

**OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**  
**Full Commission Meeting**

**Minutes**  
**September 20, 2013**  
**Ohio University Southern**  
**Ironton, Ohio**

<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Bob Proud</b>
<b>Vice-Chairman:</b>	<b>Shane Wilkin</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Blaine Beekman</b>

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Bob Proud, Clermont County Commissioner and OVRDC Chairman, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. He welcomed everyone to the Full Commission Appreciation Banquet and Meeting held in Lawrence County at Ohio University Southern Campus, Ironton, Ohio. Mr. Proud introduced Doug Cade, Lawrence County Engineer and Lawrence County Caucus Chair who welcomed attendees on behalf of Lawrence County. Mr. Proud then asked Shane Wilkin, Highland County Commissioner and OVRDC Vice-Chairman to give the invocation.

Mr. Proud asked Paul Worley, Adams County Commissioner and Veteran to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

OVRDC members, committee members, guests and OVRDC staff attending the meeting and luncheon were:

- Adams:** Stephen Caraway, Adams County Commissioner  
Gladys Johnson, Adams County Minority Representative  
Holly Johnson, Adams County Economic Development Director  
Paul Worley, Adams County Commissioner
- Brown:** Ray Becraft, Brown County Chamber of Commerce  
Daryll Gray, Brown County Commissioner  
Bert Thomas, Brown County Minority Representative  
Barry Woodruff, Brown County Commissioner
- Clermont:** Bob Proud, Clermont County Commissioner  
Andy Kuchta, Clermont County Community and Economic Development
- Fayette:** Jack DeWeese, Fayette County Commissioner
- Gallia:** Randy Finney, City Manager - City of Gallipolis
- Highland:** Ron Coffey, City Manager, Greenfield  
Betty Jackman, Chairwoman, Village of Greenfield Council  
Shane Wilkin, Highland County Commissioner
- Jackson:** Martha Cosby, Jackson County Minority Representative  
Jerry Hall, Jackson County Commissioner  
Rick McNelly, Peoples Insurance
- Lawrence:** Rich Blankenship, Mayor of Ironton  
Doug Cade, Lawrence County Engineer  
Bill Dingus, Ex. Dir. Lawrence Economic Development Corporation  
Dick Gilpin, Mayor of Chesapeake  
Rick Griffith, Private Sector Representative

**Pike:** Sharon Manson, Director, Pike County Visitors Bureau

**Ross:** Joyce Atwood, Member at Large, OU Chillicothe  
Mal Payne, Ross County Minority Representative

**Scioto:** Eugene Collins, Scioto County Minority Representative  
David Malone, Mayor of City of Portsmouth

**Vinton:**

**Ex-Officio:** Mary Ashcraft, Representative for Lt. Governor Mary Taylor  
Nick Gatz, Representative Governor Kasich  
Doug Green, State Representative, 66th District  
Dan Halliburton, Congressman Bill Johnson's Office  
Terry Johnson, State Representative, 90th District  
Todd Shelton, Senator Rob Portman's Office  
Ryan Smith, State Representative, 93rd District  
Juli Stephens, Congressman Bill Johnson's Office  
Joe Uecker, State Senator, 14th District

**Guests:** Paul Amburgey, E.L. Robinson Engineering  
Patrick Ball, Peoples Insurance  
Meagan Barnes, OSU South Centers  
Carolyn DeWeese, Fayette County  
Adele Evans, Clermont County Community and Economic Development  
Katy Farber, Project Manager, APEG  
Crystal Hemmings, Edward Jones, Scioto County  
David King, Ohio, West Virginia Youth Leadership Association  
Patrick Leighty, E.L. Robinson Engineering  
John Molinaro, President and CEO, APEG  
Jean Rickey, Clerk Brown County Commissioners  
Melissa Taylor, ODOT Jobs and Commerce Department  
Fred Vogel, Ohio Department of Transportation  
Michael Williams, E.L. Robinson Engineering  
Tom Worley, OSU South Centers, Pike County

**OVRDC Staff** John Hemmings, Executive Director  
Juanita Bragg, Finance Director  
Kim Reynolds, Community Development Coordinator  
Jason Gillow, Research/Planning Specialist  
Jessica Purdon, Economic Development Specialist  
Stephanie Gilbert, Bookkeeper/Secretary  
Shannon Nichols, Program Secretary  
Sharon Clark, Administrative Assistant

### **INTRODUCTION OF HEAD TABLE, SPECIAL GUESTS, AND OVRDC STAFF**

Mr. Proud introduced guests sitting at the head table, John Hemmings, OVRDC Executive Director, Doug Green, State Representative 66th District, Dr. Terry Johnson, State Representative, 90th District, Ryan Smith, State Representative, 93rd District, Joe Uecker, State Senator, 14th District, Shane Wilkin, Highland County Commissioner and OVRDC Vice- Chairman.

Mr. Proud also introduced: Nick Gatz, Southeast Ohio Liaison for Governor Kasich; Tom Worley, Director, OSU South Centers; Marilyn Ashcraft, Office of Ohio Lt. Governor Mary Taylor; Katy Farber, Project Manager, Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth; Dan Halliburton, Representative for Congressman Bill Johnson's Office; John Molinaro, Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth; Todd Shelton, representative for Senator Rob Portman; Juli Stephens, representative for Congressman Bill Johnson; Melissa Taylor, ODOT Jobs & Commerce Department; Carolyn Thurman, Development Services Agency; and Fred Vogel, Ohio Department of Transportation.

