



# Shenandoah County Conservation Easement Authority

Office of Community Development  
600 North Main Street, Suite 107  
Woodstock, VA 22664

[www.shenandoahcountyva.us/committees/cea](http://www.shenandoahcountyva.us/committees/cea)

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## MEETING MINUTES

March 5, 2014; 9:00-11:00 AM

Board Conference Room

CEA Members present: Supervisor Steven Baker, Planning Commissioner Leon Smith, Doug French, Chairperson Kelly Watkinson, Cindy Dellinger, Bud Griswold, and Vice-Chairperson Dee Hockman

Others Present: Patrick Felling and Crystal Copenhaver

### Call to Order

The meeting was brought to order by Chairperson Watkinson at 9:00 a.m.

### Approve Prior Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the CEA meeting on February 12, 2014 was approved as presented.

### Update on Funding Request to BOS

Chairperson Watkinson stated a funding request of \$120,000 (allocated from rollback tax collections) for the County Conservation Easement Program will be presented to the BOS under the umbrella of the Community Development budget on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Chairperson Watkinson will prepare a presentation for this meeting, summarizing the allocation of funds to CEA. Vice-Chairperson Hockman asked that we tie the presentation to the County Comprehensive Plan, the vision for the County. Mr. Griswold stated a point should be made about the matching fund requirements. Mr. Felling replied the State of Virginia has returned millions of dollars for not receiving matching funds from localities. Mrs. Dellinger suggested discussing development drives up the cost of government services; the cost of providing services to developed properties versus non-developed properties, pointing out actual numbers which seems to get attention. Supervisor Baker stated for each \$1 that the County receives; developed properties cost \$1.20+ for community services. Chairperson Watkinson stated she would like to hand out copies of the "*Cost of Community Service Studies Statistics*" at the BOS meeting.

### Review Easement Program Ordinance Revision

Mr. Felling stated previously discussed easement program ordinance changes have been incorporated and presented the planning draft that the authority must be approved before going to the BOS for review. CEA members are to review the planning draft; get any additional comments / edits emailed to Mr. Felling for discussion so CEA can vote on a final draft at the next meeting. Mrs. Dellinger moved to set the vote for the ordinance

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draft to occur at the April 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Mr. Griswold seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.

### **Update on Video Outreach Project in Frederick County**

Chairperson Watkinson stated last week she attended the Fredrick County Easement Authority meeting with Mr. Felling. The Fredrick CEA video presentation project focus is planned to create several basic how-to videos demonstrating different stages of putting property into easements. Chairperson Watkinson felt their videos could definitely be utilized on our County web page for informational purposes, but would like to put together several emotional / pride videos showcasing local county properties and landowners. Mr. French agreed with moving forward on putting together several local videos. Mr. Felling stated Mrs. Jenna French, County Tourism Director is supportive of conservation easements as a tie-in to tourism. Mr. Felling is to schedule a meeting with Mrs. Jenna French to discuss potential options of working together on the video project; Mr. Griswold volunteered to attend the meeting with Mr. Felling.

### **Other Business**

None.

*Meeting Adjourned*