

MINUTES

PTRC Board of Delegates

April 17, 2019

Present

Marikay Abuzuaiter, City of Greensboro
Wayne Atkins, Town of Dobson
Kevin Austin, Yadkin County
Jimmy Blake, Town of Biscoe
Sam Bishop, Town of Elkin
Buddy Boggs, Town of Haw River
Frank Bruno, Town of Stokesdale
Renee Bryant, City of Randleman
Charles Byron, Town of Walnut Cove
Rick Cross, Town of Bermuda Run
Gail Dunham, Town of Summerfield
David Fernandez, Town of Seagrove
Tim Flinchum, Town of Rural Hall
Benita Finney, Davie County
Alvin Foster, Town of Yanceyville
Fred Franklin, Town of Lewisville
Nathaniel Hall, Caswell County
Archie Hicks, Town of East Bend
John Larson, Winston-Salem
Peggy Leight, Town of Walkertown
Rick McCraw, City of King
Lynn Montgomery, Town of Jamestown
Howard Morgan, Town of Sedalia
Rick Morris, Stokes County
Damon Prince, Town of Troy
Terry Renegar, Davie County
Mark Richardson, Rockingham County
Dottie Robinson, Montgomery County
Donald Scarborough, City of High Point
Naydine Sharpe, Village of Alamance
Tobin Shepherd, City of Lexington
Don Truell, Davidson County
Brent Ward, Town of Mocksville
Filmore York, Town of Liberty

Absent

Lori Armstrong, Town of Stoneville
Leroy Ault, Town of Tobaccoville
Michelle Barson, Town of Clemmons
Vaughn Benton, Town of Boonville

Absent cont'd

Layton Booker, Town of Candor
Eddie Boswell, Alamance County
Alan Branson, Guilford County
Jeff Bullins, Town of Mayodan
Jim Butler, City of Burlington
John Byrum, Town of Midway
Darryl Carter, City of Eden
Perry Conner, Town of Franklinville
Monta Davis-Oliver, Town of Yadkinville
Fleming El-Amin, Forsyth County
James Festerman, City of Reidsville
Darrell Frye, Randolph County
Carissa Graves-Henry, Town of Green Level
Jesse Hill, City of Trinity
Pamela Lofland, Town of Clemmons
Clarence Meachem, Town of Sedalia
Griffin McClure, City of Graham
John McDermon, Town of Rural Hall
Chip Miller, Town of Mt. Gilead
Wayne Moore, Town of Jonesville
Scott Needham, Town of Pilot Mountain
Dennis Paschal, Town of Wentworth
John Peterson, Town of Elon
Patty Philipps, City of Mebane
Brenda Platt, Town of Madison
Chris Sapp, Town of Bethania
Ann Schneider, Town of Oak Ridge
Danny Shaw, Town of Ramseur
David Smith, City of Asheboro
Bert Lance Stone, City of Archdale
Carla Strickland, Town of Pleasant Garden
Chris Thompson, Town of Kernersville
Van Tucker, Surry County
Larry Ward, Town of Denton
Janet Whitt, Town of Danbury
Lenny Williams, Town of Gibsonville
Steve Yokeley, City of Mount Airy
Steve Yokeley, Town of Wallburg
Raleigh York, City of Thomasville

Vice Chairman Kevin Austin welcomed the PTRC Board of Delegates and called the meeting to order at 12:02pm. He offered a special welcome to Mr. Mike Fenley with Richard Burr's office and Mr. Camden Safley with Tedd Budd's office. Chairman Austin shared that PTRC auditor Richard Tamer of Canon & Company passed away unexpectedly on April 2nd. Mr. Matthew Dolge's mother in law is in critical care and he is unable to be here today. Vice Chairman Austin requested a moment of silence and then led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Presentation: Gaps in Radar Coverage, Van Denton, Chief Meteorologist and Kevin Hartman, Emergency Services

