



RMC Quarterly Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: March 31, 2023, 12 pm – 2pm

Location: Banneker Douglass Museum, 84 Franklin Street, Annapolis, MD 21401

Participants: Charlotte Davis, Megan D’Arcy, Molli Cole, Amanda Clevenger, Don Mulrine, Dan Schneckeburger, Leslie Hart, Matt Holloway, Holly Porter, Greg Padgham, John Hartline, Matthew Scales, Annette Williams, Roseanna Vogt, Melissa Kelly, Zack Tyndall, Elizabeth Hulett, Bill Valentine, Steve Pennington, Lori Ratzburg, Sara Seitz, Dawson Hunter, Terry Fearins, Janet Brittingham, Ruth Toomey, Matthew Tefteau, Lisa Challenger, Julie Woepke, Elizabeth Chung, Bill Reid, Alice Settle-Raskin, Kimberly Kratovil, Jessica Cook, Alyssa Hastings, Nancy Fields, Chris Abell, Claudia Cunningham, Patricia Eleazer, Kevin Anderson

Participants were asked to get their lunch and find their seats before the program began. Once participants were seated, Chair Susan O’Neill welcomed everyone and convened the meeting at 12:25pm. Chair O’Neill welcomed LeRonn Herbert, Administrative Manager for the Banneker Douglass Museum to the podium to share remarks about the venue. Chair O’Neill introduced the guest speaker – Secretary of Commerce Kevin Anderson to address the audience.

Chair Susan O’Neill asked the participants to review the January 27, 2023, Executive Board meeting minutes, and asked for a motion to approve the January 27, 2023 meeting minutes. **Dr. Heidi Anderson made the motion to accept the meeting minutes, Mr. Matt Tefteau seconded the motion. The January 27, 2023, meeting minutes were unanimously approved.**

Charlotte Davis provided the FY2023 budget report stating that the majority of the funds have been distributed. Ms. Davis asked the Board to delegate the authority for the end of the year close out to the Executive Committee who will meet in May as the Board does not meet again until September. **Ms. Elizabeth Chung made the motion to accept the FY2023 budget report, Dr. Heidi Anderson seconded the motion. The FY2023 budget report was unanimously accepted.** Chair O’Neill asked for a motion for the Executive Board to delegate authority to the Executive Committee to make the FY2023 end of the year decisions. **Mr. Dawson Hunter made the motion for the Executive Board to delegate authority to the Executive Committee to make end of the year FY2023 budget decisions, Mr. Bill Valentine seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Charlotte Davis asked everyone to thank Governor Moore and the presiding officers for fully funding RMC in FY2024. Ms. Davis shared that an additional \$300,000 was given to the RMC in the FY2024 budget and Ms. Davis believes the intended use of these funds is to go towards the Council’s Health and Human Services Transportation Program. Ms. Davis asked for guidance from the Board on what to do with these funds and suggested that they go to RMPHF – Health Care and carve out a special section for non-emergency transportation. **Mr. John Hartline made the motion to put the money towards non-emergency transportation, Mr. Matt Tefteau seconded the motion. The motion to utilize the \$300,000 towards non-emergency transportation was unanimously approved.**

Ms. Charlotte Davis reported that the Council is currently preparing for the FY2024 grant cycle and referred to the updated FY2024 guidelines and criteria that were in the meeting packet. Ms. Davis reviewed the breakdown of funds with the Board and asked for a motion to support the distribution of funds that were nominally changed for administrative purposes. **Mr. John Hartline made the motion to accept the**

nominally changed breakdown of funds, Mr. Matt Tefteau seconded the motion. The motion to accept the FY2024 fund breakdown was unanimously approved. Ms. Davis shared the grant cycle dates and upcoming information sessions, and reviewed updates to the FY2024 grant guidelines and criteria. She informed the Board that RMC has a bill (HB695) in session this year and it's intention is to include workforce development and cooperative development in RMPIF under the Entrepreneurship focus area. Ms. Davis asked the Board to accept the FY2024 guidelines and criteria. **Mr. John Hartline made the motion to accept the FY2024 guidelines and criteria, Ms. Sara Seitz seconded the motion. The FY2024 guidelines and criteria were unanimously accepted.**

