

# Bennington County Regional Commission

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### Minutes

**Friday – February 28, 2025**

**8:30 AM**

**210 South Street, Suite 6, Bennington, VT and via ZOOM**

Attending: Nick Zaiac, Sheila Kearns, John LaVecchia, James Salerno, Bill Colvin (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 8:32am.

Colvin asked if there were any modifications to the agenda. There were none

Kearns moved and Kearns Zaiac the approval of December 20, 2024 Executive Committee meeting minutes. Approved.

#### Financial Update

Colvin reviewed that the FY24 audit prepared by RHR Smith. Je noted there were no adverse findings in the audit and that the audit has been provided to BCRC funding partners as required.

Zaiac moved and Kearns seconded that the BCRC accept the FY24 audit completed by RHR Smith. Approved.

Colvin provided an update on the financial performance of the BCRC for the six five months of the fiscal year (July 1, 2024-December 31, 2024). Both income and expenses are tracking very close to budget with no major variances.

Colvin next presented a proposed FY25 midyear budget walking the Executive Committee through areas of the budget that have changed since approval of the original FY25 budget in June 2024. The proposed midyear adjustment project slight increases in both revenues and expenses and a slightly larger net addition to the fund balance.

Salerno moved acceptance of the FY25 midyear budget adjustment. LaVecchia seconded. Approved

#### Staffing Update

Colvin provided an update on hiring a regional planner with Janet Hurley's departure to head the Vermont Land Use Review Board. There were nineteen applicants for the position from across the country and eight interviews were conducted. An offer was made and accepted on February 24, 2025

and the new staff member will begin work in April. Colvin also discussed with the board how existing BCRC staff is working to support Jonathan Cooper's work as he serves in the Vermont legislature four days per week.

#### Program Updates

Colvin provided program updates on topics, including:

##### Community and Economic Development

- Shaftsbury Economic Development Studies

- SVHC UUSDA TA

- Southern Vermont Economy Summit

##### Planning Programs

- Manchester Village Bylaws

- Manchester Town Plan

- Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) Program

- Municipal Technical Assistance Program (MTAP) - Landgrove, Sunderland, Rupert, Sandgate

- Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP)

- Emergency Management – Local Hazard Mitigation Plans; FEMA TA

- Transportation – Ninja Path, Traffic Calming, Manchester Pathway

##### Other Business

There was no other business.

##### Executive Session – Personnel

A motion to enter Executive Session to discuss Personnel matters was made by LaVecchia and seconded by Salerno. Approved. Recording was paused.

Recording was resumed. The Executive Committee emerged from Executive Session with no action being required.

Motion to adjourn was made by Salerno, seconded by Zaiac. Approved.

Adjourned at 9:24am.

Respectfully submitted,

William Colvin  
Director