

THOMAS JEFFERSON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
Draft Minutes of March 6, 2008 Meeting

City of Charlottesville

David E. Brown
Jason Pearson, Treasurer

Albemarle County

Sally H. Thomas
Ann H. Mallek

Fluvanna County

Charles W. Allbaugh, CPA, Chair
Grant Tate

Greene County

Jeri Allen
Carl Schmitt

Louisa County

Fitzgerald Barnes
Jackson Wright

Nelson County

Fred Boger
Connie Brennan, Vice Chair

Executive Director

Harrison B. Rue

Commissioners Present:

Jason Pearson –Charlottesville
Sally Thomas – Albemarle County
Ann Mallek – Albemarle County
Carl Schmitt – Greene County
Grant Tate – Fluvanna County
Jack Wright – Louisa County
Connie Brennan – Nelson County

Commissioners Absent:

David Brown – Charlottesville
Charles Allbaugh – Fluvanna County
Jeri Allen – Greene County
Fitzgerald Barnes – Louisa County
Fred Boger – Nelson County

Staff Present:

Harrison Rue, Exec Director
Billie Campbell, COO
Melissa Barlow, Dir. Trans. Pgms
Rochelle Garwood, Sr. Planner Env.
David Blount, Legislative Liaison

Call to Order: Vice Chair Connie Brennan called the meeting to order.

Matters from the Public: None.

Public Hearings:

Amendment of Solid Waste Plan: Rochelle Garwood reported that an amendment to the Solid Waste Management Plan was required due to Nelson County's withdrawal from the Thomas Jefferson Solid Waste Region. The amended plan presented to the Commission removes all references to Nelson County, except as a member of the Solid Waste Plan Update Committee. The Commission noted that this was an amendment to the plan, and not a revision, which is on a five year cycle. Clarification is needed to identify Year One of the plan, since initial approval was delayed and this is the third amendment since the original submission. The heading on the amended plan will be changed to read "Amended as of March 2008" and a list of Amendments and dates will be added to the bottom of page 1. The Solid Waste Committee meets semi-annually, with the next meeting occurring in May. The Commission requested an update on the status of implementation at a Commission meeting following the next Solid Waste Committee meeting. Ms. Brennan opened the public hearing. There were no public comments. Ms. Brennan closed the public hearing. **On a motion by Carl Schmitt, seconded by Sally Thomas, the Commission approved the amended Solid Waste Management Plan, with changes as noted.**

Rural Transportation Scope of Work: Melissa Barlow presented the FY09 Rural Transportation Program Scope of Work (SOW), due to VDOT by March 15, 2008. The SOW was prepared by TJPDC staff, and reviewed by the Rural Transportation Technical Committee. Sally Thomas noted, under item 3.2 – Integration of freight planning, that Norfolk-Southern is proposing to significantly increase freight

transportation, which may require double tracking and use of conservation easements. Regulations require consultation with comprehensive plans. Jack Wright noted that long freight trains can block intersections in rural areas. Ms. Brennan opened the public hearing. There were no public comments. Ms. Brennan closed the public hearing. **On a motion by Grant Tate, seconded by Jack Wright, the Commission adopted a resolution of support approving the FY2009 Rural Area Transportation Program Scope of Work, pending VDOT approval and committed \$12,000 in matching funds.**

Consent Agenda:

Minutes and IGRs: On a motion by Sally Thomas, seconded by Ann Mallek, the Commission approved the IGRs and minutes of the February 7, 2008 meeting as submitted, with Jason Pearson and Grant Tate abstaining on the minutes.

Commissioner Roundtable: The issue for this topical roundtable was revenue recovery for emergency medical services.

Greene: Carl Schmitt reported that Greene County does not have a revenue recovery program.

Albemarle: Sally Thomas distributed an Executive Summary on setting a public hearing date to allow EMS Revenue Recovery, dated March 5, 2008. The Board of Supervisors delayed this for a month. This is not yet in the FY09 budget. The issue has been caught up in discussion of volunteer versus career staff.

