

The Mid-Shore Regional Council held a scheduled Executive Board meeting on November 18, 2019 at the Mid-Shore Regional Council office. MSRC Executive Board members in attendance were Walter Chase, Chuck Callahan, Kurt Fuchs, Allen Nelson, James Redman, and Dan Franklin. MSRC staff present was Scott Warner and Terry Deighan.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Action Items

Approval of May 8, 2019 Minutes

Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Callahan seconded the motion. Chairman Chase stated we have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All in favor signify by stating aye; those opposed have the same rights. Ayes have it. Motion carried unanimously.

Financial Report

MSRC Treasurer Kurt Fuchs presented the financial report dated November 18, 2019. Mr. Callahan made a motion to approve the report. Mr. Redman seconded the motion. Chairman Chase stated we have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All in favor signify by stating aye; those opposed have the same rights. Ayes have it. Motion carried unanimously.

Ratification of electronic vote "Resolution accepting the MTA FY20 MTA Coordination Grant"

Mr. Warner stated he received 6 responses from the Executive Board; all were marked "Accept."

Mr. Fuchs made a motion to ratify. Mr. Nelson seconded the motion. Chairman Chase stated we have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All in favor signify by stating aye; those opposed have the same rights. Ayes have it. Motion carried unanimously.

MSRC Bylaws update

Mr. Warner stated that he had a conversation with MSRC attorney Curt Booth to discuss some wording in the MSRC Bylaws. Mr. Booth suggested that it would be a good idea to make the updates. The updates are not substantive, they are stylistic changes. The updates are:

- Article I
 - Deleting language that is not necessary in this paragraph. It is stated in Article II, Section 1.
 - Sighting Title 13 Sections 13-901 through 13-910 of the Economic Development Article, Annotated Code of Maryland.

- Article II
 - Section 1 – making the language mirror the Title 13 update from 2008
 - Section 2 – Sighting Title 13, Sections 13-901 through 13-910 of the Economic Development Article, Annotated Code of Maryland.
- Article III
 - Section 1 – Sighting Title 13, Sections 13-901 through 13-910 of the Economic Development Article, Annotated Code of Maryland.

Mr. Nelson made a motion to change the bylaws as stated. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. Chairman Chase stated we have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All in favor signify by stating aye; those opposed have the same rights. Ayes have it. Motion carried unanimously. The proposed change will be presented to the full Council for consideration.

MSRC membership

Mr. Warner stated that he met with Mike LeMire, Miles & Stockbridge, on September 6, 2019. Mr. LeMire currently serves on the MSRC as a private business representative from Dorchester County. Mr. LeMire said he would like to step down from serving on the MSRC. He is a big supporter of the MSRC and will continue to serve on the ESEC Loan Review Committee and the CEDS Committee. He is a proponent of having Bill Christopher to serve on the MSRC.

Mr. Nelson has also been strong a proponent of having Mr. Christopher serve on the MSRC. Mr. Christopher is the current executive director of the Dorchester Chamber of Commerce. He has been in the position for four years. Mr. Christopher used to be a health care executive, Senior Vice President of McKesson Corporation. He worked for McKesson for 17 years.

Mr. Warner added that he and Mr. Nelson have both spoken to Mr. Christopher and he is very willing to serve on the MSRC. Mr. Nelson then reinforced his support of having Mr. Christopher serve on the MSRC.

Mr. Nelson made a motion to add Bill Christopher to the MSRC. Mr. Callahan seconded the motion. Chairman Chase stated we have a motion and a second, any further discussion? All in favor signify by stating aye; those opposed have the same rights. Ayes have it. Motion carried unanimously.

Discuss/ approve recommendation of the 2020 MSRC Executive Board

Mr. Warner reminded the Board Members of the automatic changes to the Vice Chair positions that occur due to the MSRC By-Laws. They are 1st Vice Chair will be Talbot County, 2nd Vice Chair will be Caroline County, and 3rd Vice Chair will be Dorchester County. Additionally, he stated the General Assembly member will be Delegate Christopher Adams. After a discussion the following 2020 MSRC Executive Board slate was proposed.

- Chairman: Walter Chase
- First Vice-Chairman: Chuck Callahan (Talbot)
- Second Vice-Chairman: Dan Franklin (Caroline)

- Third Vice-Chairman: Ricky Travers (Dorchester)
- Secretary: James Redman
- Treasurer: Kurt Fuchs
- General Assembly: Christopher Adams
- Member-at-large: Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio
- Member-at-large: Allen Nelson

Mr. Franklin made a motion to accept the Executive Board slate as presented, Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. Chairman Chase asked any further discussion; all in favor signify by stating aye; those opposed have the same rights; ayes have it. Motion carried unanimously. The proposed slate will be presented to the full council at their December 4, 2019 meeting for consideration.

Updates/Discussion

Tentative 2020 MSRC Dates

Mr. Warner stated tentative 2020 MSRC tentative meeting dates are:

Thursday, March 5, 2020 – Talbot County

Thursday, June 11, 2020 – Caroline County

- Avoided the first week in June to avoid conflicts with all three counties' high school graduation dates

Thursday, September 10, 2020 – MSRC Meeting & Tour

Wednesday, December 9, 2020 – Dorchester County

- During Winter MACo

Workforce Housing – Residential Market Potential Analysis

Mr. Warner stated he met with Easton Economic Development Corporation (EEDC) Executive Director Tracy Ward, at her request, on November 8, 2019. She discussed the EEDC's interest in conducting a workforce housing analysis. The EEDC is exploring possible partnerships. Mr. Warner asked the MSRC Executive Board if they would have an interest in participating in the project.

After an in-depth discussion the Board stated that they would welcome a presentation and discussion on the specific analysis that the EEDC would like to conduct. Mr. Warner said he would contact Ms. Ward and communicate the MSRC Executive Board's interest.

Letters of endorsement sent by MSRC

Mr. Warner reminded the Executive Board members of several endorsement letters they approved to send. Copies of each letter were included in their meeting packets. The dates of each letter are in parenthesis.

- Easton Utilities – USDA ReConnect Program grant application (5/14/19)
- DCS/DCT – grant application for minivans and infrastructure (6/11/19)
- Economic Adjustment Strategy for Redeveloping the Forestry Products Industry of Maryland – EDA grant application (7/1/19)
- Choptank Electric's Chop-a-Watt Program – DHCD grant application (8/27/19)

Upcoming Events

The Eastern Shore Regional Councils Joint Luncheon meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at 12:00pm at the Hyatt in Cambridge during the MACo Winter Conference.

- The Mid-Shore Regional Council quarterly meeting will be held immediately following at 1:00pm.

The Mid-Shore Comprehensive Economic Strategy (CEDS) meeting will be held on Friday, January 3, 2020 at 12:00pm at the Talbot County Free Library in Easton.

Member comments/requests

There were no comments/requests.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 a.m. by unanimous consent.