



Executive Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, February 1, 2023
Hybrid Attendance (In Person and ZOOM)

Members Present:

Mayor Kelly Allen, Town of Haw River
Commissioner Kevin Austin, Yadkin County
Mayor Pro Tem Renee Bryant, City of Randleman
Council Member Jim Butler, City of Burlington (Z)
Council Member Jane Cole, City of King (Z)
Commissioner Carly Cooke, Guilford County (Z)
Mayor Rick Cross, Town of Bermuda Run
Mayor Pro Tem Monta Davis-Oliver, Town of Yadkinville
Commissioner Benita Finney, Davie County (Z)
Mayor Alvin Foster, Town of Yanceyville
Chairman Darrell Frye, Randolph County
Chairman Mark Jones, Davie County (Z)
Councilman Victor Jones, City of High Point
Council Member Dwight Lake, Town of Mayodan
Councilman John Larson, City of Winston-Salem
Alderman Yvonne Maizland, Town of Gibsonville
Chairman Fred McClure, Davidson County
Mayor Howard Morgan, Town of Sedalia
Commissioner Rick Morris, Stokes County (Z)
Commissioner Damon Prince, Town of Troy (Z)
Commissioner Mark Richardson, Rockingham County
Commissioner John Shaw, Montgomery County (Z)
Commissioner Pamela Thompson, Alamance County
Commissioner Van Tucker, Surry County (Z)
Mayor Larry Ward, Town of Denton
Commissioner Marie Wood, City of Mount Airy
(Z) Denotes attendance via ZOOM

Members Absent:

Councilwoman Marikay Abuzuaiter, City of Greensboro
Councilwoman Peggy Leight, Town of Walkertown
Commissioner Tonya McDaniel, Forsyth County

Chairman Alvin Foster welcomed the PTRC Executive Committee and called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom in addition to in person attendance. Chairman Foster encouraged everyone to remember Matt Reece following the loss of his mother. We also lost longtime board member Nate Hall who taught us that it's okay not to agree and that the best solution accounts for everyone's perspective. Nate cherished the past but his focus was always on the future. We should honor him by looking towards the future. Mr. Foster requested a moment of silence and then led the Executive Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 1) Action Item: Request for approval of the December 7, 2022 PTRC Executive Committee minutes, Mr. Alvin Foster, Chair**

- 2) Action Item: Request for Approval of Second Budget Revision for FY 2022-2023, Mr. Jarrod R. Hand, Finance Director**
 - a) The Finance Department requests approval of a revision to the fiscal year 2022-2023 budget of the Piedmont Triad Regional Council. This revision shows a net increase, from the original budget, of \$1,555,902. The revised Budget Ordinance and a summary of the changes by area can be found at www.ptrc.org or by emailing kmitchell@ptrc.org.
 - b) On page seven of the revised Budget Ordinance you will see the changes. Admin services saw an increase of \$78,202 due to the addition of 10 Pay Class studies. The General fund saw an increase of \$525,000 to purchase the church property next door for expansion. Planning also saw an increase of \$307,700 in budget due to Clean Water projects and nine Local Technical Assistance projects. The Piedmont Triad Regional Development Corporation's budget increased by \$125,000 due to an awarded EPA RLF grant and PTRC will provide those Admin services. Workforce saw an increase of \$520,000 due to ARPA funding and employer services. This equals a net increase of \$1,555,902.
 - c) It is recommended that the board adopt this budget revision to recognize a net increase of \$1,555,902 bring the total budget to \$51,311,222 for 2022-2023.

- 3) Action Item: Request for authorization to apply for and receive up to \$2 million in DWS ARPA funds for business work-based learning activities Ms. Wendy Walker-Fox, Workforce and Economic Development Director**
 - a) North Carolina Department of Commerce Division of Workforce Solutions is providing a grant opportunity for non-profits and state agencies to provide innovative and enhanced services that are not easily administered through current Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) guidelines. The grants are to serve individuals and businesses during the period of February 13, 2023 to September 30, 2024. Funding amounts are up to \$2 million.
 - b) Piedmont Triad Regional Development Corporation (PTRDC) has applied for this American Rescue Plan (ARPA) Business Work-Based Learning (BWBL) Grant funding. This funding is intended to establish work-based learning opportunities targeting small- and micro-businesses (i.e., businesses with fewer than twenty-five (25) employees) to

bridge the gap for business retention and expansion with funding for OJT, Work Experience, and Incumbent Worker Training. Emphasis will be placed on historically underutilized businesses, industries significantly impacted by the pandemic, or businesses located in an economically distressed Tier 1 or Tier 2 county. This funding will also assist with marketing and technology expenses to develop and maintain the training platform and to market and promote the trainings.

