

# HIGH COUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

JUNE 19, 2017

### MINUTES

The Executive Board of the High Country Council of Governments met June 19, 2017, 7:00 p.m., at the High Country Council of Governments Office in Boone. The following members and alternates were present at the meeting: Charles Vines, J.B. Lawrence, Robert L. Johnson, Gary D. Blevins, Rick Miller, Dale Baldwin, William Sands, Chris Jones, Michelle Slaton, Larry Fontaine, Rennie Brantz, Russell Ferree, Vern Grindstaff, Mark Evans, Larry Turnbow, Johnny Riddle, and Brenda Lyerly. The following staff and guests were present at the meeting: Shane Fox, Jeff Hedrick, Keith Deveraux, Phil Trew, Joseph Melchionna, and Tanna Greathouse.

#### **CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION**

Chairwoman Lyerly thanked everyone for attending and called on Vern Grindstaff to lead the invocation. Chairwoman Lyerly then led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairwoman Lyerly introduced Joseph Melchionna to the board and stated he is currently interning with the Town of Banner Elk to learn more about local government.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

Rick Miller made a motion to approve the Executive Board minutes for May 15, 2017. Robert L. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

##### **May Financial Highlights**

Chairwoman Lyerly called on Executive Director Shane Fox to give details regarding the May financials. Mr. Fox reviewed the Financial Highlights as of May 31, 2017 (Attachment A). Charles Vines made a motion to approve the May Financial Highlights Report. Vern Grindstaff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

##### **Budget Amendment #2**

Mr. Fox then presented the board with Budget Amendment #2 (Attachment B). J.B. Lawrence made a motion to approve the proposed amendment. Gary D. Blevins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTION APPROVING REOPENING OF FACILITIES AT DOUGHTON PARK ON THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY**

Mr. Fox presented a final version of the resolution (Attachment C) supporting the reopening of facilities at Doughton Park that was previously presented at the May meeting. There were no additional changes or suggestions to the resolution. Rennie Brantz made a motion to approve the resolution. Dale Baldwin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**

Phil Trew, Planning & Development Director, updated the Board on area projects and the status of grant monies being awarded to support those projects. Mr. Trew mentioned 4 of these projects were in line with our CEDS.

**REPORT FROM THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR****Update on Regional Programs, Projects and Issues**

Mr. Fox recognized Phil Trew and planning staff for their role in sharing their expertise with granting applications that had an impact with granting agencies.

Mr. Fox presented the finalized version of our new Executive Board Orientation Manual to the board. He congratulated the clerk, Tanna Greathouse, for her role in guiding that project to completion.

On June 1 and 2, the state's COG directors met to discuss the future of the organization. The association will work with UNC School of Governments to develop a strategic plan to better outline the association's purpose and goals. The 2017 version of the NC Tomorrow Report, a combination of all the CEDS from across the state, had been updated and distributed to state legislators.

Mr. Fox announced the COG now has an official email newsletter that's easy to subscribe to and share with interested stakeholders.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

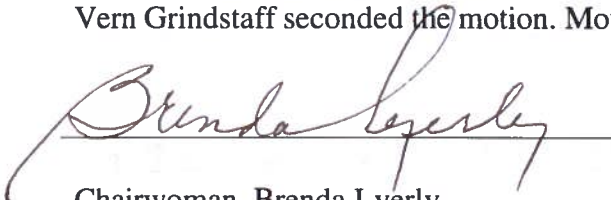
Vice Chair Johnny Riddle announced Mayland Community College had established the Bare Dark Sky Observatory. Hours of operation that are open to the public are available on Mayland's website. Mr. Riddle also announced "The Wall That Heals", a replica of the Vietnam Wall Memorial, would be available for viewing from October 12-15 at Mountain Heritage High School in Burnsville, NC.

**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

Chairwoman Lyerly thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

As there were no other comments or business, Robert L. Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Vern Grindstaff seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.



Chairwoman, Brenda Lyerly



Clerk to the Board, Tanna Greathouse

Date 7-17-17