



UPPER SHORE Regional Council

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 17, 2021
Hybrid Virtual “Go to Meeting”
Kent County Visitor Center
4 pm

Council Members in Attendance: Ron Fithian (Secretary) Kent County Commissioner

Council Members Virtual Attendance:

Chris Corchiarino (Chairman), Q.A.’s County Commissioner
Tom Mason (1st Vice Chair), Kent County Commissioner
Jackie Gregory (2nd Vice Chair), Cecil County Councilwoman
Bob Meffley (Treasurer) Cecil County Councilman
Jack Wilson (3rd Vice Chair) Queen Anne’s Commissioner
Bob Jacob, Kent County Commissioner

Guests: Jim Massey, Cecil Council Manager

Staff: Susan O’Neill, USRC Executive Director
Janice Palmer, USRC Executive Assistant

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Board Chairman Chris Corchiarino welcomed everyone. The meeting was delayed until 4:12 for lack of a quorum.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Corchiarino requested a motion for the approval of the March 17, 2021 Full Council Meeting Minutes. Bob Meffley motioned approval, Ron Fithian seconded. Jack Wilson abstained because he was not in attendance. All were in favor.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Director Susan O’Neill reported the Full Council will meet on Friday, August 20, 2021 at the MACo Summer Conference. A room has been reserved from 10:30 am – 11:45 am just prior to the Joint Council Luncheon in the Powell conference center.

- B. The next Executive Board Meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2021. The FY22 Scope of Work and Budget will be presented for approval. Once approved, applications will be sent to Commerce and Rural Maryland Council. It is important that all officers attend, as a quorum is needed. Chair Corchiarino requested that this meeting be in person, rather than virtual. It was suggested to meet at the Chesapeake Heritage Visitors Center in Queen Anne's County. Susan will make the arrangements to have a dinner meeting.
- C. A new rack card, listing USRC programs will accompany a mug and be distributed to local organizations such as municipalities, chambers of commerce, the farm bureau etc.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Susan reviewed the options for sponsoring the 5* International at Fair Hill, and asked for a discussion on FY22 funding. Upon review, the board decided that an initial sponsorship of \$5,000 would be appropriate. A motion to approve \$5,000 was made by Ron Fithian and seconded by Bob Meffley. All were in favor.
- B. Susan updated the board on the Log Treatment Project. Virginia Tech is still awaiting certification approvals and hopes are to begin the project in September.
- C. Susan updated the Board on the 6% RIMPIF Funding, delayed due to COVID 19. We have received the money and can expect 100% funding for the FY22 budget. We have not heard from the Department of Commerce on FY22 allocations.

V. TREASURERS REPORT

Dawson Hunter has requested \$15,000 of the Kent Transportation grant be rolled over to FY22. Plans were disrupted due to COVID.

Bob Meffley motioned for the Treasurers Report to be accepted. Ron Fithian seconded. All were in Favor.

VI. UPDATES

Jim Massey reported that several accolades were made about the USRC funding for Broadband Expansion in Cecil County at recent county meetings.

VII. ADJOURN

With no further discussion, Chris Corchiarion requested a motion for adjournment. Ron Fithian motioned, and Jackie Gregory seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Palmer
USRC Executive Assistant