- c) The PTRDC project: Creative Solutions for Small Businesses in the Triad, is geared to leverage current work from the Piedmont Triad Regional Development Corporation with small businesses into an opportunity to create real, meaningful impact in these companies. The support of our network of small business resources in addition to the provisions of this project will allow small businesses to access resources for workforce and talent development in addition to our existing programs and opportunities.
- d) The ARPA dollars will allow us an opportunity to leverage Federal Workforce funding to further meet the needs of employers.

4) Action Item: Request for approval of the PTRDC Board Member re-appointments, Ms. Wendy Walker-Fox, Workforce & Economic Development Director

- a) As it states in the PTRDC bylaws, 12 County Representatives “shall be appointed by their respective boards of county commissioners. Each county board of commissioners shall assure that municipal as well as county representatives, either elected or staff, are considered for appointment to represent that county.”
- b) The following representatives’ terms ended in December of 2022: Leigh Cockram, Rockingham County; Rick Morris, Stokes County; Larry Johnson, Surry County; and Kevin Austin, Yadkin County. All members have agreed to remain on our PTRDC Board as county representatives until December 2025.
- c) The following Private Sector and Non-Profit Sector seats ended in December of 2022: David Allen, Andy Anderson, Jim Lewis, Mark Moran, Alan Murdock, Eric Muth, and Scott Rhine. All delegates have agreed to extend their terms to end in December of 2025. The following delegates declined reappointment: Gary Blake. We currently have 2 open Private Sector and Non-Profit seats.

5) NEW Action Item: Request for authorization to enter into agreement with Davidson County where PTRC acts as workforce contractor providing career and business services, Ms. Wendy Walker-Fox, Workforce and Economic Development Director

- a) The Davidson County Manager recently requested that the Piedmont Triad Regional Council and Workforce Development Board assist DavidsonWorks with continuing the delivery of workforce services. Due to impending realignment of workforce local areas, majority of DavidsonWorks staff have secured new employment and have or will be leaving the organization. PTRC has agreed to assist and will act in a capacity of contractor.
- b) An MOU which outlines the specific responsibilities and cost requirements for PTRC to provide career services and business services has been developed and approved by the Davidson County Board of Commissioners.

- c) PTRC is prepared to work with our current contracted service provider Goodwill Industries of Northwest North Carolina to provide the requested services in Davidson County.

6) Action Item: Request for approval of two Local Technical Assistance Projects: Randolph County GMP Update & Dobson Current Planning and Ordinance Support, Mr. Jesse Day, Regional Planning Director

- a) Randolph County Growth Management Plan Northeast Area Update: The Regional Planning Department requests to enter into contract for planning services with Randolph County to update the existing Growth Management Plan from 2009. There are growth pressures on residential, industrial and commercial growth that will be looked at through the planning process to update growth management policies. The contract includes a community survey, public meetings and working with municipalities, staff and elected officials to create an updated document that reflects changes in the community and growth management and development vision and policies.
- b) Request for approval to enter into contract providing professional planning services from January 2023 to August 2023 to the Randolph County for \$58,500. The County approved the contract amount at their January meeting.
- c) Dobson Current Planning and Ordinance Support: The Regional Planning Department requests to enter into contract for planning services with the Town of Dobson for services which includes modifications to the subdivision and zoning ordinance while providing monthly technical support for planning and zoning permit requests.
- d) Request for approval to enter into contract providing professional planning services from February 2023 to June 2023 to the Town of Dobson for \$7,000. The Town of Dobson is considering the contract at their January 26 Town Council meeting.

