

RMC Executive Committee
March 27, 2015
Maryland Department of Agriculture
Annapolis
Minutes

Attendees: S. Warner, Chair, D. Mason, 1st Vice Chair, J. Hastings, 2nd Vice Chair, M. Pennington, Immediate Past Chair, D. Rider, E. Mattox, K. Vernacchio, staff, C. Davis, Executive Director

The meeting convened at approximately 12:30 pm.

The Committee reviewed the January 13, 2015 Executive Committee meeting minutes. Mr. Mattox moved to approve the minutes; Mr. Hastings 2nd; the motion was approved. The minutes from the January 30, 2015 Executive Board meeting will be circulated for comments and corrections.

Financial Report: Davis

The financial report was presented with \$156,378.48 in spending of \$262,586.00 in available funds for Fiscal Year 2015. The Executive Director reported that LEAD Maryland will be unable to use the \$3,000 approved for alumni events. Mr. Mattox suggested that the funds be committed to the UMES Small Farm Bus Tour. Ms. Mason moved to commit the \$3,000 for the UMES Small Farm Bus Tour; Mr. Hastings seconded; the motion was approved. There was a suggestion to update the Council's trade show display. Mr. Pennington moved to accept the financial report as submitted by Ms. Davis; Ms. Mason seconded; the report was accepted.

Nominating Committee: Pennington

New members were approved at the Annual Meeting; however there are expected vacancies with the incoming administration.

Youth Engagement and Assessment Initiative: Mason

Ms. Mason reported that Washington College has been working on a dashboard to present survey results as part of the youth engagement initiative. She will present the dashboard to the full Council at the next meeting.

Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund: Pennington

The Council has been soliciting letters of support from legislators. Additional letters received include one from Sen. Joan Conway Carter.

Legislative Committee: Hastings

Ms. Hastings provided an update on the Legislative Session. The committee has been meeting every two weeks. The Council held a Rural Lobby Day which was the same day at the Taste of Eastern Shore and the Maryland Economic Development Association lobby day. For next year, the Taste of Eastern Shore will be held on the 2nd Thursday of February in 2016, February 11, 2016.