

# **Tri-County Council**

For the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland  
Serving Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester Counties

## Executive Board Meeting Minutes October 25, 2012

Sheree Sample-Hughes, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, called the meeting of the Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland Executive Board to order on Thursday, October 25, 2012, at the Tri-County Council Multi-Purpose Center in Salisbury at 6:30 p.m.

Voting Member in attendance: Doug Taylor, Somerset County; Rick Pollitt, Wicomico County; Merrill Lockfaw, Worcester County; Senator Jim Mathias.

Mr. Doug Taylor had Mr. Jerry Boston's voting proxy.

A quorum was present.

Staff in attendance: Mike Pennington, Kristie Eberly, Rigin Johnson and Milton Morris.

On a motion by Mr. Pollitt, seconded by Mr. Taylor, the minutes of the Executive Board meeting on July 19, 2012, were approved as written.

### **Old Business**

#### **Shore Transit Update**

Mr. Johnson reported that Shore Transit operated at 12.5% of their annual budget for July and August. Two months would normally be 16 % of the annual budget. Ridership was good for both months.

The driver that was involved in the fatal accident in September has not come back to work. He was offered another position but chose not to accept it. He is in counseling. The State's Attorney's office has released the bus. It is being cleaned and will be used on another route. The State's Attorney has not made a decision on whether charges will be filed against the driver.

Shore Transit has received a Bikeways Grant to be used to purchase 10 bike racks to go on the front of buses.

#### **Regional Visioning**

Mr. Pennington reported that a follow up meeting for the organizers of the Regional Visioning was held in early September. The group is working with Dr. Memo Diriker of BEACON at Salisbury University to formulate action steps. The Regional Visioning report will be presented at the Salisbury Chamber's Lower Shore Economic Forecast in January. Dr. Ray Hoy, who has been leading the Regional Visioning process, would like to speak to the Tri-County Council at their December meeting about the finding of the Regional Visioning. Following discussion, the

Executive Board decided that they would like to have Dr. Hoy speak at the Tri-County Council meeting in December and asked Mr. Pennington to make the arrangements.

Mr. Pennington also noted that a Technology Transfer Symposium will be held at Wor-Wic Community College on November 8. The Technology Transfer initiative has come out of the Regional Visioning process.

### **Patuxent River Naval Air Station Visit**

Mr. Pennington reported that Patuxent River Naval Air Station was an interesting and well attended trip. There is a team from Pax River, Wallops Island and Hampton Roads that is working on a request to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to make a designated area for UAV testing.

### **New Business**

#### **Taste of the Eastern Shore Legislative Event**

The "Taste of the Eastern Shore" Legislative Event is scheduled for February 14, 2013 at the Loews Hotel in Annapolis. Mr. Pennington will be meeting with Eastern Shore Chambers of Commerce on October 26 to promote the event and try to get them more actively involved.

#### **Nominating Committee**

Mrs. Sample-Hughes noted that a Nominating Committee is needed to choose the slate of officers for 2013. The Nominating Committee must consist of 3 members of the Executive Board and 2 Tri-County Council members not on the Executive Board. The Nominating Committee can meet by conference call. The Executive Board directed Mr. Pennington to recruit volunteers.

#### **Citizenship Award**

Mrs. Sample Hughes noted that information on the Tri-County Council Citizenship Award was distributed in the meeting packet. She asked the Executive Board members if they are interested in requesting nominations for the award. Following discussion, the Executive Board decided to request nominations from Tri-County Council members for the Citizenship Award.

#### **Meeting with Maryland Regional Councils at MACO**

Mr. Pennington reported that the Tri-County Council, the Mid-Shore Regional Council and the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland will be getting together for lunch on Thursday, January 3 during the Maryland Association of Counties (MACO) Winter Conference. He has contacted the Upper Shore Regional Council and the Tri-County Council for Western Maryland about being a part of this. This is just an informal lunch with no agenda or speakers.

## **Other Business**

There was no other business.

There being no further business, on a motion from Mr. Pollitt, seconded by Mr. Lockfaw, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.