



Executive Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, October 1, 2025
Hybrid Attendance (In Person and ZOOM)

Members Present:

Mayor Pro Tem Marikay Abuzuaiter, City of Greensboro
Commissioner Kelly Allen, Alamance County
Council Member Jane Cole, City of King
Commissioner Carly Cooke, Guilford County
Commissioner Benita Finney, Davie County
Mayor Alvin Foster, Town of Yanceyville
Chairman Darrell Frye, Randolph County
Council Member Montrena Hadley, City of Mebane
Mayor Dwight Lake, Town of Mayodan
Council Member Greg Light, City of Eden
Commissioner Don Martin, Forsyth County (Z)
Mayor Richard McNabb, City of Trinity
Commissioner Rick Morris, Stokes County (Z)
Commissioner Ricky Oliver, Yadkin County
Commissioner Mark Richardson, Rockingham County
Council Member Annette Scippio, City of Winston Salem (Z)
Commissioner John Shaw, Montgomery County (Z)
Commissioner Tony Smith, Caswell County
Mayor Larry Ward, Town of Denton
(Z) Denotes attendance via ZOOM

Members Absent:

Council Member Tim Andrew, City of High Point
Mayor Mike Brannon, Bermuda Run
Mayor Jim Butler, City of Burlington
Mayor Anita Darnell, Town of Jonesville
Commissioner Melissa Hiatt, Surry County
Chairman Mark Jones, Davie County
Councilwoman Peggy Leight, Town of Walkertown
Chairman Fred McClure, Davidson County
Mayor Howard Morgan, Town of Sedalia
Mayor Sheldon Morley, Town of Mt. Gilead
Commissioner Scott Needham, Town of Pilot Mountain

Chairman Mark Richardson welcomed the PTRC Executive Committee and called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom in addition to in person attendance. Chairman Richardson introduced Mr. Todd McNeill who is the new Executive Director for North Carolina Association of Council of Governments (NCARCOG). Chairman Richardson requested a moment of silence and encouraged and then led the Executive Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 1) **Presentation: Talent Acquisition and Recruitment for JetZero, Ms. Wendy Walker-Fox, WED Director**
 - a) Ms. Wendy Walker provided an update on Jet Zero's plans, including their commitment to hire 800 employees by 2027, with the first tranche focusing on highly experienced roles and the second on broader workforce positions. The Greensboro Chamber, partnerships and schools will help with filling these roles. She also discussed the development of a specialized NC Works portal for Jet Zero hiring and the company's plans to explore AI in screening applications.
 - b) The building is scheduled to open in May. Positions hired now will be remote.

- 2) **Action Item: Request for approval of the September 3, 2025 PTRC Executive Committee minutes, Mr. Mark Richardson, Chair**
 - a) There being no questions, a motion was made by Ms. Kelly Allen.
 - b) The motion was seconded by Ms. Marikay Abuzuaiter.
 - c) Request for approval of the September 3, 2025 PTRC Executive Committee minutes was approved.

- 3) **Action Item: Request for approval to hold a Section 8 Public Hearing for the Proposed PHA Annual Plan and 5- Year Plan at the Executive Board meeting to be held on November 5, 2025, Ms. Tonya C. Spencer, Community Development Supervisor**
 - a) The Public Housing Authority (PHA) Annual Plan and 5- Year Plan are planning documents required by the U S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The public is invited to review and provide written comments on the proposed PHA Annual Plan and the 5- Year Plan.
 - b) This meeting will satisfy HUD's PHA annual requirements and provide an opportunity for public review and comment on the proposed Annual and 5-Year Plan.
 - c) There being no questions, a motion was made by Ms. Montrena Hadley.
 - d) The motion was seconded by Ms. Kelly Allen.
 - e) Request for approval to hold a Section 8 Public Hearing for the Proposed PHA Annual Plan and 5- Year Plan at the Executive Board meeting to be held on November 5, 2025 was approved.

- 4) **Action Item: Request for approval to accept the contract for the 5 Year Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Region 6 (Alleghany, Alexander, Ashe, Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cleveland, Gaston, Lincoln, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yancy Counties), Mr. Drew Corbett, Community Development Operations**
 - a) The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's State Energy Office Weatherization Assistance Program has awarded the Piedmont Triad Regional Council Community Development Department the five-year Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Region 6 contract.
 - b) The contract extends through June 2029.
 - c) The \$10 million contract includes both areas we already cover (Alamance, Caswell, Davidson, Forsyth, Guilford, Person, Randolph, and Rockingham) and the additional areas (Alleghany, Alexander, Ashe, Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cleveland, Gaston, Lincoln, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yancy Counties) where no bids were submitted.

PTRC decided to bid on the new, additional areas, which are outside the usual service area. The plan is to use PTRC inspectors and staff to serve as the administrative arm for monitoring and oversight, initiate work and then subcontract with other weatherization providers to do the actual work.