- a. Mr. Van Denton expressed his appreciation to have the opportunity to speak to this group. This is an issue that has been on his mind since the 1990's. In the mid 1990's the National Weather Service replaced existing radars with Doppler radars. They were all concentrated in the eastern Carolina's with coverage from Greenville to Blacksburg but nothing in between. Mr. Denton began discussing the weakness in radar coverage with other concerned meteorologists. In 2012 an unwarned tornado hit Mecklenburg County in the middle of the night highlighting the issue. Mr. Denton reached out to politicians for help addressing the problem but was left with little action until 2015 when Richard Burr's office became involved. They requested a proposal which Mr. Denton submitted along with a team of meteorologists. In 2017, the Weather Act gained bipartisan support and was passed by the House and the Senate. This bill requires by law the improvement of radars. They tilted the radar in Greenville to help Charlotte but that doesn't help the Triad at all. In the summer they plan to tilt the radar in Raleigh but again that won't be of help to us.
- b. Mr. Denton showed a screen shot of a chat between meteorologists. The National Weather Service put out a request asking Charlotte station WSOC to adjust their radar to help them look for rotations. The NWS should not be relying on television stations for help predicting tornados
- c. This past weekend alone there were ten tornado warnings. Every warning was a false alarm because the radar they were using was too high to see a funnel. Too many false alarms can create a problem because people will stop reacting. New radars would decrease false alarms, give us better data and allow us to better pinpoint streets.
- d. Mr. Denton introduced Mr. Kevin Hartman. Mr. Hartman is with Davie County Fire/EMS. Their paths crossed and they have been working together ever since.
- e. Mr. Hartman stated that roughly there are ten counties that are in the radar coverage gap- Forsyth, Davie, Catawba, Burke, Cleveland, Lincoln, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Guilford, Randolph, Cabarrus, Rowan, Davidson, Stanley, Union, Alexander, McDowell, Wilkes, Caldwell and Montgomery. The total population of these ten counties is 2, 902,541 meaning roughly 30% of NC is unprotected by gaps in radar coverage.
- f. Mr. Hartman showed a Radar Data Map from two different sources that identified coverage at 6000 feet and 10000 feet and then from 3000 to 800 feet

which is usually where tornados form. There is a significant difference in adequate radar coverage for our area due to the curvature of the earth.

- g. The University of Louisiana Monroe fixed their radar coverage problem by installing a \$3 million dollar polarimetric Doppler weather radar. They received a grant through the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness. This radar filled a low-level radar coverage gap over northeast Louisiana and southeast Arkansas.
- h. The proposed solution is placing radars that will scan the lower levels in the gap areas identified.
- i. Mr. Brent Ward asked about the radar in Davie County. Both Mr. Hartman and Mr. Denton agreed that that radar is no longer functional due to outdated technology. It does not provide enough detail.
- j. Mr. Damon Prince asked to cover Montgomery County, how many radars are needed. Mr. Hartman answered that the range of a C Band radar is 50-80 miles so the Triad area would need a total of three.
- k. Ms. Marikay Abuzuaiter asked what elected officials can do to further this initiative. Mr. Denton stated that they should continue working with the PTRC on solutions. Mr. Matt Reece also stated that it may be necessary to work with FEMA funds and mitigate their emergency hazardous plans.
- l. Mr. Rick Cross asked the estimated cost. Mr. Denton responded that the three bids received so far range from 4-5 million dollars. All operation costs are factored into those numbers.
- m. Mr. Kevin Austin closed by saying the more people that are aware of this problem, the more traction it will gain.

2. Action Item: Request for approval of February 20, 2019 PTRC Board of Delegate Minutes, Kevin Austin, PTRC Vice Chair

- a. There being no questions, a motion was made by Ms. Marikay Abuzuaiter.
- b. The motion was seconded by Ms. Renee Bryant.
- c. The February 20, 2019 Board of Delegate minutes were approved.

3. Action Item: Request authorization to accept the Kate B. Reynolds Healthcare Grant, Blair Barton-Percival, AAA Director

- a. Ms. Adrienne Calhoun announced that the PTRC AAA has won an award from Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust for one year. It is a Health Improvement Funding Opportunity to provide Public Education on Value-Based Care. This funding opportunity is for PTRC AAA to help educate and inform residents, community-based organizations, safety net providers, and other key stakeholders about Medicaid reform and the health system's transition to value-based care. The geographic focus for this opportunity is statewide and accepting this funding increases the PTRC chances of winning a Medicaid Pilot award showing support from philanthropic organizations for our leadership as Lead Pilot Entity.
- b. There being no questions, a motion was made by Ms. Gail Dunham.

