



**Executive Board Minutes  
February 11, 2025**

**Location:** Hybrid meeting via Zoom and WRC Conference Room.

**Members Present:** Gabby Ciuffreda, Chair; Jack Cunningham; Jim Pinkerton, Ann Golob, Bonnie North, Stephan Chait, Steve Lembke

**Absent:** Tim Arsenault

**Staff present:** Chris Campany, Executive Director, Inessa Muse, Finance Manager

**Public/Guests:** None.

**Presenter:** None.

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Gabby Ciuffreda, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Additions/Changes to Agenda:** none

**Secretary's Report:** On a motion by Commissioner Cunningham, seconded by Commissioner Lembke the minutes from the January 14, 2025 meeting were **approved** with two abstentions.

**Finance report:** Finance Manager Inessa Muse reviewed the first quarter financial report. Executive Director Chris Campany explained that monthly reporting and invoicing is a top priority given uncertainty at the federal level.

**Committee Reorganization Proposal:** Executive Director Chris Campany reviewed the proposal that was included with the agenda, emphasizing the importance of making the most valuable use of Commissioner time. Some members voiced concerns about how to continue Commissioner engagement in the absence of committees, and would like to explore how to improve that dynamic. The ability to create new committees to respond to new requirements such as those related to regional planning under Act 181, and discussions at the state level about greater regionalization, would be beneficial. It was also suggested that as the annual work program is developed the need for specific committees could be considered on an annual basis. Chris suggested the possibility of surveying commissioners on an annual basis about their interests to inform not only Full Commission topics, but other opportunities for engagement.

On a **motion** by Commissioner Golob, seconded by Commissioner North, the proposal was **approved** by a unanimous vote, with the understanding that discussion about Commissioner engagement would continue as quickly as feasible. The sunseting of committees per the proposal would take effect by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Committee Appointments:** None.

**Executive Director's Report:**

Chris explained that he has directed staff to prioritize project reporting and invoicing to do what we can to mitigate the uncertainty at the federal level. Invoicing is up to date and the WRC is in a good position in terms of cash flow. Apart from Brownfields funding, most funding of federal origin comes to the WRC through agreements with state agencies. It is essential to have invoices in to the relevant agencies in a timely manner to be in the best position to receive reimbursements. He also explained that a federal government shutdown over budget disagreements was a possibility. Asked about diversity, equity, and inclusion requirements by the state in the regional energy plan, Chris explained that for the regional plan to receive a determination of energy compliance by the Department of Public Service that it would have to meet all state requirements.

**Committee Chair Reports:** None.

**Review of Action Items:** Chris noted that a new Project Review Committee chair would be needed as Commissioner Cunningham retires with Town Meeting Day in March. Commissioner Cunningham noted this would likely be his last Executive Board meeting, which was met with astonishment and appreciation.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Adjournment:** approved by a unanimous vote on a motion by Commissioner Cunningham, seconded by Commissioner Pinkerton, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12pm.