

RMC Fall Quarterly and Executive Board Meeting
Friday, September 28, 2018, 12pm – 2pm,
Rod N' Reel Restaurant, 4165 Mears Ave, Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732
Meeting Minutes

Participants:

Peggy Alpert
Chris Benzing
Debbie Bowden
Trish Bucci
Lorig Charkoudian
Dan Delmonte
Cheryl DePinto
The Honorable George
Edwards
Dean Fisher
Jason Fowler
Kurt Fuchs
Andrew Garte
Rodney Glotfelty
The Honorable Jeannie
Haddaway-Riccio
Jim Hanson
Gretchen Hardman
John Hartline
Wayne Hartman
Josh Hastings
The Honorable Seth
Howard
Linda Kohler
Theresa Kuhns
Roberta Loker
Sharan Marshall
Erroll Mattox
Alan McCarthy
Steve McHenry
Gregory Padgham
Mike Pennington
Steve Pennington
Andrew Roscoe
Alice Settle-Raskin
Robert Edward Smith

Cindy Stone
Matt Tefteau
Lindsay Thompson
Scott Warner
Shelby Watson-Hampton

Guest Speakers:
Mr. Buddy Bowling,
State Outreach
Coordinator, United
States Department of
Agriculture (USDA);
Ms. Jamie Tiralla,
Owner, All Ag Media

RMC Staff:
Executive Director,
Charlotte Davis;
Program Administrator,
Meredith Donaho;
Administrative
Assistant,
Amanda Clevenger

Chair Josh Hastings called the meeting to order at 12:45pm.

Chair Hastings called for a round of introductions and requested announcements from participants. Chair Hastings also acknowledged elected officials and candidates campaigning for local office.

Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the April 6, 2018 RMC Spring Quarterly Board Meeting. No comments or suggestions for revisions were made. A motion was made by Mike Pennington to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Erroll Mattox, and all were in favor. The minutes from the April 6, 2018 Spring Quarterly Board meeting were accepted unanimously.

Guest Speaker – Mr. Buddy Bowling, State Outreach Coordinator, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Mr. Bowling provided an overview of existing partnerships the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) currently has to fulfill its mission to create sustainability, build capacity and support development. Mr. Bowling also provided a history and background of the NRCS, and shared online resource tools for educators, and scholarship opportunities.

“Local Business Spotlight” – Ms. Jamie Tiralla, All Ag Media

Ms. Tiralla shared an overview of her agriculture marketing and media business located in Southern Maryland. Ms. Tiralla shared her challenges as a small business owner, her experiences, and how her business supports and enhances local agriculture enterprises and initiatives.

Committee Reports

Financial

Charlotte Davis presented the FY2019 Budget as of September 11, 2018. The Rural Maryland Council has total operating available revenue of \$513,917.00, and no grant expenditures as of yet. There was a total of \$82,460.59 leftover from Fiscal Year 2018 that has been encumbered to provide for costs for updating the online Rural Stat widget. A motion was made by Kurt Fuchs to accept the financials report. The motion was seconded by Rodney Glotfelty. All were in favor, and the financials report was unanimously accepted.

Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund (RMPIF)

Chair Scott Warner provided an update for the RMPIF Committee. Chair Warner provided a revised press release which announced FY19 RMPIF and Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund (MAERDAF) grant recipients. The RMPIF Committee plans to meet in the fall to discuss program evaluation needs, metrics for reporting, and revisions in the online applications for stronger language and final report expectations. Chair Warner thanked Governor Hogan and his administration for their support of RMPIF.

Legislative

Legislative Committee Co-Chair Lindsay Thompson provided the update; Co-Chair Odette Ramos was not available. The next Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2018 via conference call. Rural Maryland Day is scheduled for Thursday, February 14, 2019 in Annapolis, the Rural Maryland Council will partner with the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts to host a joint luncheon in the Senate building. Copies of the 2018 Legislative Review were made available.

Rural Maryland Foundation (RMF)

Charlotte Davis provided an update of the RMF; RMF President, Dan Rider, was unavailable to provide an update. Copies of the finalized strategic concept paper for the Transfer of Wealth Study were distributed. The RMF is also continuing work on the Rural Aspirations Video 2.0, the RMF will meet October 4, 2018 to further discuss the video draft and next steps.

Agriculture

Agriculture Committee Chair, Erroll Mattox, provided an update. The comment period on industrial hemp ends on Monday, October 1, 2018.

Executive Director's Report

Charlotte Davis shared that the Task Force for Rural Broadband met September 26, 2018 at Rocky Gap Casino and Resort in Cumberland. The Task Force will continue work on a recommendations report that is due by November 30, 2018. Rural Maryland Council staff also attended the Partners for Rural America (PRA) conference in Utah from September 16 – September 19, 2018. Charlotte Davis has been re-elected as Chair of PRA. Copies of the Rural Maryland Council staff activity logs were provided.

New Business

Nominating Committee Chair Mike Pennington shared copies of the nomination guidelines for the 2018 Rural Impact Awards. He requested nominations for the awards, and requested nominations for elections to the Rural Maryland Council Executive Board.

Adjournment

With no other business to discuss, Chair Hastings requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 2:20pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 29, 2018, 6pm – 8pm, Yellowfin Steak and Fish House, 2840 Solomons Island Road, Edgewater, MD 21037