

**DRAFT**

**ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

January 22, 2014

**BUSINESS MEETING:**

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission's Executive Board held its monthly meeting at the regional planning commission's office in Middlebury with the Chair, Harvey Smith, presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

*Bridport* Andrew Manning  
*Bristol*  
*Bristol* Chico Martin  
*Lincoln* Steve Revell  
*Middlebury* David Hamilton  
*Monkton* Thea Gaudette  
*New Haven* Harvey Smith

STAFF: Adam Lougee, Director

Harvey opened the meeting at 6:30.

**MINUTES**

**Thea Gaudette moved to approve the minutes. Chico Martin seconded the Motion. The minutes passed unanimously.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's report. Adam noted it is largely the same as the one presented to the full commission two weeks ago, with only minor changes. Adam noted that while revenues are running ahead of expenses, there are some pre-paid items in the budget that inflate revenue. He also noted that we have a couple significant billings that have not been billed. We are running very close to break even. **Steve Revell moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Dave Hamilton seconded the motion, which all approved.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Local Government Committee: Thea reported that the Committee had not met.

ACT250/248: Adam noted that the Commission had not received any new applications since the full Commission meeting.

Natural Resources: The Committee did not meet, but will meet next Monday. It will review the answers VT Gas supplied to ACRPC.

Energy: Harvey reported that Jeremy is in the process of setting a meeting of the energy committee. He noted it would probably also review Vermont Gas's responses to the questions the committee posed. He also noted that Neighborworks of Western Vermont has requested the opportunity to present to the Committee.

Transportation Advisory Committee: Andrew noted that the TAC's January meeting focused on prioritizing paving (leveling) projects for the Region. Adam handed out some maps and the TACs priorities for the Executive Board to review.

Plan Re-write. Adam noted that he needed to get this committee together shortly, but it had not met yet.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Vermont Gas Update: Adam discussed the pre-hearing conference that he had attended earlier in the day. He noted that Motions to Intervene would probably not be due until sometime in March after town meeting. He expects the first round of testimony will be due in late May or June, the hearings will be in September and the Public Service Board ("PSB") will issue a decision in December. He noted that the first thing the PSB would address concerns a jurisdictional issue involving the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC").

The Board also discussed Vermont Gas's answers to the questions ACRPC had sent them. Generally, the E Board was pleased with the quality of the responses. Adam noted he expected that the Committees would review the responses and continue their deliberations regarding the recommendations each would make to the Full Commission.

Health Insurance Update: Adam noted that the Commission would need to re-sign with BC/BS for the foreseeable future until the State network gets their financial house in order. He noted that this would cost about \$3,000 more than he had budgeted for.

Other: The Board asked Adam to make sure that even in full meetings that delegates all had a spot at the table. Adam noted he would do that. The Board also decided it would help everyone present to perform a roll call at the beginning of every meeting so everyone knows everyone else in the room.

Chico brought up the on-going conflict of interest issue. He theorized that one could argue that every person to be served by the line potentially had a conflict and that therefore, so many commissioners could be affected that ACRPC could not even vote. Thea responded that she believed strongly that any conflict must be specific to an individual and give them the ability to elevate their interest above that of other citizens. Steve agreed and emphasized that this was why the bylaws put the burden on an individual to make a decision. He also noted that the Commission needed to get beyond this distraction and focus on the substance of the issue before it. The board debated/discussed issues regarding conflicts for some time, but ultimately, did not make any decisions or take any votes.

Adam asked the Board whether they had any questions on the audit he had handed out at the full Commission. The board noted that it had already met with Vance Debouter, the auditor, the audit had not changed and therefore they had no questions.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Report sent to Towns for Annual Report. Adam handed out the year end summary he had distributed to the towns to insert in their annual reports. All felt it constituted a good summary of the Commissions' work.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Thea moved to adjourn. Steve seconded the motion. All approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by: Adam Lougee