7) Action Item: Request for authorization to Receive NCDEQ-205j Contract, Ms. Grace Messinger, Water Resources Planner

- a) The Regional Planning Department submitted and was awarded a NC-DEQ 205j funding to Applying One Water Principles within the High Rock Lake Watershed for Nutrient Management Strategy Alternative Compliance. requests authorization to receive administrative funds from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) through the Partners for Fish and Wildlife for the Jessup Mill Dam removal in Stokes County, along the Dan River.
- b) In partnership with Centralina Regional Council, PTRC will launch a focused integrated water management program leveraging partnerships, collaborations and stakeholders for the High Rock Lake watershed. The combined efforts of two council of governments (COGs) in this region will work to inform, consult, involve, collaborate and empower the High Rock Lake watershed community.
- c) The COG partnership goals include creating a collaborative environment to best determine how a One Water program could form and/or function in the region, interface with a future High Rock Lake Nutrient Management Strategy and complement water quality improvement objectives. Another project output will be to work with a variety of communities that make up the High Rock Lake watershed, and directly engage

with two rural, two urban communities and a county (essentially upstream, downstream communities) in piloting tools and/or strategies that help to better engage with water for capacity building, resilience, climate change, affordability, infrastructure, water quantity, water quality, community, arts and culture.

- d) The PTRC Planning Department requests authorization to enter into contract with NC Division of Environmental Quality- Division of Water Resources, Planning Section, Nonpoint Source Planning Branch \$103,719 for project management, stakeholder engagement, capacity building marketing/communications and creation of a One Water Roadmap for 18 months.

8) Action Item: Request for authorization to receive NC Department of Justice Environmental Enhancement Grant (EEG), Ms. Grace Messinger, Water Resources Planner

- a) The Regional Planning Department through the Stormwater SMART submitted and was awarded a 2022 NCDOJ-EEG grant for the Inner-City Clean Streams: Southwest High Point project. This project will be an 18-month targeted community education and engagement program that will showcase a collaborative litter clean-up effort to enhance the Richland Creek Watershed, a sub-watershed of Cape Fear River Basin.
- b) The PTRC Planning Department requests authorization to enter into contract with NC Department of Justice for the Environmental Enhancement Grant (EEG) \$50,000 for project management, stakeholder engagement, capacity building marketing/communications for 18 months.
- c) We hope that this can serve as a model that we can implement in other areas of our region.
- d) Mr. Fred McClure asked who will do the litter pick up. Ms. Messinger answered that they will work with existing volunteers and build on that. We will also work on building pride in the area.
- e) Ms. Kelly Allen added that they started a similar project in Alamance County and it has been successful. They use yard signs to help encourage pride and participation.
- f) Mr. Fred McClure also added that it might be helpful to contact DOT to ensure people who have “adopted” streets and streams are performing the required cleans.

9) Action Item: Request for authorization to contract with Piedmont Conservation Council for up to \$4,200, Ms. Grace Messinger, Water Resources Planner

- a) The Regional Planning Department requests authorization to receive funding through Contract Services agreement with the Piedmont Conservation Council, a 10-county environmental non-profit, to provide support while they conduct a personnel transitional process. PTRC Planning staff will provide guidance and management support as necessary for their active grant funded projects.

10) Action Item: Requesting for approval to enter into an administrative contract with the Town of Bermuda Run, Mr. Michael Blair, Community Development Director

- a) The Town of Bermuda Run received a 2022 Community Project Funding (through the Transportation Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee or THUD) award to

enhance traffic and pedestrian safety, and to address infrastructure needs, at the site of a critical economic driver for the community. Truist Sports Park in Bermuda Run is a regional draw for competitive sports tournaments. As the use of the sports park has grown, so have the demands on access roads, pedestrian pathways, parking, and adequate signage and lighting. Anticipated project goals are to enhance pedestrian safety and recreation, as well as creating safer traffic flow in and around the sports park.

- b) The \$3,650,000 award will fund three groups of project activities: an estimated \$2,635,000 in road construction/paving and pedestrian accessibility; an estimated \$650,000 in pedestrian safety features and publicly accessible recreation; and \$365,000 for administrative costs for the Piedmont Triad Regional Council as provided under 24 CFR 570.206.
- c) The estimated \$365,000 for administration costs will allow PTRC staff to oversee the required CDBG regulations, environmental review, as well as provide project management and coordination for construction work, mapping, grant reporting and compliance, and any additional design work needed.
- d) Mr. Rick Cross added that Jesse Day and Michael Blair did great work educating the community on what this project would mean for Bermuda Run and Davie County. We receive hundreds of thousands of visitors to Truist Sports Park so this is very important.