Nelson: Connie Brennan distributed a handout on Paid Emergency Medical Services with Revenue Recovery Component. She indicated that it took two years to get the system in place. The County had an aging corps of volunteers and was having difficulty recruiting volunteers. In April 2006, the County ratified a formal agreement with all of the County's EMS squads and with Wintergreen Property Owners Association to approve and participate in the paid EMS and revenue recovery program, followed by a May 2006 local ordinance adoption. Nelson County hired 6 paid staff, paying careful attention to hiring "people people." The County contracted with Diversified Ambulance Bulling (DAB) for billing services, through a cooperative agreement with Fairfax County to avoid a separate Request for Proposal (RFP) process. The County decided to utilize "Insurance Only" as a basis of its program, billing only the patient's insurance provider, including Medicare and Medicaid, and not the patient. The patient is not required to make a co-payment because the County supports the program with local government revenues. A dispatcher was hired as a coordinator. The program has been highly successful. The County will be undertaking a data review.

Charlottesville: Jason Pearson reported that a provision for revenue recovery has been included in the FY09 Charlottesville budget.

Louisa: Jack Wright said that Louisa County approved this last fall, following a three-year path to approval. Implementation will begin with education for volunteers and the public. There has been some conflict between paid staff and volunteers. Louisa County has an in-house recovery administrator and also uses DAB for invoicing. It takes 150 days to get identification numbers in place before proceeding with billing to Medicare and Medicaid. Care must be taken to avoid inaccurate rumors circulated by disgruntled volunteers.

Fluvanna: Grant Tate reported that Fluvanna has not yet approved revenue recovery, but is discussing the issue of professional staff. The Lake Monticello Squad covers the entire County during the day.

Next Topic: The topic for the April meeting will be Urban Development Areas.

Financial Reports: Don Reed presented the Consolidated Profit & Loss statement and Balance Sheet for the quarter ending December 31, 2007. Audit and legal are over the full year budget. This is due to some unbudgeted legal fees for Piedmont Workforce Network and TJPDC Corporation, as well as consultation expenses in July and August prior to the FY07 audit. Few, if any, additional expenditures are expected in FY08. New accounting standards will go into effect for the next audit and the FY09 budget line item for Audit and Legal will be increased. The budget for professional development/conferences is 89% expended, and additional funds will be expended due to Harrison Rue's role in AMPO and the Governor's

Commission on Climate Change. The Commission encouraged telecommuting when possible. **On a motion by Carl Schmitt, seconded by Sally Thomas, the Commission accepted the financial reports.**

Secondary Street Acceptance Requirements (SSAR): Melissa Barlow gave a presentation on SSAR, adapted from Assistant Secretary of Transportation Nick Donahue's presentation to the MPO Technical Committee on February 26. The new SSAR are intended to ensure that streets accepted into the state system for perpetual public maintenance provide a public benefit. Provisions ensure connectivity of road and pedestrian networks and minimize storm water run-off and impervious surface area through reduced street widths. To be accepted into the state system, streets must provide public service, connectivity, and pedestrian accommodations. There is a three tiered system including compact area type, suburban area type and rural area type. Gated community roads cannot be accepted into the state system. The connectivity requirements are actually goals, and may not be met in every circumstance. Design requirements apply, and fees are assessed for administrative costs and inspection.

General Assembly Update: David Blount reported that the General Assembly is scheduled to adjourn its regular 60-day session on March 8, but it doesn't look like the budget agreement can be reached and the budget printed in time to adjourn on that date. The impact fee bill SB768 has been carried over. The Speaker of the House will write a letter to ask localities not to change proffer policies in the next year. Vetoes on gun bills, allowing concealed weapons in restaurants and closed containers, were upheld. The House made a concession on education funding, with changes in SOQ methodology taken off the table. The Senate will push to retain funding for drug courts in the budget. Secondary road funding has been reduced about 40%. Abusive driver fees were repealed. Three resolutions were put in regarding the Comprehensive Services Act (CSA), but two of them were not considered and the third was left in committee (defeated). The Senate version of the budget includes an amendment to examine CSA administrative costs, as requested by the TJPDC, but the House version does not. There may be a special session due to the court ruling on transportation authorities in Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads. The Commission requested a list of the region's legislators and the 15 bills each submitted.

CDBG Program Regional Priorities: A memo with recommended priorities was included in the meeting packet. Carl Schmitt requested that Housing Rehabilitation be listed as 2 in the Priority I Category, with Housing Production dropping to 3. **On a motion by Sally Thomas, seconded by Grant Tate, the Commission approved the priorities, amending the order of items 2 and 3 in the Priority I Category.**

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.