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DEPARTMENT OF
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Commission on Local Government

September 9, 2021

9:00 A.M.

Martinsville, Virginia

Members Present

R. Michael Amyx (attending virtually)
Stephanie Davis, PhD, Chair
Ceasor T. Johnson, D.Min.
Diane M. Linderman, PE, Vice Chair
Rosemary M. Mahan

Members Absent

Call to Order

The Commission on Local Government (CLG) Chair, Dr.. Stephanie Davis, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. David Conmy, Local Government Administrator at the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) initiated a roll call vote. Mr. Conmy informed Chair Davis that a quorum was present in person.

Mr. Amyx attended the meeting virtually via Google meets from 11850 Aberdeen Landing Terrace, Midlothian, Virginia, 23113 due to a medical condition that prevented his physical attendance.

Administration

A motion was made by Ms. Mahan and seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the draft agenda. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Ms. Linderman and seconded by Ms. Mahan to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2021, Regular Meeting of the Commission. The motion passed.

Dr. Davis recognized Mr. Cody Anderson, Policy Analyst for DHCD, to announce any registered commenters for the public comment period. Mr. Anderson noted that no one had expressed

interest in participating in the public comment period. The public comment period was closed.

Mr. Conmy formally introduced Dr. Ceasor Johnson, the newest member of the Commission on Local Government.

Discussion of
Martinsville-Henry
Voluntary Settlement
Agreement Proceedings

Ms. Linderman moved to move into closed session for the purpose of holding and conducting deliberations on the proposed Martinsville-Henry County Voluntary Settlement Agreement pursuant to 15.2-2907(D) of the Code of Virginia and 1VAC50-20-160 of Virginia Administrative Code. The motion was seconded by Ms. Mahan. The motion passed.

The Commission then proceeded into closed session for deliberations on the proposed Martinsville-Henry County Voluntary Settlement Agreement.

At the conclusion of the closed session and pursuant to §2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia, Dr. Davis moved that each Commissioner certify that, to the best of each Commissioner's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under chapter 37 of Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the CLG. Furthermore, as part of her motion, Dr. Davis offered that any Commissioner who believed that there was a departure from the requirements she stated should so state prior to the vote, indicating the substance of the departure that, in their judgment, had taken place. Finally, as part of her motion, Dr. Davis stated that no action was taken by the Commission the closed session. Such motion required a recorded vote of each Commissioner:

- Commissioner Amyx: So Certified (Aye)
- Commissioner Davis: So Certified (Aye)
- Commissioner Johnson: So Certified (Aye)
- Commissioner Linderman: So Certified (Aye)
- Commissioner Mahan: So Certified (Aye)

2021 Catalog of State and Federal Mandates on Local Government

Mr. Anderson presented the Commission with a brief overview of the changes made to the 2021 Catalog of State and Federal Mandates on Local Government as a result of legislation passed in the 2020 General Assembly Special Session, the 2021 General Assembly Session, and the 2021 General Assembly Special Session (I).

A motion was made by Ms. Linderman and seconded by Ms. Mahan to accept the staff proposed changes to the 2021 Catalog on State and Federal Mandates on Local Government. The motion passed.

Mandatory Property Tax Exemption Study

Mr. Conmy gave a brief overview of the status of the Mandatory Property Tax Exemption Study, which was tasked to the Commission by the General Assembly. Staff has held one meeting with stakeholders and has conducted a survey to collect data on the fiscal impact of mandatory property tax exemptions on localities statewide. The next stakeholder meeting will take place on September 28. At this meeting, staff will present findings from their research and survey results. The report will ultimately be written and presented to the Commission for approval on November 4.

FY2019 Fiscal Stress Report

Ms. Grace Wheaton, Senior Policy Analyst at DHCD, presented the complete FY2019 Fiscal Stress Report to the Commission. Ms. Wheaton noted that the report sent to the Commissioners prior to the meeting contained a handful of minor clerical spelling errors, but there were no substantive amendments to the report being presented. Dr. Davis asked Ms. Wheaton to provide a more comprehensive presentation on the topic of fiscal stress to the Commission at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

After discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Linderman and seconded by Ms. Mahan to approve the FY2019 Fiscal Stress Report as presented by Ms. Wheaton. The motion passed.

2021 General Assembly Special Session II

Ms. Wheaton provided a brief update on the 2021 General Assembly Special Session (II). Ms. Wheaton noted that the Session was convened with the purpose of allocating American

Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding received from the Federal Government and to appoint judges. Both of those objectives were met and the Session concluded.

Other

There was no other business.

Schedule of Meetings

Mr. Conmy informed the Commission that their next meeting would be a Special Commission Meeting held on October 15 at 11:00 a.m. at the Henrico County Economic Development Authority in Richmond. The next Regular meeting of the Commission will be at 11:00 a.m. in the same location on November 4.

Upcoming Events of Interest

Mr. Conmy and Mr. Anderson informed the Commission that DHCD still tentatively plans to hold the Virginia Governor's Housing Conference in a hybrid in-person/digital format, with the in-person proceedings taking place in Norfolk.

Adjournment

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission adjourned.