

The Mid-Shore Regional Council held a scheduled quarterly meeting on December 12, 2013 at the Hyatt in Cambridge. Members in attendance included: Anne Fleming, Carolyn Spicher, Delegates Addie Eckardt and Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Dirck Bartlett, Maria D'Arcy, Robert Hanson, Bill Cooper, Walter Chase, Wilbur Levensgood and Larry Porter. Guests in attendance were Mike Thielke of ESEC, Mindie Burgoyne of DBED, Paige Bethke of Talbot County Economic Development, Jim McCormick the Caroline County IT Director, Kevin Deighan of Shore Gourmet, Chuck Cook representative of the Governors office, Kim Kratovil representative of Senator Cardin's office, Linda Prochaska representative of Senator Mikulski's office, Pat Mitchell and Tyler Patton of Maryland Broadband Cooperative, Doris Mason the Upper Shore Regional Council Executive Director, John Hartline the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland Executive Director, Amy Owsley and Josh Hastings of the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy, Richard Sossi, and Charlotte Davis the Rural Maryland Council Executive Director. MSRC staff present was Scott Warner and Terry Deighan.

#### Action Items

Chairman Bartlett called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m., at which time introductions were made. Chairman Bartlett announced he was in possession of Senator Richard Colburn's proxy. Also in Chairman Bartlett's possession were printed copies of the electronic votes by members Gale Nashold, Ricky Travers and Rick Price on the four voting items under Action Items. These signed votes will be placed among the minutes (see attached). Wilbur Levensgood was carrying a proxy for Jeff Ghrist.

#### *Approval of September 18, 2013 Minutes*

The first order of business was to obtain approval of the September 18, 2013 minutes. Mr. Chase made a motion to approve, the motion was seconded by Ms. Spicher and the minutes were approved by unanimous consent as presented.

#### *Ratification of Executive Board May 30, 2013 Minutes*

The next order of business was to ratify the minutes of the Executive Board meeting held on May 30, 2013. Mr. Chase made a motion to ratify the minutes, Ms. Spicher seconded the motion and the minutes were ratified by unanimous consent.

#### *Treasurer's Report*

The final action item was presentation of the current treasurer's report. Mr. Warner presented the report in Treasurer Kurt Fuchs absence. He stated that all expense and income are on track for our second quarter. There were no questions on the submitted report. Ms. Spicher made a motion to accept the report, Mr. Cooper seconded the motion and the report was accepted into record as presented by unanimous consent.

## Old Business

### *Eastern Shore Entrepreneurship Center (ESEC)*

ESEC Executive Director Mike Thielke gave the following updates.

ESEC held another round of Business Plan Competitions which included a \$35,000 adult competition as well as a student competition.

The revolving loan fund portfolio is approximately \$2 million and \$1 million is currently available.

Shore Venture held another year of entrepreneurship training classes that were fully supported by a foundation with refundable tuition for those completing the course.

hotDesks co-working space at the TCCLES building and startup community in Salisbury are both gaining momentum.

Recent funding included \$200,000 from DHCD to RLF portfolio and \$50,000 from local foundation to operating. \$30,000 is anticipated from RMAP USDA to operating.

### *Maryland Broadband Cooperative*

Mdbc President and C.E.O. Pat Mitchell proudly stated that Maryland Broadband has a presence in EVERY rural county in Maryland and can provide service in each county. He also stated that construction from Cambridge to Taylor's Island has started in preparation for the bay crossing.

### *Other Projects and Initiatives*

As time is limited Chairman Bartlett asked if anyone had any questions regarding any of the following:

- Regional Medical Center Campus EDA grant
- Business and Technology Parks: Caroline County or Dorchester County
- Maryland Upper Shore Transit (MUST)
- Shore Gourmet
- Eastern Shore Regional GIS Cooperative (ESRGC)
- GeoDASH Initiative
- Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) for Naval Air Station Patuxent River

## New Business

### *2014 Meeting Dates*

Chairman Bartlett stated that the MSRC meeting dates for 2014 are in your folders and these are tentative dates subject to change if necessary. They are:

- Thursday, March 13, 2014 – Talbot County
- Thursday, June 12, 2014 – Caroline County
- Thursday, September 18, 2014 – MSRC meeting and tour (maybe a Joint Regional Councils' Meeting/Tour)
- Thursday, December 11, 2014 – Dorchester County

## *Officer Selection*

Chairman Bartlett stated that at the November 22 MSRC Executive Board meeting the members discussed and is recommending the proposed slate for the 2014 officers of the MSRC; he stated that the following slate is in your packets:

2014 Proposed Executive Board Members are;

- Chairman: Walter Chase
- First Vice-Chairman: Andy Hollis (Talbot)
- Second Vice-Chairman: Ricky Travers (Dorchester)
- Third Vice-Chairman: Jeff Ghrist (Caroline)
- Secretary: Allen Nelson
- Treasurer: Kurt Fuchs
- General Assembly: Richard Colburn
- Member-at-large: Dirck Bartlett
- Member-at-large: Gale Nashold

The Chairman asked if anyone had any questions or recommendations, hearing none, Mr. Porter made a motion to accept the slate as presented, that motion was seconded by Ms. Spicher and the 2014 Executive Board Members were approved unanimously as presented.

### Other matters

Mr. Warner stated our next Mid Shore Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) meeting will be held on Thursday, January 2, 2014 at 12:00pm at the Talbot County Free Library in Easton and Mr. Pennington stated that this years "Taste of the Eastern Shore" legislative reception at the Loews Hotel in Annapolis will be held on Thursday, February 13, 2014 at 5:30pm. Invitations will be going out in January.

### Member comments/requests

Mr. Warner stated a great thanks to Mr. Bartlett for his service as MSRC Chairman for the past two years, and Ms. Deighan presented him with a small token of their appreciation for all his hard work. Mr. Bartlett stated he feels confident he is leaving them in good hands with Mr. Chase as Chair.

### Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned unanimously at 11:37 a.m. for lunch and a joint meeting with the Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore and Upper Shore Regional Council representatives.