

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Commission on Local Government
10:00 a.m., March 13, 2018
Main Street Centre

Members Present

Kimble Reynolds, Jr., Chair
R. Michael Amyx, Vice-Chair
Victoria L. Hull

Members Absent

Diane M. Linderman

Staff Present

J. David Conmy, Local Government Policy Administrator
Ali Akbor, Senior Public Finance Analyst
Kristen Dahlman, Senior Policy Analyst
Kyle Flanders, Senior Policy Analyst
Lindsay Barker, Program Support Specialist

Call to Order

The Commission on Local Government (CLG) Chair, Mr. Kimble Reynolds, called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

I. Administration

A. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 9, 2018

Mr. Michael Amyx moved to approve the minutes, as written. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hull and approved.

B. Public Comment Period

Mr. Reynolds opened the floor to receive comments from the public in attendance. No comments from the public were received; the public comment period was then closed.

C. Policy Administrator's report

Mr. Conmy then shared his Policy Administrator's report with the Commission. He reminded the Commissioner's that the Conflict of Interest Act (COIA) Economic Interest Statements were due February 1. He also noted that there has not been an update on the vacant Commissioner appointment, but he suspects there will be more activity on this topic now that the regular Session of the General Assembly has ended. Mr. Conmy stated that Courtney Dozier was appointed to the position of Chief Deputy. Ms. Dozier comes from the Pew

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Charitable Trust working on criminal justice reform, workforce development, election administration, and payday lending.

As for staff activities, Mr. Conmy added that staff had been very busy this Generally Assembly Session with bills assigned to the agency for review while some staff also simultaneously worked on a new federal program called Opportunity Zones. He explained that the Opportunity Zone Program will allow investors to receive tax benefits on currently unrealized capital gains by investing those gains in qualified census tracts, otherwise known as Opportunity Zones. He also noted that Mr. Ali Akbor traveled to Boston, Massachusetts for another meeting with Pew Charitable Trust on state local fiscal stress monitoring.

Finally, Mr. Conmy reviewed several news articles of interest with the Commission, including some that may lead to future case reviews by the Commission. One such case involves legislation introduced and enrolled during Session that would mandate a growth-sharing agreement between eight localities in Southwest Virginia. Mr. Conmy explained that this was subject to the same provisions as the Commission's recent review of the Covington-Alleghany County growth-sharing agreement in 2017. While the parties involved have not yet formally engaged with the Commission on the case, Mr. Conmy suggested that the Commission be sensitive to the unique nature of the case given the number of localities involved and the significant economic development profile such a case represents for such a large region. Mr. Conmy indicated that he would engage in some additional internal agency discussions on approaches to the case and update the Commissioners during their next meeting in May.

II. Fiscal Stress Report 2015/2016

A. Staff Update

Mr. Akbor stated that based on the discussion from the January meeting, staff is planning to produce the 2015/2016 Fiscal Stress Report at the July meeting. Currently Manassas Park and Hopewell are the only delinquent localities.

III. 2018 General Assembly Session

A. Staff Update

Staff provided an update to the General Assembly Session. This was the highest volume of bills assigned to the agency to date with 172 bills assigned for Legislative Action Summaries (LAS's), of which 16 were transferred to other agencies and four were comment LAS's. Mr. Akbor stated that 104 bills were assigned for review for fiscal impact, but only 26 bills qualified for assessment. Mr. Kyle Flanders reviewed bills of interest to the agency including changes to the Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC), Enterprise Zone Regulations, and the Virginia Residential and Landlord Tenant Act. Mr. Conmy and Ms. Kristen Dahlman presented bills of interest to the Commission to include: proffers, wireless communication infrastructure, student discipline, and revitalization of abandoned schools. Finally, session adjourned with no finalized budget so the General Assembly will reconvene for a special session on a date to be set by the Governor.

Ms. Hull inquired if staff would send thank you letters to the Fiscal Impact Statement (FIS) volunteers. Mr. Conmy indicated that he would coordinate with staff on ensuring that a thank you message is circulated to all volunteers.

IV. Assessment of State and Federal Mandates on Local Government

A. Staff Presentation

Ms. Dahlman presented the schedule of assessments for mandates (see attached) that were either new or significantly altered and have been in effect for two years. This included two mandates for review by the agency including the Virginia Main Street program and the two percent building permit levy.

B. Commission Deliberation and Action

Mr. Amyx moved that the Commission adopt the proposed assessment schedule. Ms. Hull seconded that motion, and it was unanimously passed by the Commissioners present at the meeting.

V. Governor's Task Force for Local Government Mandate Review

A. Staff Update

Mr. Conmy stated that no legislation had been filed that would extend the sunset date of the Task Force. The Task Force is currently due to sunset on July 1, 2018.

VI. Annexation Alternative's Study

A. Staff Update

Mr. Conmy stated that the report is currently being drafted, and as discussed at the January meeting, a draft version will be presented to the Commission at the May meeting. After feedback is received by the Commission, the report will then be shared with the stakeholders with another draft version to be presented at the July meeting for public comment. A final version will be adopted at the November meeting to be submitted to the Governor for the December 1 deadline.

VII. Commending Resolution for Mr. Bruce Goodson

Mr. Conmy presented a resolution for Mr. Goodson but suggested waiting until all commissioners were present to take action. There was also discussion on whether to include items under a Commissioner's time as chair or all events during their tenure on the Commission. The Commission decided it would recognize events that occurred while the Commissioner was chair; but, if nothing happened during that time, the resolution would include notable items that occurred during the Commissioner's overall tenure.

VIII. Other

Mr. Reynolds asked was there any other business for the Commission to discuss. There appeared to be no additional items for consideration.

IX. Schedule of Regular Meetings

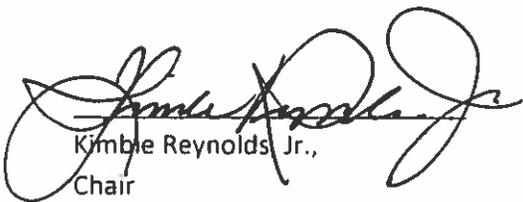
Mr. Reynolds noted that the next meeting of the Commission would be held Tuesday, May 8th at 10:00 a.m. at the Virginia Housing Center Board Room.

X. Upcoming Events of Interest

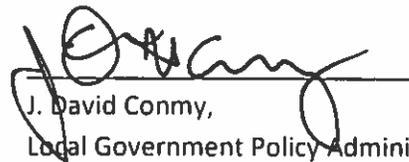
Mr. Reynolds reviewed upcoming dates and events of interest for the Commission.

XI. Adjournment

By consensus of the Commission, Mr. Reynolds called the meeting adjourned at 12:22 p.m.



Kimble Reynolds, Jr.,
Chair



J. David Conmy,
Local Government Policy Administrator