Bennington County Regional Commission

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes

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

Attending: Martha Cornwell, Sheila Kearns, Dimitri Garder, 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.

Garder moved and Kearns seconded the approval August 22, 2025 Executive Committee meeting minutes. Approved with Cornwell abstaining.

Investment Committee Report and Recommendation

Colvin provided an overview of the October 1st BCRC Investment Committee meeting with financial advisor Brian McKenna of D.B. McKenna and Company. Following a review of the current BCRC financial situation and recommendation of BCRC financial manager Amanda Stevens regarding how much cash to keep liquid, the Investment Committee decided to make a recommendation to the BCRC Executive Committee to transfer an additional $400,000 from savings at The Bank of Bennington to the investment account at D.B. McKenna. Following a discussion of this recommendation, Garder moved and Kearns seconded that BCRC transfer $400,000 from its savings at The Bank of Bennington to its investment account at D.B. McKenna and Company, Inc.. The motion was approved unanimously.

Nomination of Vice-Chair Candidate

Colvin noted that with the resignation of Dan Monks as a commissioner and Vice Chair of the Executive Committee, there will be a special election at the November 20th BCRC meeting to fill Monks' role on the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will need to put forth one or more names to appear on the ballot for that meeting. Colvin said he had spoken with Donald Campbell of Bennington and that Mr. Campbell is willing to serve as BCRC Executive Committee Vice-Chair for the remainder of Dan Monks' term. Colvin reminded the Executive Committee that all four officer positions will be up for election at the May 2026 BCRC Annual Meeting. Terms are for three years. Colvin asked if there were other nominees to be included on the ballot. There were none. Garder moved and Kearns seconded that

Donald Campbell of Bennington be nominated for election as Vice Chair of the Executive Committee to fulfill the remainder of Dan Monks' vacated term. Approved unanimously.

Colvin provided program updates on topics, including:

Community and Economic Development
- SVHC USDA TA
- Putnam Phase 2
- Energizer
- Workforce & Education Committee

Planning Programs
- Regional Plan
- Bennington Municipal Plan
- FY25 Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) Program – Manchester, Sunderland, Old Bennington
- FY26 MPG Applications due Nov 3rd – Arlington, Dorset, Pownal, Rupert, Shaftsbury, Stamford
- Emergency Management – Local Hazard Mitigation Plans; FEMA TA; EMPG
- Brownfield Program

Other Business
Garder asked about the meeting date for the December Executive Committee meeting. The committee agreed to move the meeting date up one week to the third Friday of the month. The December Executive Committee meeting will take place on December 19, 2025 at 8:30am.

There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 9:14am.

Respectfully submitted,

William Colvin
Director