- d) Ms. Carly Cooke asked about the five-year plan. Mr. Corbett shared that PTRC was officially awarded Region 5 in 2023 and is working with the State Contracting Office, hoping to have contracts finalized within the next week.
 - e) Mr. Mark Richardson asked when funding will be available. Mr. Corbett confirmed that funds are ready and work will begin as soon as the contract is signed.
 - f) Mr. Mark Richardson asked if counties are aware of the opportunity. Mr. Corbett answered that many are, and staff will continue reaching out to partners to spread the word. The program is expected to create 2,139 additional jobs over the five-year period.
 - g) Mr. Corbett noted that funding is already allocated and that households previously served by weatherization programs are ineligible for assistance. PTRC will rely on the state to provide this information. Since this initiative is new to North Carolina, our team is adapting processes as they go and sees this as a creative opportunity to stretch resources and serve more people.
 - h) There being no more questions, a motion was made by Ms. Carly Cooke.
 - i) The motion was seconded by Ms. Marikay Abuzuaiter.
 - j) Request for approval to accept the contract for the 5 Year Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Region 6 (Alleghany, Alexander, Ashe, Avery, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cleveland, Gaston, Lincoln, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yancy Counties) was approved.
- 5) **Action Item: Request for approval to adopt a Resolution of Support for the Great Trails State Coalition and approve a silver level membership for \$1,000, Mr. Jesse Day, Planning Director**
- a) The Great Trails State Coalition has been in operation since 2020 and is continuing to expand and broaden support of trails through membership by the private industry, non-profits and local government across the State. The vision of the Coalition is that North Carolina is the Great Trails State, where each of our 100 counties enjoys the proven benefits of trails, including health, safety, economic development, tourism, transportation and the environment.
 - b) The PTRC would like permission from the Executive Committee to join the Coalition at the \$1,000 Silver level, which allows for the following direct benefits:
 - i) Logo of PTRC with link listed on website
 - ii) Email communications
 - iii) Monthly meetings
 - iv) 10% Conference discount
 - c) Additionally, the support of trails in our region's communities may benefit from this Coalition membership.
 - d) There being no questions, a motion was made by Mr. Alvin Foster.
 - e) The motion was seconded by Mr. Darrell Frye.
 - f) Request for approval to adopt a Resolution of Support for the Great Trails State Coalition and approve a silver level membership for \$1,000 was approved.
- 6) **Informational Item: Federal Government Shut Down, Mr. Matthew Dolge, Executive Director**
- a) Mr. Dolge provided information about how the Federal Government Shut Down will affect our operations and programing.

- b) There have been 10 government shutdowns since 1980. They have increased in frequency in the last couple of decades. Most are very short. Seven of the ten lasted 5 days or less. If that occurs, we expect no meaningful impacts to our operations. The 2013 shutdown lasted 16 days and a shutdown in 2018-19 lasted 35 days. A shutdown of this length may impact our programs, partners, and clients.
- c) Our first concern is internal. PTRC is financially well capitalized and our overhead is relatively low. We can maintain basic operations for an extended period of time without Federal reimbursements.
- d) Most of the PTRC's Federal funding is reimbursement based, except for our public housing voucher program.
- e) Public Housing: PTRC pays about \$300k each month to local landlords and housing choice voucher clients. HUD does not allow us to maintain a meaningful reserve of cash on hand for this program. The payments occur at the beginning of the month. We have been notified that a shutdown on October 1 will not affect the HUD payment to the PTRC scheduled this week. If the shutdown lasts more than 2-3 weeks, we could expect the November HUD payment to PTRC to be delayed. If that happens, we will not make the contracted payments to local landlords and clients on time unless authorized by the Board. We can tap reserves for another month if necessary. A shutdown of sixty days or more will result in suspended payments to landlords and clients until funding is resumed.
- f) Area Agency on Aging: This program funds home delivered meals (often called Meals on Wheels), home and community care block grant funds for services that allow seniors to remain in their homes, family caregiver counseling, etc. While we have local funds to continue paying staff, these programs are delivered through contractors (mostly non-profits). Our contractors will not be paid for services delivered on or after October 1st until a budget is in place. We are communicating this scenario to our local providers so they are aware of the situation. Smaller, less resourced providers may be at risk and it is possible that a shutdown would cause local service providers to suspend their operations.
- g) Workforce Development: This program is also reimbursement based, but the Department of Labor (DOL) has published a contingency plan. That plan indicates payments would continue for the next few months. The DOL will reduce its staff and that will limit functions but should not interrupt our local programming. With our rollover funds from last year and our first quarter allocation we project an ability to continue all workforce services through January.
- h) Weatherization: The State Weatherization Office has not provided any direction to contractors. Our program is diversified and includes housing rehabilitation, Duke Energy, and BIL funding that isn't impacted by the shutdown. PTRC will shift our focus to funded programs as necessary.
- i) Planning: PTRC planning services will not be immediately impacted by the shutdown. The RPO's are funded with Federal funds through the State. That may cause some disruption in those funds if the shutdown extends for several months.
- j) Overall, your financial management of the PTRC has placed us in a strong position to maintain our staff and basic operations for an extended period of time - well beyond the historical length of the average shutdown. There may be delays and disruptions to partner agencies and clients with a shutdown that lasts more than a couple of weeks. Staff will actively monitor the situation and keep our board informed.

7) Executive Director's Report, Mr. Matthew Dolge, Executive Director

- a) We hope you all will join us for our annual Awards presentation coming up in two weeks. Mr. Dolge will not be there as he is being installed as President for the national Association of Development Organizations (NADO). He thanked the board for supporting his participation in

this National organization. It will be an honor to serve as President and he will represent our Region well.

6) Around the Region

- a) Ms. Kelly Allen shared that Alamance Community College recently held a ribbon cutting for its new Public Safety Training Center in Green Level, NC.
- b) Ms. Felicia Jones reminded everyone that early voting is going on right now

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned with general consensus at 12:44p.m.



Mark Richardson, PTRC Chair



Katie Mitchell, Clerk to the Board