Ms. Charlotte Davis provided the Legislative Committee report. Ms. Davis thanked everyone who participated in Maryland Day, which was held on Friday, March 24, 2023, and stated 225 lunches were distributed to legislators and their staff. Ms. Davis provided an update on the two RMC bills (HB 695: Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund – Revisions and Sunset Repeal (Rural Communities Improvement Act of 2023) and HB596/SB51: Health and Human Services Transportation Improvement Act of 2023) and additional rural related bills as well as a successful supplemental request for broadband.

Agriculture Committee Chair Matt Tefteau reported that the Committee plans to convene after session and agenda items will include updating members on GICA and the directions of the Department of Agriculture under new leadership.

Health Committee Chair Sara Seitz reported that the Committee is working on developing on their goals and values that are the following: advocacy and connection of partners to build awareness of health needs in rural Maryland; development of a robust health care workforce across the state; rural populations' access to health care through innovative and appropriate models of care; and, understanding of the interconnectedness of rural Maryland's health with all aspects of Maryland. Values include inclusion, equity, social drivers of health, advocacy, and innovation. Ms. Seitz shared that the Committee will be meeting virtually quarterly on the fourth Wednesday of the month and the next meeting is May 24, 2023, at 10:00am.

Charlotte Davis provided the Joint Planning and Development Committee report. Ms. Davis stated that the Council recently completed a membership campaign that generated 32 new members. The campaign entailed 4 activities that included a targeted video, Facebook advertisement, a reveal add, and a targeted email. Ms. Davis stated that the Council is currently developing the 2023 rural issues survey and hired the University of Maryland Institute for Governmental Service and Research (IGSR) to develop a more robust survey. Ms. Davis asked Board Members to write questions they might have for the survey on post-it notes. The questions were collected on an easel pad and questions were given to the IGSR team. The survey will be open from June through August.

Ms. Charlotte Davis report on the Rural Maryland Foundation stating that the Board is looking to establish a one year Rural Research Grant Program and topics will include Transfer of Wealth; Analysis of Food Distribution and Production; Impact of Solar Development on Farmland; Economic Development in Rural Maryland; and Volunteerism in Rural Maryland.

Ms. Charlotte Davis provided the Executive Director's Report. Ms. Davis welcomed the new RMC Program Coordinator Molli Cole. Ms. Davis stated that the Council hosted a successful EV Symposium in February that was attended by 55 people and included remarks from Paul Pinsky, Director of the Maryland Energy Administration and Diane Turchetta, Senior Advisor with the U.S. Department of Transportation as the keynote speaker. Ms. Davis stated that staff are focusing on legislative work, the upcoming grant cycle, planning the Broadband Symposium for June 21, 2023 and, planning the Rural Summit.

The Board discussed the changes to the By Laws that included 1) adding membership to the nominating committee so it will read 'Nominating and Membership Committee' to expand its function and 2) to move the

Health Committee from a Standing Committee to an Ad Hoc Committee section. **Mr. Dawson Hunter made the motion to expand the function of the Nominating Committee to include Membership, Ms. Elizabeth Chung seconded the motion. The motion to add membership functions to the Nominating Committee so it will read Nominating and Membership Committee was unanimously approved. Mr. John Hartline made the motion to move the Healthcare Committee from a Standing Committee to an Ad Hoc Committee, Ms. Elizabeth Chung seconded the motion. The motion to move the Healthcare Committee from a Standing Committee to an Ad Hoc Committee was unanimously approved.**

Chair Susan O'Neill thanked everyone for attending the meeting. **Mr. Dawson Hunter made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Sara Seitz seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 2:03pm.**