Bennington County Regional Commission

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes

Friday – August 22, 2025
8:30 AM
210 South Street, Suite 6, Bennington, VT and via ZOOM

Attending: Sheila Kearns, John LaVecchia, James Salerno, Dan Monks, Dimitri Garder, Bill Colvin (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 8:33am.

Colvin asked if there were any modifications to the agenda. He added one item to be discussed regarding the date for the October Executive Committee meeting.

Garder moved and LaVecchia seconded the approval June 27, 2025 Executive Committee meeting minutes. Approved.

FY25 Preliminary Financial Report

Colvin provided an overview of the FY25 preliminary financial report noting a net addition to the fund balance of $193,409. He cautioned these are preliminary numbers until the official audit is completed by year end.

Garder asked about investment strategy given the growing fund balance and amount of money sitting in low interest-bearing accounts. It was agreed that an Investment Committee consisting of Garder, Salerno and Colvin will meet with investment adviser D.B. McKenna prior to the October Executive Committee meeting.

Director 360-Review Discussion
Colvin informed the committee that following up on its request at the June meeting he met with staff to discuss possible ways it might be involved in the next review of the Director's performance. Options included Executive Committee members meeting with each staff person and the Executive Committee developing a short list of questions for the staff. Monks said he wanted to establish a process that was comfortable for the staff. Garder urged caution with how the information was handled. Kearns wanted to ensure that all personnel were protected. It was decided that for FY26 the Executive Committee will develop a list of 3-4 questions and staff will respond in writing sending their responses directly to the appointed Executive Committee member of members. This process will be completed in May or early June so the Executive Committee will have the information to consider as part of its evaluation of the Director's performance in late June.

Program Updates

Colvin provided program updates on topics, including:

Community and Economic Development
- SVHC USDA TA
- SVC Campus Redevelopment
- Benn High Redevelopment
- Putnam Phase 2

Planning Programs
- Regional Plan
- Bennington Municipal Plan
- Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) Program Applications – Manchester, Pownal, Sunderland, Old Bennington
- Emergency Management – Local Hazard Mitigation Plans; FEMA TA
- Transportation – TPI Midyear review

Other Business
Colvin requested a change in date for the October Executive Committee meeting from October 24, 2025 to October 17, 2025. The committee had no objections.

There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 9:26am.

Respectfully submitted,

William Colvin
Director