

**DRAFT**

ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
October 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, Thea Gaudette, presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

*Bridport* Andrew Manning  
*Bristol*  
*Bristol* Chico Martin  
*Middlebury* David Hamilton  
*Middlebury* Ted Davis  
*Monkton* Thea Gaudette  
*Ripton* Jeremy Grip

STAFF: Adam Lougee, Director

Thea opened the meeting at 6:40.

**MINUTES**

**Chico Martin moved to approve the September 24<sup>th</sup> minutes. Jeremy Grip seconded the motion. The minutes passed by voice vote with all approving.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Board reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Adam noted that fund balances remain good. Revenues through August for the new fiscal year exceed expenses. **Jeremy Grip moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Chico Martin seconded the motion, which all approved.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Local Government Committee: The Committee will be meeting in Vergennes just before next full commission meeting on November 10th.

ACT250/248: Deferred until later in the agenda

Natural Resources: The Committee has not met since the last full commission meeting. Wendy Sue Harper, the new chair, was setting a meeting.

Energy: Jeremy reported the committee will host a meeting on "Best Practices for Solar Siting" at its next meeting on October 30, 2014 at 6:30 at ACRPC's office.

Transportation Advisory Committee: No Meeting in October.

Plan Re-write. Chico noted this committee met just before the full commission in October and reviewed the substantial regional impact Chapter of ACRPC's regional plan.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Vermont Gas Update: Adam presented the Executive Board with a summary of the proceedings. He noted that the Public Service Board had issued a decision in favor of permitting the Phase I project after the hearing on the remand because of the cost overruns. He also noted that FERC had waived its jurisdiction on the project. These were the two issues the PSB had been waiting to clear when it re-scheduled to January. The Board may or may not change the schedule again in response to these developments.

Emergency Management, HMGP Status. Adam noted that the State still expects to hear back regarding the success of the application it filed sometime in October. It also expects some additional time to move it through to a contract.

Lease Status: Adam noted that he signed a 1 year extension from our current landlord. The extension takes the lease out until June 30, 2016.

Transportation Planner: Adam noted that he had interviewed several candidates for the transportation planner position and would be doing more next week.

Audit Update: Vance DeBouter, ACRPC's accountant, worked at the Commission during the week of September 15<sup>th</sup>. Adam hopes he will have a draft audit completed for the Executive Board's review at its next meeting.

Other: Adam noted the next Executive Board meeting was scheduled for the Wednesday evening before Thanksgiving Day. He asked the Board if they would like to move it. **The Board voted unanimously to move the next meeting to the following Wednesday, December 3, 2014 at 6:30p.m.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

TDI New England: Adam handed out information on a new 1,000MW power line that TDI New England has proposed to run down the Vermont side of Lake Champlain. They have filed their 45 day letter necessary to file with the Vermont Public Service Board. Adam noted he has invited them to be our program speaker at the November full commission meeting.

Denecker Chevrolet Act 250 application: Adam noted that the Act 250 committee had found that the proposed Denecker Chevrolet project on the corner of Route 22A and Route 7 in Ferrisburgh would have substantial regional impact and had asked staff to prepare comments for ACRPC to file and participate. Tim had prepared those comments, which have been approved as the committee's recommendation. Generally, we would have the full Commission authorize them,

but there is not time prior to the District Commission's hearing. Therefore, as per the Bylaws, Adam has brought them to the Executive Board for approval. After some discussion and with two minor changes, the Executive Board approved the Act 250 committees recommended filing and instructed Adam to have staff attend the hearing tomorrow to present the comments.

Adam also handed out information on the new guidance from the Natural Resources Board regarding how to interpret the changes to criteria 9L passed last legislative session. In addition, he passed out ANR's filing of comments on the Denecker application. Adam noted that the Commission did not need to file testimony on 9L tomorrow because the District Commission would be holding a second hearing on the subject. However, he felt the Commission should have the guidance and should discuss them, since it has the potential to dramatically alter the balance of power in land use planning. The Board had a brief discussion on the guidance. David Hamilton noted that he was concerned that it would have the potential to prohibit a lot of good rural development projects. Jeremy Grip noted that he appreciated and supported the intent of the guidance, but acknowledged the concern over the shift to state control. The Board decided to continue the discussion until they had more time to digest the information.

Other: None.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Chico moved to adjourn. Andrew seconded the motion. All approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:  
Adam Lougee