11) Action Item: Requesting for approval to enter into contract with UNCG in the amount of \$70,000 for outreach and evaluation, Mr. Michael Blair, Community Development Director

- a) PTRC Community Development Department is administering a HUD Weatherization and Healthy Homes Demonstration Grant for \$1,000,000 to serve approximately 27 eligible households with qualifying conditions and within the city limits of Greensboro.
- b) UNCG Center for Housing and Community Studies will provide outreach, intake, client eligibility, and evaluation services for the grant.
- c) Specifically, the UNC Greensboro Center for Housing and Community Studies, will:
 - i) Assist in building concordance between eligibility criteria of the PTRC Weatherization and City of Greensboro Lead Safe Greensboro, and other Rehabilitation programs
 - ii) Facilitate the process of developing a user-centered joint application between the PTRC Weatherization and City of Greensboro Lead Safe Greensboro, and other Rehabilitation programs
 - iii) Identify qualifying homeowners among current deferred and waitlisted applicants in both programs then conduct pre-screening and pre-qualification calls to gauge eligibility with special focus on identifying qualifying pregnant women, families with infants and small children (DSS WIC), and households with members who have a respiratory illness.
 - iv) Work with local community programs that provide services to pregnant women as a possible source for recruitment of families into the study sample.
 - v) Conduct proactive canvassing and outreach activities in target Opportunity Zones in Greensboro in areas where there are most likely to be qualifying pre-1978 housing

with the potential for containing higher levels of lead will be targeted. Screening will identify households with pregnant women, families with infants and small children, and households with members who have a respiratory illness.

- vi) Develop an evaluation plan with tracking metrics for outputs of the joint project as well as a survey of households at six months after completion of work.
- d) This contract will be for \$70,000 through the grant start up to its completion.

12) Action Item: Requesting for approval to enter into contract with the City of Reidsville for CDGB-NR Rehabilitation services, Mr. Michael Blair, Community Development Director

- a) PTRC Community Development Department Staff has been asked to provide Rehabilitation services for a new CDBG-NR grant in Reidsville. Staff requests Executive Committee approve providing this service to Reidsville.
- b) The grant is administered by a consultant firm and PTRC staff will provide rehabilitation expertise. Reidsville has 10 houses to be rehabilitated. PTRC Community Development staff will assess the needs of each CDBG-NR unit based on the complexity of the cost estimate and write up. Minimum soft costs per unit will be set at \$10,000.

13) New Business: Request for authorization to enter into an agreement with Triad Today where PTRC purchases six sponsored segments highlighting PTRC's role in the Triad, Mr. Matthew Dolge, Executive Director

- a) Mr. Dolge explained that we are requesting approval to purchase six sponsorship segments on the Triad Today broadcast totaling \$3,600. This sponsorship will allow PTRC to broadcast regional accomplishments, regional needs and highlight our member governments. The Triad Today show is broadcasted on abc45, MY48, and WFMY Plus. PTRC will receive a copy of the recorded segments.
- b) Chairman Foster added that outside of Local Government, people aren't familiar with PTRC. This is an opportunity to reach more people and in turn draw in more resources.

14) Roll Call vote for the above-mentioned Action Items 1-13

- a) A motion was made by Mr. Mark Richardson
- b) The motion was seconded by Mr. Dwight Lake
- c) Roll call vote- Ayes: Mayor Kelly Allen, Commissioner Kevin Austin, Alderwoman Renee Bryant, Council Member Jim Butler, Council Member Jane Cole, Commissioner Carly Cook, Mayor Rick Cross, Mayor Pro Tem Monta Davis-Oliver, Mayor Alvin Foster, Chairman Darrell Frye, Chairman Mark Jones, Councilman Victor Jones, Council Member Dwight Lake, Councilman John Larson, Alderwoman Yvonne Maizland, Chairman Fred McClure, Mayor Howard Morgan, Commissioner Rick Morris, Commissioner Damon Prince, Commissioner Mark Richardson, Commissioner John Shaw, Commissioner Pamela Thompson, Commissioner Van Tucker, Mayor Larry Ward, Commissioner Marie Wood.
- d) Nays: none
- e) Action Items 1-13 are approved.