Chairman Proud asked John Hemmings, OVRDC Executive Director to introduce the OVRDC staff. Mr. Proud thanked the staff for their dedication and service. Mr. Hemmings praised the OVRDC staff and asked each member to stand as they were introduced: Juanita Bragg, Finance Director; Kim Reynolds, Community Development Coordinator; Jason Gillow, Research/Planning Coordinator; Jessica Purdon, Economic Development Specialist; Shannon Nichols, Program Secretary; Sharon Clark, Administrative Assistant; and Stephanie Gilbert, Bookkeeper/Secretary. Mr. Hemmings advised that Kara Willis, the new OVRDC Development Director was not in attendance due to an illness in her family.

### **SPEAKER**

Keynote speaker for the evening was State Representative Dr. Terry Johnson. Representative Johnson is currently serving his second term at the Ohio House of Representatives. He represents the 90th House District, which includes Adams and Scioto counties and parts of Lawrence County.

Representative Johnson gave an uplifting speech about the existing and future economic development opportunities for southern Ohio. He spoke about how Scioto County will be the beneficiary of the first Public/Private Partnership (PPP) project for the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) with the construction of the State Route 823 (Portsmouth By-Pass) project, and how the completion of State Route 823 will have a definite impact on the economic well-being of the region for the future.

### **APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND FULL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Proud stated that copies of the draft meeting minutes had been mailed to Full Commission Members. He asked for a motion to waive the reading of the minutes and to adopt the minutes as listed on the Full Commission meeting agenda.

**A MOTION TO WAIVE THE READING OF THE MINUTES AND TO ADOPT THE FULL COMMISSION MINUTES OF MARCH 22, 2013 AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 22, 2013, APRIL 18, 2013, MAY 23, 2013, JULY 11, 2013 AND AUGUST 22, 2013 WAS MADE BY MAYOR DAVID MALONE, SCIOTO COUNTY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JERRY HALL, JACKSON COUNTY COMMISSIONER AND THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mr. Proud asked Juanita Bragg, OVRDC Finance Director to present the Financial Report since OVRDC Treasurer, Blaine Beekman was not in attendance.

Ms. Bragg advised that we have completed our single audit process in compliance with OMB Circular A-133 with the our Independent Public Accounting (IPA) firm, Whited Seigneur Sams & Rahe, LLP. The Independent Auditor's Report for the audit period January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 has been accepted by the Auditor of State and a copy of the report can be found on their website.

She advised federal and state funding partnerships for 2013 are with: the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC); the US Department of Commerce under their Economic Development Administration (EDA) Program; the USDA Rural Development under their Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI); the Governor's Office of Appalachia (GOA); the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA); and the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC).

In closing, Ms. Bragg thanked our 12 member counties, for the continued investments for the operations of OVRDC.

Mr. Proud asked for a motion to accept the finance report as presented.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY SHARON MANSON AND SECONDED BY DAVID MALONE TO ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL REPORT AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

### **2013 NOMINATING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Mr. Proud appointed members of the 2014 Nominating Committee: Jack DeWeese, Chairman-Fayette County, Harry Rider, Vice Chairman, Pike County, Debora Plymail, Adams County, Eugene Collins-Scioto County, and Bill Dingus, Lawrence County.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BRIEFING**

Mr. Proud introduced, John Hemmings, OVRDC Executive Director. Mr. Hemmings thanked Lawrence County for hosting the September 2013 Annual Full Commission Appreciation Banquet.

Mr. Hemmings advised the OVRDC staff have moved into their new building on 73 Progress Drive in Waverly and referred to the picture of the new building and ribbon-cutting on the inside cover of the program. Mr. Hemmings thanked the Executive Committee for their trust and support throughout this project and welcomed everyone to visit.

Mr. Hemmings also announced OVRDC was presented the Ohio Auditor of State Award for 2012 by the Office of Auditor Dave Yost and thanked Juanita Bragg and Stephanie Gilbert for their dedication and service to OVRDC.

Mr. Hemmings advised as of July 1, OVRDC was designated a Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) by the Ohio Department of Transportation

### **AWARDS/RECOGNITION**

Bob Proud, OVRDC Chairman and John Hemmings, OVRDC Executive Director presented the Area Leadership Award to the Honorable Ryan Smith, State Representative, 93rd District for his outstanding service, commitment, and advocacy for the citizens, communities, and organizations in the 93<sup>rd</sup> District and Ohio Appalachia; and for his leadership and commitment in support of the Ohio Local Development Districts and the Governor's Office of Appalachia.

Mr. Proud and Mr. Hemmings also presented the following awards:

The OVRDC Outstanding Executive Committee Member Award was presented to Eugene Collins, Scioto County Minority Representative and Minority Caucus Chairman for his dedication and commitment to the OVRDC area.

The OVRDC Outstanding Full Commission Member Awards were presented to Bill Dingus, Director of the Lawrence County Economic Development Corporation and to Ralph Kline, Ironton-Lawrence Community Action Organization, in grateful appreciation for their service to Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission Full Commission.

The Lawrence County Commissioners were presented a certificate of appreciation for hosting the OVRDC September 2013 Full Commission Banquet. The certificate was accepted on their behalf by Doug Cade, Lawrence County Engineer and OVRDC Caucus Chair.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Proud announced there would be a short Executive Committee meeting at 1:00 pm today, shortly after the Full Commission was adjourned in order to take care of one important business item.

Mr. Proud advised the next Full Commission Meeting and Election of Officers would be held in Adams County in March 2014 and there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned for the luncheon.

During the luncheon, Mayor Rich Blankenship and a friend provided entertainment for the group.

---

John W. Hemmings III  
OVRDC Executive Director and Commission Secretary

APPROVED:

---

Bob Proud  
OVRDC Chairman