

Meeting Minutes April 25, 2024 6:30 P.M.

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Chinaka A. Barbour Warren Beeton Dr Joseph P Boutte J. Randall Freed, Chair Stephanie Johnson Martin Jeter Elizabeth H. Ward, Vice Chair Erik Wiesbock

UTILITIES REPRESENTATIVE

Christine Hoeffner Gilbert Jaramillo Scott McGeary Perrin Palistrant Don Pannell Kyle Reglin

Cedar Run Conference Room McCoart Building 1 County Complex Court Prince William, VA 22192

<u>**Present:**</u> Commissioners Warren Beeton, Dr Joseph Boutte, J. Randall Freed, Stephanie Johnson, Martin Jeter, Elizabeth Ward, Erik Wiesbock

Non-voting Commissioners –Christine Hoeffner, Gil Jaramillo, Scott McGeary, Don Pannell, Kyle Reglin

Giulia Manno – Director Office of Sustainability, Salita Gray – Administrative Specialist, Michelle Smyk – Climate and Energy Program Manager

Absent: Commissioners Chinaka Barbour

Non-voting Commissioners- Perrin Palistrant

Roll Call: Quorum Present

• Approve remote participation for W Beeton, G Jaramillo, and S McGeary [VOTING RECORD: Motion J Boutte; Second E Ward; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays- None]

<u>**Citizen's Time:**</u> Ashley Studholme from Prince William Conservation Alliance (PWCA) acknowledged the work the Sustainability Commission has done with putting together the CESMP. She mentioned the goal to reduce carbon emissions will unlikely be met due to the rapid expansions of data centers. She stated that mitigation may be impossible but adaptation and building resilience are important. Charlie Grymes from the PWCA encouraged the commission to pay close attention to the revision of the design and construction standards manual (DCSM) transportation section which is due to come out to the Planning Commission in May. He stated that there's opportunity to enhance what's already in the manual.

Old Business

- Approve March 28, 2024 meeting minutes. [VOTING RECORD: Motion E Ward; Second M Jeter; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays- None]
- G Manno provided update on the Joint Environmental Taskforce's April meeting. Reported that schools are interested in expanding their compost program to the eastern side of the county. The JET suggested exploring having a compost landing pad at the Prince William Landfill and potentially the Lorton Landfill for expansion. Kevin Milsted, the county's Energy Manager, shared the solar feasibility study that was completed on 10 buildings in the county. Findings resulted in potentially installing solar panels on two buildings with current resources. Jennifer Rokasky, Energy Education Coordinator for Prince William County Schools, presented on the schools' Power Purchase Agreement and solar installation on 6 schools within the county.

New Business

- Introduction of the new Climate and Energy Program Manager, Michelle Smyk.
- R Freed discussed and received feedback from commissioners on strengths, weakness, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) analysis for achieving the county's Climate Mitigation and Resiliency goals.
- G Manno informed the county's FY 25 budget was approved. Went over resources that have been allocated over the next year. In FY25 the Office of Sustainability plans to utilize CIP funds for the following projects:
 - To install solar on county buildings following Facilities and Fleet Management's solar feasibility study
 - To conduct a feasibility study for electrification of county buildings
 - To implement recommendations following Facilities and Fleet Management's feasibility study for electrification of the county's fleet
 - To transition some streetlights to LED
 - To develop a greenhouse gas inventory for county government operations
- R Freed presented a resolution for commission recommendations for managing GHG emissions from data centers.

- Approve Draft Resolution: Recommendations to Manage Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Data Centers in Prince William County. [VOTING RECORD: Motion M Jeter; Second Dr. J Boutte; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays- None]
- M Jeter presented a resolution for commission recommendations on the Waterloo Solar Project
- Approve Draft Resolution: Recommendations on the Waterloo Solar Special Use Permit Application. [VOTING RECORD: Motion Dr. J Boutte; Second E Ward; Ayes-by acclamation; Nays- None]

Commissioner's Time

- Dr. J Boutte inquired about exploring more with PV Panel Rotation.
- S Johnson requested to allow time at the next meeting to discuss coming up with standards for implementation of solar farms. Requested a review of what best practices other jurisdictions are doing that the commissioners can consider.
- E Ward informed that the Virginia legislature is doing a study on data centers. Will report follow up information to the commission.
- R Freed suggested that East Coast Energy provide a briefing on energy storage to the commission at an upcoming meeting. Discussed having someone from the Planning Office join an upcoming commission meeting to provide an update on the process of integrating the CESMP into the Comprehensive Plan.

The Meeting Adjourned at 9:04 PM