15) Chairman Foster introduced and welcomed our new Executive Committee members:

- a) Pam Thompson, Alamance County
- b) Fred McClure, Davidson County
- c) Mark Jones, Davie County
- d) Tonya McDaniel, Forsyth County
- e) Kelly Allen, Town of Haw River (Alamance Municipalities)
- f) Howard Morgan, Town of Sedalia (Guilford Municipalities)
- g) Marie Wood, Town of Mt. Airy (Surry Municipalities)

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

- a) Mr. Dolge stated that many members received an email asking your local government to consider participating in a new HOME Consortium which will provide funding for housing development in Alamance, Caswell, Davidson, Randolph, and Rockingham Counties and the City of Burlington. The COG has administered the Surry County HOME Consortium since 1993. Surry County is the lead entity with Davie, Stokes, and Yadkin Counties as members. The Surry Consortium has consistently been ranked the #1 or #2 (out of 18 HOME Program and Grantees) most effective HOME Programs in North Carolina for the last decade. The Surry Consortium receives about \$600,000 per year in funds. They have used these funds to partner with for profit developers, non-profits like the Wesley Community Development Corporation and local Habitat for Humanity chapters, and other entities. Projects have included new housing development for the elderly, disabled, and low-income families. The Consortium has also funded rehabilitation of substandard housing and transitional housing for the homeless and those recovering from addiction. PTRC works with developers and local governments to develop innovative projects to meet the needs of their citizens. To date over 800 units of affordable, safe housing have been produced in these four counties. All the match has come from project partners. To receive HOME Funding by July 1, 2024 an "intent to form a new consortium" letter from the lead entity must be conveyed to the Greensboro HUD office by March 30th 2023. We will keep you posted on the progress of this Consortium.
- b) We are continuing to move through the Workforce Development consolidation of Alamance, Davidson and Randolph counties. We are working hard to ensure seamless transitions. This change enables the Piedmont Triad Regional Workforce Board to further leverage federal dollars while enhancing workforce development initiatives and focusing on creating work-based learning opportunities like on-the-job training and apprenticeships.
- c) Mr. Dolge will be traveling to Huntsville, AL to tour the Mercedes Benz electric car facility. This is an opportunity made available through NC Commerce and the Community College system.
- d) We have submitted a Letter of Intent to purchase the church property beside us. The church has accepted our offer. The appraisal was \$525,000 and we offered \$490,000. The congregation has decreased to around 17 people and they were having some trouble maintaining the property. They will pay us rent and continue having worship services. They are a great partner and we have always used their facility for emergency

purposes. We look forward to a continued partnership. With this expansion, we will gain nine offices immediately. Our Community Development Inspectors will move there. Our Weatherization Assistance Program will also be housed there. There will be a three-month Due Diligence period to work through zoning with Kernersville. We will share this information with you and ask for a vote before we close the deal.

- e) We had a mid-year visit with our insurance people and they are projecting an 8% decrease this year. Lowering our fringe rate will mean great things for our programs. This reiterates that moving to the NCHIP pool was a good choice for us.
- f) Mr. Dolge shared that his youngest son will be getting married on May 18th in Ireland. He will be taking an extended vacation in May following Executive Committee. The budget will be presented at the May Executive Committee and then the full board in June.
- g) We appreciate you taking the time to be here. We welcome our new members. It is an honor to work with our Local Governments. Nate Hall was a good friend to PTRC and an advocate for our region. He was always able to overcome politics to do the things that mattered. He will be missed.

17) Around the Region

- a) Ms. Kelly Allen opened up a discussion on the state retirement system. Her local government received a notice that fees were going up again. Mr. Jarrod Hand shared the latest numbers.
- b) Mr. Kevin Austin shared that Senator Burr filed a bill to remove state income tax from retirement wages. This was proposed at legislature to relieve some pressure.
- c) Ms. Marie Wood shared that Mt. Airy High School has the Blue Bear Café which helps educate and train students with special needs. They learn many service related tasks. Additionally, Goodwill has a certification program that they can take and add to their resume if they pass. 15-20 students passed this year! It is a great program.

18) There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned with general consensus at 12:57 p.m.

Alvin Foster, PTRC Chair

Katie Mitchell, Clerk to the Board