



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
MARY BALL WASHINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**INTERVIEW PANEL**

May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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**MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING:** Billy Beale, Chair; Bruce Davis; Rob Quartel; Ann Lewis

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF:** Jennifer Morgan, GWRC; Neal Barber, Community Features

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Beale called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

None.

**PRESENTATION OF COMMERCIAL KITCHEN AT HULL SPRINGS**

The Interview Panel met with the Northern Neck Planning District Commission, who presented on behalf of the project partners, the Northern Neck PDC, Rappahannock Community College, Longwood University, Westmoreland County, and the US Department of Agriculture-Rural Development. Staff presented to the Interview Panel their comments and concerns on the project. The Interview Panel asked questions surrounding the need for this study in the region, who the customer base was, and how culinary arts would lead to higher paying jobs. Mr. Quartel moved to make the follow recommendation to the Regional Council:

- Recommended approval of the Commercial Kitchen at Hull Springs application with the modification of including customer interviews and examination of a digital supply chain model in the scope of work.

Mr. Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**PRESENTATION OF THE WESTMORELAND COUNTY WORKFORCE TRAINING CENTER EXPANSION**

The Interview Panel met with the Northern Neck Planning District Commission, who presented on behalf of the applicant, Westmoreland County. Staff presented to the Interview Panel their comments and concerns on the project. The Interview Panel asked questions surrounding demand for these additional classes, the availability of space at the site, how this project doesn't interfere with the current Northern Neck Workforce Training Study, and what the availability of broadband is at the site. Mr. Davis moved to make the follow recommendation to the Regional Council:

- Recommended approval of the Westmoreland County Workforce Training Center Expansion.

Ms. Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed three to one, with Mr. Beale voting no.

**PRESENTATION OF THE MIDDLE PENINSULA WORKING WATERFRONTS PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT**

The Interview Panel met with the Middle Peninsula Alliance, the project applicant. Staff presented to the Interview Panel their comments and concerns on the project. The Interview Panel asked questions surrounding the line of sight to higher paying jobs, how the applicant would engage additional partners, and how the applicant would have access to sites without certain partner approval. Mr. Quartel moved to make the follow recommendation to the Regional Council:

- Recommend return of application the Middle Peninsula Working Waterfronts Product Development to the applicant for additional support letters from localities, Virginia Sea Grant, VIMS, and other interested parties.



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Mr. Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**PRESENTATION OF THE FREDERICKSBURG REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY AGREEMENT**

The Interview Panel met with the Fredericksburg Regional Alliance, the project applicant. Staff presented to the Interview Panel their comments and concerns on the project. The Interview Panel asked questions about what a RIFA is, how it will involve localities, and what is the benefit for the region. Mr. Quartel moved to make the follow recommendation to the Regional Council:

- Recommend approval of the Fredericksburg Regional Industrial Facilities Authority Agreement.

Ms. Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**PRESENTATION OF THE FREDERICKSBURG REGIONAL ALLIANCE CLUSTER ANALYSIS**

The Interview Panel met with the Fredericksburg Regional Alliance, the project applicant. Staff presented to the Interview Panel their comments and concerns on the project. The Interview Panel asked questions about what is the benefit for the region. Mr. Quartel moved to make the follow recommendation to the Regional Council:

- Recommend approval of the Fredericksburg Regional Alliance Cluster Analysis.

Ms. Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with Mr. Davis abstaining from the vote.

**PRESENTATION OF THE MIDDLE PENINSULA SEAFOOD AND AGRICULTURE E-MARKETPLACE DEVELOPMENT**

The Interview Panel met with the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority, the project applicant. Staff presented to the Interview Panel their comments and concerns on the project. The Interview Panel asked questions about how the applicant knew the product would be utilized by buyers/sellers, how the app producer made money, what the potential market would be like, and how they would show success. Mr. Quartel moved to make the follow recommendation to the Regional Council:

- Recommend approval of the Middle Peninsula Seafood and Agriculture E-Marketplace Development application with the modification of including 25 customer and 25 seller interviews in pre development and an outcome report to Council.

Ms. Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Morgan, Economic Development Coordinator  
George Washington Regional Commission