Hand has created a plan that will make this possible. The requirement of the state is to spend 50% of funding on services and we expect to exceed that.
- h) Ms. Nixon presented examples of the proposals for delegates to review.
- i) Mr. Matthew Dolge added that there is the threat that people can buy their way in. Certain groups that applied have millions of dollars to spend on administration.
- j) Mr. Dolge stated that our main concern is safeguarding our organization and being effective for our HSOs and our members. We are confident of the proposal we submitted.
- k) Mr. Dolge also thanked Ms. Nixon for her hard work. She is a contract employee of Cone and they gave us her staff time. We are grateful to her and Cone for their partnership.
- l) Ms. Nixon closed by saying that the landscape is uncertain so we must stay transparent and communicate effectively throughout this process.

2) Action Item: Request for approval of the February 5, 2020 PTRC Executive Committee minutes, Kevin Austin, PTRC Chairman

- a) There being no questions, a motion was made by Mr. Darrell Frye.
- b) The motion was seconded by Ms. Marikay Abuzuaiter.
- c) Request for approval of the February 5, 2020 PTRC Executive Committee minutes was approved.

3) Action Item: Request for approval to apply for up to \$500,000 in Golden LEAF Opportunities for Work (GLOW) funding in support of capacity building, training and

service delivery with a focus on transportation, Ms. Wendy Walker-Fox, Workforce Director

- a) Ms. Walker-Fox stated that the Golden LEAF Opportunities for Work (GLOW) initiative is intended to provide funding to address the urgent workforce issues facing North Carolina. Because North Carolina is experiencing full employment and employers are having difficulty filling positions through traditional workforce development strategies, it is necessary to develop creative strategies to expand the pool of workers available for employment.
- b) To help address these challenges, Golden LEAF has implemented this special workforce development initiative to address the following priorities:
 - i) Close the skills gap by targeting working-age adults who are pursuing work but who face significant barriers to employment, are underemployed, or are experiencing long-term unemployment.
 - ii) Provide opportunity for working-age adults to obtain post-secondary credentials.
 - iii) Increase the skilled workforce.
 - iv) Increase the labor participation rate.
 - v) Prepare working-age adults for employment in high demand fields in their community or region.
- c) PTRC Workforce Development Department is planning a proposal to address the need for supportive services, specifically in our rural counties, by way of a transportation network. This includes existing transportation providers who could expand their service area or number of drivers in order to better serve the needs of all jobseekers, in particular those in rural areas.
- d) This funding provides an excellent opportunity for capacity building, training and service provision.
- e) Ms. Marikay Abuzuaiter asked if they will be working with PART. Ms. Walker-Fox responded yes. The first step once this is awarded will be to pull together a taskforce and determine what is already available to strengthen.
- f) Mr. Darrell Frye asked how these funds will be put into action. Ms. Walker-Fox stated that our contract service provider, Goodwill, will work directly with participants. All engagement with employers will take place in-house.
- g) Mr. Matthew Dolge added that we are having these conversations in all of our departments. We have to find a way to bridge the gap between people and the services available to them in their communities. The issue may vary but transportation affects a broad area of our Region.
- h) Mr. Kevin Austin spoke to the Golden Leaf board the day they made this decision. His company loses more employees to transportation issues than anything else. Golden Leaf understands this unmet need. Mr. Mark Richardson added that this initiative needs strong support.
- i) There being no more questions, a motion was made by Mr. Don Truell.
- j) The motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Richardson.
- k) Request for approval to apply for up to \$500,000 in Golden LEAF Opportunities for Work (GLOW) funding in support of capacity building, training and service delivery with a focus on transportation was approved.

4) Action Item: Request for approval to enter into contract with various member jurisdictions up to \$3,000 to provide these ordinance update services, Mr. Matthew Dolge, Executive Director

- a) Mr. Matthew Dolge stated that the Planning Department requests to enter into contract for planning services member towns and counties preparing for the G.S. 160D changes to enabling statutes for zoning/development ordinances locally. The G.S. 153A and G.S. 160A chapters for counties and cities/towns are being combined into one chapter with a number of additional required and optional changes. Several towns and counties have requested assistance in advance of the January 1, 2021 deadline.
- b) Please let the PTRC regional planning department know if you would like to discuss any assistance that may be needed to make these changes in your area. Alamance immediately asked for help and we have received an additional 25 requests from member governments. Since we have received so many requests we are asking for one blanket agreement instead of coming back to you for each one.
- c) The School of Government has provided some great training, one in-person which was held here at PTRC in late January. The checklist of changes and different videos on the development regulations are a great guide and have been e-mailed to municipal and county staff.
- d) There being no questions, a motion was made by Mr. Mark Richardson.
- e) The motion was seconded by Mr. Darrell Frye.
- f) Request for approval to enter into contract with various member jurisdictions up to \$3,000 to provide these ordinance update services was approved.

