Commissioners Present: Jodi French (Chair), Maggie Bartenhagen, Nick Bartenhagen, Heath Boyer, Tom Buchanan, Jenepher Burnell, Tom Consolino, Jack Cunningham, Rod Francis, Charles Goodwin, Emily Kunreuther, Alan LaCombe, Ray Mara, Priscilla Margola, Carolyn Partridge, Steve Skibniowsky, Lew Sorenson, John Whitman, Norm Wright
Citizen Interest Commissioners Present: Greg Brown, Gretchen Havreluk
Staff Present: Chris Campany, Susan McMahon, Cullen Meves, Ashley Collins
Introductions: There was a quorum of 15 towns present.
Convened: 7:04PM

Administrative Items & Reports
Secretary’s Report: On a motion by N. Wright, seconded by C. Goodwin the minutes from the August meeting were approved.
Financial Report: On a motion by L. Sorenson, seconded by J. Cunningham the August Finance Report was approved.

Home Energy Generation: Readsboro Commissioner John Whitman discussed how energy is generated at his home, Green Forest Farm, through solar panels. John explained that he generates energy through solar panels to produce electricity and heat water in his home as well as the barn for livestock and his duck pond. John presented graphs to show generation and use and fluctuations over seasons. He explained that when more energy is made than it is used, it gets sent back into the electricity grid and his account with Green Mountain Power is credited.

Readsboro Revitalization: Susan Bailey was present to discuss the history and revitalization of the Bullock Building, where our meeting was being held, and how and why the community organized around the effort. Hometown Redevelopment was brought together by a group of residents who wanted to revitalize the downtown area. This group got connected with different organizations such as Brownfields and the Preservation Trust of Vermont, which opened up more opportunities for grants and other funds to help with the
redevelopment process. She provided a brief history and photographs of the Bullock Building provided insight as to what the goals and priorities were during the redevelopment. Its main focus was to involve the community in planning economic growth and be available for use as a multi-purpose building.

**Village and Downtown Revitalization:** WRC Associate Director Susan McMahon explained how the Economic Development Administration Disaster Recovery Grant received by WRC and Bennington County Regional Commission (BCRC) is being implemented. WRC is collaborating with BDCC and BCRC and working with twenty different towns in Southern Vermont; projects in Readsboro, Londonderry and Guilford have already begun. Susan briefly outlined the process for village and downtown revitalization, including SWOT analyses (identification of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats).

**Elections for FY 2014 Nominating Committee:** Carolyn Partridge was present to announce the nominations slate for Executive Board, Officers and Citizen Interest Commissioners. Additional nominations were invited from the floor and there were none. A motion was made by N. Wright to approve the nominations as a slate, seconded by J. Whitman; motion was approved.

**Officers:** On a motion by C. Partridge, seconded by T. Buchanan the slate of officers was approved.

**Executive Board:** One member has resigned his position on the Board; Alan LaCombe. This left two open slots available which were filled for the remainder of the open term by Lew Sorenson and Denis Pinkernell at the June 25th Commission meeting. Both agreed they were willing to continue to for the FY 2014 period. The slate presented was the current Executive Board including these interim members. On a motion by T. Buchanan, seconded by J. French, the slate for the balance of the executive board was approved.

**Citizen Interest Commissioners:** One member has resigned their position as a Citizen Interest Commissioner; Jeff Lewis. This leaves one open slot available with the following person expressing interest: Patricia Moulten-Powden, BDCC for Economic Development. On a motion made by T. Consolino seconded by J. Cunningham for the proposed slate of Citizen Interest Commissioners; motion was approved.

A motion that nominations be closed was moved by N. Wright, seconded by L. Sorenson; motion was approved.

There was appreciation given to the resigning members of the Executive Board and Citizen Interest Commissioners, and many thanks to the Officers, Board, and Citizen Interest Commissioners who continue to serve.
Committee Chair Update: J. French listed the revised Committee Chairs and each Chair who was present provided a brief update on activity within their Committees.

Regional Plan Update: Cullen Meves presented the revised schedule and process. She also explained that the Transportation Plan, which was approved in June, is going to be an addendum to the Regional Plan instead of being a separate plan. Policies are currently being reviewed, now that the chapter reviews have completed.

Executive Director's Report & Other Business:
- Executive Director Chris Campany provided the Commissioners with a handout summarizing WRC’s work for the current month.
- Chris explained that there are concerns regarding VY that negotiations are going on between the governor and his executive staff with Entergy, and that he will follow these negotiations as he is able to ensure the region’s positions are being supported.
- Chris mentioned that the first legislative hearing on the Energy Generation Siting Commission report will be held on September 25th. He planned to attend and will base his engagement on the positions the WRC submitted to the Siting Commission in December, 2012.
- The next Full Commission meeting will be held in Londonderry on October 29th, where we will discuss water and wastewater infrastructure for villages without it. We are hoping to have the Speaker of the House at the November Commission meeting.

N. Wright moved adjournment.
Meeting adjourned at 8:45PM
Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Collins