Venango County Regional Planning Commission

Planning Tomorrow Together

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VCRPC BOARD APPROVED

Board Meeting Minutes August 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER – Monthly board meeting called to order by **Chair** Jim Miller, at 4:30 PM.

II. ROLL CALL – A quorum of 12 board members (a majority of the 15 current appointees) was present at the public meeting of the Venango County Regional Planning Commission on 08/18/2026, held in-person at 1174 Elk Street (Courthouse Annex) in Room 100, Franklin PA :

Present Board Members

Tracy Jamieson[1]: ☒Yes ☐No	John Neidich: ☒Yes ☐No	Nick Melnick: ☐Yes ☒No
John McClelland[2]: ☒Yes ☐No	Ben Porter: ☐Yes ☒No	Anita Fuchs: ☒Yes ☐No
Frank Pankratz[3]: ☒Yes ☐No	Larry Baughman: ☒Yes ☐No	Ken Bryan: ☒Yes ☐No
Jim Miller*: ☒Yes ☐No	Megan Weber: ☐Yes ☒No	Keith Klingler: ☒Yes ☐No
Kathy Cochran: ☒Yes ☐No	Glenn Speer: ☒Yes ☐No	Amy Whitehill: ☒Yes ☐No

Symbols denote the following Board-appointed positions: *Chair, [1]Vice-Chair I, [2]Vice-Chair II, [3]Vice-Chair III

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. **06/16/2026 Regular Meeting Minutes** – ✓Motion to approve the minutes made by Keith Klingler, second by Larry Baughman. All approved.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS – None

V. SUBDIVISIONS AND LAND DEVELOPMENTS – None

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF REPORTS

- **Executive Director,** Joshua Sterling – provided an update on the status of several grant funded projects administered by the Planning Department, including a design project for Moody Park accessibility improvements, and the home rehabilitation and blight demolition programs. He reported working on a grant proposal for Allegheny Township to purchase of a new multi-use plow truck. The application for Community Block Grant Development (CDBG) allotments for funding year 2026 is being compiled and will be submitted in October.
- **Deputy Director,** Jenna Dillion – shared her preparations for the Certified Floodplain Manager exam will include upcoming trainings and guidance while transitioning to the role of designated floodplain manager in the office. She also has been seeking grant funding to install emergency call boxes on the Kennerdell area of the bike trail. The Lyric Theatre project is expecting to announce bidding soon as they prepare to expend the County-administered Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) grant awarded to the project in the amount of $975,000 due to be spent by early 2028.
- **Geospatial Analyst,** Alexandria Shreffler – noted an upcoming opportunity during September 15-17, 2026 to meet with officials from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 3 floodplain management program as they have offered to provide training to local municipal officials. She will be working on finalizing the agenda and preparing final items to wrap-up the Community Assistance Visits (CAVs) which have been auditing the National Floodplain Insurance Program (NFIP) in Venango County municipalities since 2024.

VII. SPECIAL PURPOSE MATTERS

a. **SALDO Amendment Discussion** – Several members of the public presented concerns and suggestions regarding potential action to amend the SALDO to address the regulation of data centers with definitions and more rigorous impact statements, draft multi-municipal zoning standards (including consideration for County regulation), and develop model ordinances for land-use particularly as it relates to power generation and pipelines. The Board had also discussed the Executive Order recently publicized by Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro. The general discussion included acknowledging the potential negative impacts of data center development. No Action.

b. **Annual Report** – Staff presented the final version of the 2025 Annual Report which has been distributed to local, regional, and state partners. No Action.

VIII. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. **Council of Governments (COG)** – Report was given by COG representative Kathy Cochran. The upcoming meeting on Thursday 8/20 will be held at the Cornplanter Township Municipal Building at 7:00 PM.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT (GENERAL)

- Keith Klingler, Oil Creek Township Supervisor – reminded the Board of the new proposed Act 537 amendments which will affect the regulation of on-lot sewage systems and require their periodic inspection, at least every 3-years. He expressed concern regarding the guidance provided by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and encouraged members to become educated and speak out on the anticipated burden to-be-placed on municipalities regarding these changes.

X. ADJOURNMENT – ✓Motion to adjourn made by Ken Bryan at 5:35 PM. All approved.

Recorded by Alexandria Shreffler, Geospatial Analyst: _____