- c. The motion was seconded by Ms. Peggy Leight.
- d. Request authorization to accept the Kate B. Reynolds Healthcare Grant was approved.

4. New Business Item: Workforce Development Job Consortium Discussion, Wendy Walker-Fox

- a. Ms. Wendy Walker-Fox explained that during the May 2, 2018 Executive Committee meeting, the recommendation was approved to appoint PTRC’s Board of Delegates members or their designee to serve as members of the Workforce Development Job Training Consortium. The recommendation was then sent to each County Board of Commissioners and the City Council of Winston Salem for approval.
- b. The Job Training Consortium is a seven county group comprised of voting and non-voting local officials from Caswell, Davie, Forsyth, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry and Yadkin Counties, along with a representative from the City of Winston-Salem. These individuals are selected by each county and agreed to be legally responsible for certain Workforce Development programs in the area through a written agreement with the Governor. The Governor is represented by the State of North Carolina Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Solutions. Additionally, this group selects the administrative/fiscal agent for Workforce Development funds.
- c. The Chief Elected Official of the Local Area is selected by the Consortium Board and shall serve as the presiding executive officer. The official shall be authorized to exercise all functions, duties, and responsibilities of the Local Area “Chief Elected Official” which are required under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.
- d. February 20, 2019 a Job Training Consortium Meeting was held with three items requiring a vote. There was not a quorum for that meeting therefore an electronic vote was held. On Monday, February 25, 2019 a motion and second were received and approved the following items:
 - i. Accept the minutes from the April 18, 2018 Job Training Consortium Meeting
 - ii. Change the name of the Northwest Piedmont Job Training Consortium to Piedmont Triad Job Training Consortium
 - iii. Elect Commissioner Mark Richardson (Rockingham County) to the Chief Elected Official position for the Job Training Consortium
- e. The chart below was presented to the Board. The County Commissioners listed below are those currently designated from each respective county to serve on the Job Training Consortium.

Kevin Austin	Yadkin
Fleming El-Amin	Forsyth
Terry Renegar	Davie
Van Tucker	Surry

Mark Richardson (CEO Job Training Consortium)	Rockingham
Nat Hall	Caswell
Rick Morris	Stokes
John Larson	City of Winston Salem

- f. Ms. Walker-Fox also took the opportunity to announce the Piedmont Triad Talent and Workforce Summit on May 20th at Grandover Resort. It will feature a national speaker and rollout information about the Talent Portal.

5. New Business Item: Mt. Airy Project Update, Matt Reece, Assistant Director

- a. Mr. Matt Reece stated that the ARC grant application for this project has been submitted. We have received the architectural assessment and the building is structurally sound. Now we are just waiting to hear back from the ARC. Mr. Matthew Dolge will share more details as things progress.

6. Around the Region, Kevin Austin, Vice Chair

- a. Mr. Sam Bishop announced that the Elkin Wine Festival will be on May 18th. The NC Trail Day will be May 31st- June 2nd.
- b. Mr. Filmore York invited everyone to the Liberty Antique Festival, this weekend, in Liberty.
- c. Mr. Jimmy Blake introduced the new Dobson Town Manager, Laura Neeley. Ms. Neeley shared information about the Summer Movie Night that is picking back up in Dobson.
- d. Mr. David Fernandez announced Seagrove’s Spring Kiln Opening scheduled on April 29th.
- e. Mr. Zeb Hanner announced the 9th Annual BBQ Capital Cook Off on Saturday, April 27th in Lexington.
- f. Mr. Rick McCraw announced the Easter Egg Extravaganza this weekend in King. King’s Main Street Festival will be on April 27th.

7. Executive Director’s Report, Matt Reece, Assistant Director

- a. Mr. Reece announced that Michael Blair has returned to PTRC to serve as our Community Development Director.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 1:06 pm.

Kevin Austin, PTRC Vice Chair

Katie Mitchell, Clerk to the Board