

VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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-MEETING NOTICE-

**Regular Meeting
Valley Council of Governments
Wednesday, March 10, 2010
11:30 a.m. at VCOG Offices**

AGENDA

Pledge of Allegiance

- 1. Public Session**
- 2. Acceptance of Minutes of 2/24/10 Regular Meeting (Enc.)**
- 3. Treasurer's Report (Enc.)**
 - (a) Budget Discussion for FY 2010-11**
- 4. Approval of VCOG Resolution re: FTA Certifications and Assurances (Enc.)**
- 5. Approval of Draft Letter to Governor Rell re: State Grant-in-Aid to RPOs (Enc.)**
- 6. Old Business: ARRA BRLF Program**

Motion from Board to authorize staff to draft and execute Sub-Grantee Agreements and commence loan underwriting for previously approved list of recipients as necessary

Note: A light lunch will be provided at 11:30 a.m.

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Wednesday, March 10, 2010
at VCOG Offices**

Persons Present:

Mayor Anthony Staffieri, Derby
1st Selectman Paul Roy, Seymour
Mayor Mark Lauretti, Shelton
Rick Dunne, VCOG Staff
David Elder, “
Clare Falcha, “
Jan Jadach, “
Matt Fulda, “

In the absence of Chairman Della Volpe, Vice-Chairman Staffieri called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. The Vice-Chairman then asked three times if anyone wished to speak during the public session. No one spoke. The public session was closed.

Minutes – The minutes of the 2/24/10 VCOG regular meeting were accepted.

Motion: By Paul Roy; Second: Mark Lauretti; Vote: Unanimous

Treasurer’s Report – Rick Dunne indicated that the report in the packet is a very short update since we had updated the Mayors two weeks ago at the last meeting. We are at about a \$14,000 income ahead of expense right now. We are still anticipating that we will run into a deficit situation by the end of the year without State Grant-in-Aid.

Motion: By Mark Lauretti; To accept the Treasurer’s Report; Second: Paul Roy; Vote: Unanimous

Approval of VCOG Resolution re: FTA Certifications and Assurances – Rick indicated that we used to approve the Certifications and Assurances for FTA every three years; however, now it is annually. These are reviewed by our Corporation Counsel. David Elder said that Attorney Welch has already reviewed these and does not have a problem with them other than the fact that we needed to adopt the resolution. These are our statement that we are going to conduct our activities in accordance with FTA’s requirements for procurement, testing the buses when they come in, capital programming, that we are not lobbying, etc. The Resolution authorizes the Executive Director to execute the Certifications and Assurances, along with Atty. Welch, and then when we apply for a grant, Rick uses an electronic PIN to apply. We will now be adopting these every year.

Motion: By Paul Roy; To empower the Director to execute the Certifications and Assurances, along with Corporation Council; Second: Mark Lauretti; Vote: Unanimous

Approval of Draft Letter to Governor Rell re: State Grant-in-Aid to RPOs – Rick noted that at the last VCOG meeting, Mayor Lauretti requested that we draft a letter and try and

circulate it to the other RPOs to get all of the CEOs to sign on and send it up to the state. Coincidentally, following that meeting, Rick said he received an email from the RPO state association director, Mark Paquette at Windham COG, who had been contacted by the Governor's office in response to a letter to attend a meeting to discuss the State Grant-in-Aid funding. He has that meeting scheduled for March 16th when he will meet with the Governor's staff to discuss this. In the meantime, Rick noted that he drafted the letter that is in their packets, and we are circulating it to each of the COGs asking that the COG chairs all sign on to this letter in support of the CARPO position. Rick said that the events have moved faster than the letters. This was already in the packet and then we received the call. He said that, with their permission, he would update this letter and send it back out to all the RPOs in CT asking that everyone sign on. The Mayors all indicated that they were okay with that.

Rick noted that we had skipped over #3(a) **Budget Discussion for FY 2010-11** but there is nothing really to discuss. We put it on the agenda in the event something had changed but nothing has changed since last month. Mayor Lauretti asked if the budget that was presented last month still stands, and Rick replied that was correct. Rick said we usually try to approve it by May but don't usually get to it until after all of the towns wrap up their budgets. It also depends upon when the State Legislature acts. Last year, we were waiting for them to approve their budget, and we are still waiting. Rick informed them that we sent out the budget letters to the towns estimating a 5% increase based upon that prospective budget. We assume that the towns will each take their own process and when it is done, the Mayors can inform him that they are ready to cut or to adopt the budget. Rick said that usually the Chief Elected Officials present their budget request for VCOG to each of the towns. However, if they need staff to speak before the tax board or the appropriations body, we would be happy to do that. Mayor Lauretti said it would be helpful if Rick could send the actual number to John Anglace, President of the Shelton Board of Aldermen so that they can incorporate it into the budget. Rick said he would do that. Mayor Staffieri noted that Henry Domurad in Derby should receive a copy. Clare Falcha indicated that the Derby request already went to Mr. Domurad. Rick said the letters went to Doug Thomas in Seymour, Henry Domurad in Derby, Lou Marusic in Shelton and Joe Miller in Ansonia with a cc. to the CEOs.

Old Business: ARRA BRLF Program – Rick indicated that, at the last meeting, the Mayors approved the list of ARRA BRLF projects, but we now wanted to clarify the motion. It was to adopt the list, but this clarifies what we didn't do last time which is that the COG members authorize the staff to draft and execute Sub-Grantee Agreements and commence loan underwriting for the previously approved list of recipients, as necessary. We would have Atty. Welch draft up the documents for each of the recipients and, if it's a loan, we would go forward with the underwriting process with NVS&L, or else we would go forward with the grant process. At this time, we are just looking for a more explicit authorization to proceed with the documents. After a brief discussion, action was taken.

Motion: by Mark Lauretti; To authorize staff to draft and execute Sub-Grantee Agreements and commence loan underwriting for previously approved list of recipients, as necessary; Second: Paul Roy; Vote: Unanimous.

There being no further business, the Vice-Chair requested a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Paul Roy; To adjourn the meeting; Second: Mark Lauretti; Vote: Unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark A. Lauretti,
Secretary