5) Action Item: Request for approval from the board to accept the awarded NCHFA ESFRLP20 grants, Mr. Michael Blair, Community Development Director

- a) Mr. Michael Blair explained that the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency has awarded the PTRC, as a direct grant recipient, the ESFRLP20 grants for Guilford, Davidson and Mecklenburg (outside the city limits of Charlotte) Counties for the 2020 cycle. The PTRC Community Development Department Staff requests Executive Committee approve the acceptance of all the grants.
- b) The PTRC Housing Department has been successful in being awarded ESFRLP grants in 14 counties currently, with 2 of the current awards being counties previously served by the PTRC in other grant cycles. Mecklenburg outside of the Charlotte city limits is a new county with low production from its previous grant recipient and the NCHFA has encouraged the PTRC to apply, as there has been little interest from other entities applying for this grant.
- c) The grants are set up on a loan pool system, so once the initial five units are completed, the PTRC can continue to apply for funding for homes until the funding supply is depleted. As an example, in the current grant cycle for Randolph County, PTRC committed to completing five units for \$175,000 and will close out the grant cycle with seventeen units completed totaling \$584,025.00 in home repairs for residents of the county.
- d) Mr. Rick McCraw asked how people apply for this. Mr. Blair responded that they can call and we will mail them an application.
- e) Mr. Damon Prince asked if applicants are limited by income levels. Mr. Blair responded yes, there are income requirements.
- f) There being no more questions, a motion was made by Mr. Rick McCraw.
- g) The motion was seconded by Ms. Marikay Abuzuaiter.

h) Request for approval to accept the awarded NCHFA ESFRLP20 grants was approved.

8) Executive Director's Report, Matthew Dolge, Executive Director

- a) Mr. Matthew Dolge shared the basic guidelines that have been implemented to PTRC staff and visitors for preparing for the possible spread of the Coronavirus. They cover cleaning and hygiene, staying home when you're sick and what to do about meetings. This is not intended to build apprehension among staff. My hope is that we do not have any issues with this virus however it is in all of our interests to be prepared. We will send this out to the Managers in our Region.
- b) Please plan to attend our April 1st Triad Tomorrow Public Policy Summit at A & T University. At this summit, we will feature various speakers and panelists, including state legislators that will engage in topics surrounding talent, workforce housing, and economic innovation. The fast-paced agenda will include a Triad focused session of the cutting edge NC Spin program, quick and timely "Triad Talks" to highlight current issues, and high ranking political leaders outlining plans for the year ahead. All discussions will be in line with the region's comprehensive economic development strategy (CEDs). Please help us spread the word to your entire Boards. We are inviting elected officials at every level of government.
- c) The Workforce Development Summit will be held on April 22nd at Volvo. This is the same day as the PTRDC meeting. More details will be shared with you all soon.

9) New business

- a) Ms. Marikay Abuzuaiter presented a report from the Audit Committee. The Committee made up of Officers and Mr. Darrell Frye met this morning to interview the two CPA firms to conduct the PTRC Audit. They are both very qualified firms. After interviewing them both, the Committee would like to make the recommendation to hire Cherry Bekaert. They came to this decision based on their experience and the fact that they work with many COGs. The quote was the less expensive of the two.
 - i) After no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Mark Richardson.
 - ii) The motion was seconded by Ms. Carla Strickland.
 - iii) The Audit Committee's recommendation to hire Cherry Bekaert to conduct the PTRC audit was approved.

10) Around the Region, Kevin Austin, PTRC Chair

- a) The Town of Candor will hold its Beach Music Brew and Crew on May 9th.
- b) Ms. Marikay Abuzuaiter encouraged everyone to come out to Greensboro to enjoy a basketball game as it becomes "Tournament Town" for next 3 weeks.
- c) Mr. Rick McCraw invited everyone to the King 5k Half Marathon on Marcy 14th. Proceeds go to filling food pantries in Stokes County. The Rotary Club will provide pancakes after the race.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned by general consensus at 1:01 p.m.

Kevin Austin, PTRC Chair

Katie Mitchell, Clerk to the Board