

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Commission on Local Government
10:00 a.m., November 8, 2018
Richmond, Virginia

Members Present

Kimble Reynolds, Jr., Chair
R. Michael Amyx, Vice-Chair
Victoria L. Hull
Diane M. Linderman, PE
Rosemary M. Mahan

Members Absent

Staff Present

Matt Weaver, Policy and Legislative Director
J. David Conmy, Local Government Policy Administrator
Ali Akbor, Senior Public Finance Analyst
Kristen Dahlman, Senior Policy Analyst
Lindsay Barker, Program Support Specialist

Call to Order

The Commission on Local Government (CLG) Chair, Mr. Kimble Reynolds, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

I. Presentation of Commending Resolution to Bruce Goodson

Mr. Reynolds read and presented the framed resolution to Mr. Bruce Goodson. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Goodson for his service to the Commission. Mr. Goodson shared additional remarks and thanked the Commissioners.

II. Administration

A. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting on July 10, 2018

A motion was made by Ms. Linderman to approve the minutes, as written; the motion was seconded by Ms. Hull and approved.

B. Public Comment Period

Mr. Reynolds opened the floor to receive comments from the public. No one from the public appeared before the Commission; the public comment period was then closed.

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C. Policy Administrator's report

Mr. David Conmy shared his Policy Administrator's report with the Commission. Mr. Conmy then discussed potential cases with the commission: a citizen led annexation case in the Town of Culpeper and a boundary line adjustment or voluntary settlement agreement in the Town of Dublin. Ms. Kristen Dahlman provided an update to the Southwest Virginia Revenue sharing agreement regarding the hydroelectric pump station. She noted that Congressman Morgan Griffith has introduced a bill that was recently signed by the president that would expedite the permitting process for closed-loop hydropower plants. This would allow for the hydro-pump project in Southwest Virginia to have a decision made by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission within two years. Mr. Conmy then reviewed several news articles of interest with the Commission.

III. 2018 Cash Proffer Survey and Report

Ms. Kristen Dahlman gave a presentation on the 2018 Cash Proffer Report. Ms. Dahlman reported that the survey had a 100% response rate from the localities eligible to receive cash proffers. The survey revealed that 36 (22%) of the 162 eligible localities (25 counties, 7 cities, and 4 towns) reported cash proffer collections during FY 2018. This dropped by 5 localities from last year's report. Ms. Dahlman also stated that during the current period, the aggregate amount of cash proffers collected and expended by those jurisdictions was \$87,562,989 and \$75,351,846. Cash proffer collections and expenditures decreased by 7.6% and 13.53%, respectively, from FY2017. The survey results revealed that the majority of cash proffers expended for FY2018 were for roads and other transportation improvements (38.1%), schools (30%) and public safety (14.4%). Ms. Dahlman added that these top categories for expenditures are compliant with the new code section, §15.2-2303.4 which allows cash proffers to be proffered and expended towards schools, public safety, parks and recreation or roads and other transportation improvements. After some discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Hull and seconded by Ms. Mahan to approve the cash proffer report; motion passed.

IV. Annexation Alternatives Study

Mr. Conmy presented the final version of the Annexation Alternatives Study to the Commission which was updated in response to the Commission's discussion of all comments received at the July and September public hearings and additional comments made by the Commission. After discussion of some revisions presented, a motion was made by Ms. Linderman and seconded by Mr. Amyx for approval of the report as amended; motion passed. The report will be submitted to the General Assembly on December 1, 2018. The Commissioners requested that thank you letters be sent to all who participated as stakeholders to the group.

V. Economic Update: Housing

Mr. Akbor gave a presentation on the current housing statistics and market conditions in Virginia and the United States. As of August 2018 for the U.S., the annual rate of new homes sold was 629,000 and the annual rate of existing homes sold was 5,354,000. For home inventory there is a 4.3 months' and 6.1 months' supply of existing and new homes, respectively. Mr. Akbor also provided an overview of the national home market index

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and new single family starts as well as the housing market index and the housing opportunity index. Mr. Akbor stated that Roanoke’s housing market is the most affordable of any other Virginia MSA and ranked 46th nationally; while, the Washington/Arlington/Alexandria is the least affordable and ranked 134th nationally. Mr. Akbor added that all of Virginia’s MSAs housing is more affordable than the national housing affordability.

VI. Schedule of Regular Meetings

Mr. Conmy presented the schedule of meetings for 2019. After some discussion, Mr. Reynolds noted that the next meeting of the Commission would be held Monday, January 7 at 10:00 a.m. at the Virginia Housing Center Board Room. There was discussion of some potential conflicts with the proposed meeting dates, so Mr. Conmy offered to identify other suitable, regular meeting dates for the Commission’s regular 2019 meeting cycle in the interim.

VII. Upcoming Events of Interest

Mr. Reynolds reviewed upcoming dates and events of interest for the Commission.

VIII. Other

Mr. Reynolds asked if there was any other business for the Commission to discuss. There appeared to be no additional items for consideration. Ms. Hull indicated that this would be her last meeting as Commissioner. She thanked the Commission and staff for their time and service.

IX. Adjournment

By consensus of the Commission, Mr. Reynolds called the meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

Kimble Reynolds, Jr.,
Chair

J. David Conmy,
Local Government Policy Administrator