



RMC Joint Planning and Development Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Type: Zoom Teleconference

Participants: Chair Mike Thielke, John Hartline, Don Mulrine, Daniel Rider, Scott Warner, Susan Harrison
RMC Staff: Charlotte Davis, Amanda Clevenger, Molli Cole

Chair Mike Thielke welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:04 am. Chair Thielke reviewed the August 1, 2023, meeting minutes with the Committee. Thielke moved to approve the minutes; John Hartline seconded the motion. The August 1, 2023 meeting minutes were unanimously approved. Ms. Davis provided an update on the 2023 Rural Issues Survey Planning with the committee. She stated that it was discussed at the last meeting that a decision was made to take a year off and wait until 2024 to produce a better survey and that RMC staff are in the process of reaching out to the Schaefer Center at the University of Baltimore as another option for creating the survey.

Chair Thielke reviewed the FY2025-FY2027 Strategic Plan proposal by LaCharla Figgs with the committee. The committee suggested that the Rural Maryland Foundation have a separate strategic plan from the Rural Maryland Council. Daniel Rider made the motion for the Rural Maryland Foundation to have a separate strategic plan in the coming year, Scott Warner seconded the motion. The motion to have a separate strategic plan for the Rural Maryland Foundation in the coming year was unanimously approved. The committee discussed the FY2025-FY2027 Strategic Plan proposal. It was suggested to reduce the number of group sessions that the council would have in the planning process and to increase the number of interviews with outside stakeholders. John Hartline made the motion that an updated proposal would be presented at the next RMC Executive Committee meeting in November. Don Mulrine seconded the motion, the motion to present an updated proposal at the next RMC Executive Committee was unanimously approved.

Ms. Davis shared the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement with the committee. The committee decided to discuss a more updated version of the statement at the next committee meeting.

Ms. Davis shared the FY2024 Work Plan with the committee. She stated that the highlighted sections in the plan needed to be reviewed by the committee. The committee discussed continuing to support the Rural Caucus. Mike Thielke made the motion to recommend to the RMC Executive Committee that the council expand the existing Rural Caucus to include additional topic areas of importance and for them to decide at the November Executive Committee meeting before the 2024 Maryland General Assembly Legislative Session. Daniel Rider seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the committee. Ms. Davis recommended to remove the current RMPIF legislation that was included in the work plan. Scott Warner made the motion that the RMPIF legislation be removed from the work plan. Don Mulrine seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the committee. Ms. Davis stated that the YouthEngagement Committee was included in the work plan to be reinstated. Daniel Rider made the motion to reinstate the Youth Committee to meet in the fall of 2023 to prepare for the strategicplanning process. Scott Warner Seconded the motion, the motion to reinstate the Youth Committee was unanimously approved. Ms. Davis stated that upcoming ESEC F3 Tech events andthe RESI Research and Data Study were included in the work plan. Scott Warner made the motion to remove the ESEC F3 Tech events and the RESI Research and Data Study from the work plan. DonMulrine seconded the motion, the motion to remove the ESEC F3 Tech events and the RESI Research and Data Study from the work plan was unanimously approved.

The committee discussed the date for the next meeting, and it was decided the next committee meeting would be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 11:43 am.