

Minutes

Rural Maryland Council Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, September 22, 2017 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Conference Call

Participants:

Josh Hastings, Chair	Lara Wilson, Health Care Committee Co-Chair
Matthew Tefteau, First Vice Chair	
Erroll Mattox, Second Vice Chair	
Mike Pennington, Nominating Committee Chair	
Mike Thielke, Joint Planning Committee Chair	
Dan Rider, Rural Maryland Foundation President	RMC Staff: Charlotte Davis, Executive Director
Scott Warner, Immediate Past Chair and RMP Committee Chair	Meredith Donaho, Program Administrator

Chair Hastings called the meeting to order at approximately 12:34 pm.

Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the June 13, 2017 Executive Committee Meeting. No comments or suggestions for revisions were made. A motion was made by Erroll Mattox to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mike Pennington, and all were in favor. The minutes from the June 13, 2017 Executive Committee Meeting were accepted unanimously.

Financials – FY18 Budget

Charlotte Davis presented the FY2018 Budget as of September 18, 2017. The Rural Maryland Council has total operating available revenue of \$464,503.95, and total grant expenditures of \$49,413.05. All grant agreements for Maryland Agriculture Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund (MAERDAF) and Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund (RMPPIF) awards have been mailed to awardees. An updated total of grant expenditures will be provided at the next Committee meeting. The Rural Maryland Council will also be meeting with Department of Budget and Management Secretary Brinkley in October to discuss RMPPIF for Fiscal Year 2019. A motion was made by Mike Pennington to accept the FY18 budget. The motion was seconded by Erroll Mattox, and all were in favor. The FY18 budget was unanimously accepted.

The Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA) provided a request to the Executive Committee in May for approval of a proposal for Phase Two of the Maryland Rural Health Plan. The proposal includes a funding request of \$50,000.00 for Phase Two of the project to include a state-wide evaluation process with input from community stakeholders and dissemination to the health care community. The funding request would provide support for the salaries and wages for the MRHA Executive Director and Administrative Assistant, travel expenses, and supplies associated with implementing Phase Two of the Maryland Rural Health Plan. A motion was made by Mike Thielke to move the proposal to the Executive Board for final approval. The motion was seconded by Matt Tefteau, and all were in favor. The Phase Two Maryland Rural Health Plan will be presented for final approval to the Rural Maryland Council

Executive Board on Friday, September 29, 2017 at the Executive Board and Fall Quarterly meeting.

Health Care Committee

Lara Wilson, Co-Chair, provided an update for the Health Care Committee. The Committee will continue to be focused on the Rural Health Plan for the State of Maryland. Phase One of the Rural Health Plan has been completed.

Legislative Committee

Charlotte Davis provided an update of the Legislative Committee; Co-Chairs Odette Ramos and Lindsay Thompson were unavailable. The Committee will set-up a meeting in November to discuss 2018 Legislative Priorities. The Rural Maryland Council will also be working with Delegate Lierman and Senator Eckardt in the upcoming legislative session on an Angel Investor Tax Credit bill.

RMC/RMF Joint Planning Committee

RMC/RMF Joint Planning Committee Chair Mike Thielke provided an update. There are no new updates at this time.

Rural Maryland Foundation (RMF)

Dan Rider, President of the Rural Maryland Foundation provided an update on the Foundation's activities. The RMF conducted a close-out call on the Transfer of Wealth (TOW) Study with the Center for Rural Entrepreneurship, and will be working on strategies for Phase Two of the TOW project. More information will be shared at the next meeting.

GICA

Erroll Mattox, Chair of the GICA Committee, shared that a GICA meeting is scheduled for sometime in the fall.

RMPIF

Chair Scott Warner provided an update for RMPIF. Copies of press releases announcing the awardees for FY18 for MAERDAF and RMPIF were shared. For RMPIF, a total of 53 applications were submitted with a total of \$4,152,568.00 requested. A total of 27 grants totaling \$1,571,999.00 were distributed to 27 organizations. For MAERDAF, a total of 119 applications were submitted with a total of \$1,642,296.00 requested. A total of 34 grants totaling \$680,515.00 were distributed to 32 organizations.

Executive Director's Report

Charlotte Davis shared that the Rural Maryland Council hosted the Partners for Rural America (PRA) Annual Conference from September 10th-13th, which included trips to the Eastern Shore and Washington, DC. The Council met with Congressman Andy Harris and a representative from Congressman Van Hollen's office. Charlotte has been elected chair of PRA. The Rural Maryland Council has also attended the Maryland Municipal League Conference, Tawes Crab and Clam Bake, and the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) Conference. Charlotte is also the chair of the Taskforce for Rural Broadband, which held a meeting at Chesapeake College on September 19, 2017. An op-ed regarding rural broadband written by Chair Hastings and published in the Baltimore Sun was shared with the Committee.

New Business

September 29th Fall Quarterly and RMC Executive Board Meeting and Agenda:

Charlotte Davis shared a draft agenda for the September 29th Fall Quarterly and Executive Board Meeting. The meeting will be located at Nick's Airport Inn in Hagerstown. Charlotte will follow-up with securing a local business to spotlight and will reach out to the Hagerstown Regional Airport for a guest speaker. It was agreed the Rural Impact Awards would be added to the Executive Board agenda, calls for nominations will be announced at the meeting.

Nominating Committee:

Chair Hastings informed the Committee that he will be campaigning for election to the Wicomico County Council, and asked the Committee if his campaign would conflict with his position on the Rural Maryland Council Board. The Committee agreed the campaign would not conflict, and Chair Hastings will continue to serve as Board Chair. The Rural Maryland Council will ask for nominations to the Executive Board at the September 29th Executive Board meeting, and will reauthorize current membership.

2017 Rural Summit:

Charlotte Davis shared that there are currently 20 sponsors for the 2017 Rural Summit. Registration is now open, and a copy of the draft agenda is available on the conference webpage. Delegate Gaines and Senator Eckardt have confirmed they will attend the Legislative Panel for the conference. The Rural Summit Planning Committee will next meet on October 4, 2017.

Adjournment

With no other business to discuss, Chair Hastings asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 2:03 pm.

The next RMC Executive Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, October 24, 2017, Location TBD.