

LENOWISCO Planning District Commission
Board of Directors' Meeting
October 4, 2010

The LENOWISCO Planning District Commission Board of Directors met on Monday, October 4, 2010, at 5:30 p.m. in the conference room of the LENOWISCO Planning District Commission, Duffield, Virginia.

Those members present were: Mr. Ben Allen, Mr. Ronnie Shortt, Mr. Mark Carter, Mr. Larry Mosley, Mr. Joe Herron, Mr. Bob Adkins, Mr. Robert Raines, Mr. Larry Vicars, Mr. Carl Bailey, Mr. Joe Horton, Mr. Kyle Fletcher, Mr. Homer "Pete" Sumpter, Mr. Danny Parks and Mr. Bobby Dorton.

Those members absent were: Mr. Robert Robbins.

LENOWISCO staff members present were: Mr. Glen Skinner, Executive Director; Mr. Frank Kibler, Senior Planner; Mr. Duane Miller, Deputy Director; and Ms. Zetta Ferguson, Project Management Director.

Others present were: Mr. Bob Picchi, Blue Ridge Advisory Services Group.

Following the invocation and pledge of allegiance, the Chairman, Mr. Joe Herron, called the meeting to order.

The first order of business was approval of the minutes for the August 2, 2010 Board meeting. On a motion by Mr. Mark Carter, duly seconded by Mr. Joe Horton, the Board unanimously approved the minutes.

The second order of business was approval of the agenda. Mr. Glen Skinner requested the following changes:

1. Move LENOWISCO, LLC business up to Item II to allow for Mr. Bob Picchi to be able to conduct his presentation and leave.
2. Add a request for reallocation of existing General Assembly funds for Thompson Settlement.
3. Consideration of a resolution commending Mr. Joe Smiddy to the new Item III.

On a motion by Mr. Larry Mosley, duly seconded by Mr. Bob Adkins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as amended.

The third order of business was the presentation of the financial report by Mr. Robert Raines. He reviewed the July and August financial reports for LENOWISCO PDC, LENOWISCO, Inc. I, and LENOWISCO, LLC. On a motion by Mr. Robert Raines, duly seconded by Mr. Ben Allen, the Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's report as presented.

The fourth order of business was the presentation of a proposed operating budget for LENOWISCO, LLC by Mr. Glen Skinner. On a motion by Mr. Robert Raines, duly seconded by Mr. Ben Allen, the Board unanimously approved the budget as presented.

The fifth order of business was a presentation of the FY2009 audits for the LENOWISCO Planning District Commission and LENOWISCO, LLC by Mr. Charles Lawson of Thrower, Blanton & Associates.

The sixth order of business was a closed meeting to discuss a matter with legal counsel pertaining to probable litigation as permitted by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(7) and discussion of a contract as permitted by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(29). On a motion by Mr. Ben Allen, duly seconded by Mr. Robert Raines, the Board voted unanimously to enter into the closed meeting.

After the closed meeting deliberations, a motion was made by Mr. Bob Adkins and duly seconded by Mr. Joe Herron, for the Board to return to an open meeting. This motion passed unanimously. In compliance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, the Board voted by roll call on the Certification of Closed Meeting. This certificate is attached to and a part of these minutes.

On a motion by Mr. Robert Raines, duly seconded by Mr. Larry Mosley, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to empower the executive director to negotiate, on behalf of the Board, a new operations contract agreement with Sunset Digital Communications. Such negotiation is intended to satisfy the default issue and completion of those negotiations must be tied directly to a new agreement between Sunset Digital Communications and LENOWISCO moving forward.

The seventh order of business was consideration of hiring an employee to be the broadband manager. On a motion by Mr. Robert Raines, duly seconded by Mr. Homer Sumpter, the Board unanimously voted to empower the executive director to immediately begin advertising for an employee to be the LENOWISCO broadband manager. Qualifications include civil engineering experience, telecommunications experience and contract/business management experience. Once candidates are identified, the full LENOWISCO Board of Directors shall have input into final selection.

The eighth order of business was a discussion of the ARRA Broadband Initiatives Program by Mr. Glen A. Skinner. He and Mr. Bob Picchi had attended a post-award workshop for the program.

The ninth order of business was an overview of the broadband project going forward by Mr. Bob Picchi. Mr. Picchi recommended some organization and structural changes to the project.

The tenth order of business was an update on the Appalachia / Big Stone Gap Rails-to-Trails project by Mr. Duane Miller. The project is completely funded and nearing the construction phase.

The eleventh order of business was an update on ARC project development by Mr. Duane Miller. At present time, he was only aware of one application being submitted by the University of Virginia's College at Wise.

The twelfth order of business was a report, by Mr. Duane Miller, on upcoming meetings with the public service authorities in the district to try to identify any possible Community Development Block Grant projects.

The thirteenth order of business, by Mr. Duane Miller, was to inform the Board that the Lee

County PSA had requested \$13,000, of the previously awarded construction funds for the Thompson Settlement project, be allowed to pay for easement acquisition. By consensus, the Board agreed to this request.

The fourteenth order of business was consideration of a resolution honoring Mr. Joe Smiddy, by Mr. Duane Miller. On a motion by Mr. Bob Adkins, duly seconded by Mr. Joe Horton, the Board voted unanimously to approve this resolution. This resolution is attached to and a part of these minutes.

The fifteenth order of business was the Executive Director's report by Mr. Glen Skinner, which included the following items:

1. He reported that submission of the Urban Development Sustainable Communities grant had taken place. The status of funding was unknown at this time.

2. Work on the Strategic Plan is still ongoing. LENOWISCO has finished its draft and gotten information back to Mr. Cian Robinson. He will be finalizing it and sending it to all participants in the process.

3. He provided an update on the in-house engineer stating he was waiting until things are resolved with the broadband project before going any further.

4. He appeared before the Virginia Tobacco Commission's Southwest Virginia Special Projects committee and was told they do not feel the LENOWISCO Solar Power Project is ready to be funded at this time.

5. He is still assisting with the Compressed Natural Gas project. The Tobacco Commission was asked to pull that project from consideration until further work can be done on the project.

6. Mr. Steve Gibson has turned in his retirement papers to Virginia Retirement System to be effective December 1, 2010.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

GLEN A. SKINNER
Secretary