1. **Call to Order**
Chairman Crozier called the meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Roll Call & Quorum Determination**

**Others Present:** Brannon Godfrey, Town of Warrenton; Sue Hansohn, Culpeper County

**Staff Present:** Jenny Biché, Joseph Costello, Michelle Edwards, Kristin Lam Peraza, Patrick Mauney, Terry Snead, Cathy Zielinski
Chairman Crozier welcomed new members Garrey Curry, Jr. from Rappahannock County and Amber Foster from Madison County to the Regional Commission. The roll was called by the Executive Director and a quorum was confirmed.

4. **Agenda Approval**  
R Welch moved to approve the agenda as presented, 2nd by P. McCulla. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **Public Comment**  
There were no comments from the public.

6. **Presentations**  
   a) **Resolution of Thanks to Outgoing Commissioners**  
   Chairman Crozier presented a Resolution of Thanks to outgoing Commission member Charlotte Hoffman from Madison County and asked the Executive Director to present to Ms. Hoffman at a time and place subsequent to the meeting.
   
   b) **Staff Presentation: Regional Solar Planning Considerations**  
   Chairman Crozier referenced the ongoing interest in solar development in the region and asked J Costello to present to the Commission. J Costello provided an overview of solar planning considerations for utility scale developments and small-scale installation on residential, commercial, and government buildings. Conceptual maps of the region were presented to give a broad sense of areas where solar development may be better suited than other areas of the region.

   Discussion ensued regarding additional considerations and data that impacts solar developments, including flood zones, transmission capacity and location. Commissioners also shared information on recent solar developments and policies at the local level, as well as the potential for design ordinance changes related not only to utility scale projects, but also to rooftop solar installations in towns.

   J Crozier reminded the Commission of the April 13th solar workshop in Remington that will provide more detailed discussion of various facets of solar energy.

7. **Approval of Minutes**  
Chairman Crozier presented the minutes from the December 13, 2017 meeting. D Painter moved to approve the minutes, 2nd by M. Taylor. The motion carried with one abstention (G. Curry).

8. **Intergovernmental Review**  
There were no intergovernmental review items requiring action by the Commission.

9. **Financial Reports**  
   a) **FY 2018 YTD Revenues and Expenditures**  
   Chairman Crozier asked for staff review of item 9A. P Mauney referenced the year to date financial report through January and indicated that revenues and expenses were at 73% and 55%, respectively. Staff expects operating expenses, specifically payroll and insurance costs, to remain below the budget amount for the fiscal year.
10. **Executive Director’s Report**
Chairman Crozier asked P Mauney to provide the Director’s report. P Mauney referenced a recent article in the Rappahannock News about the Foothills Area Mobility System (FAMS) and the work completed by RRRC and its partners in that initiative, and noted the recent Water & Wastewater infrastructure workshop at Montpelier, ongoing changes to the FEMA FIRM mapping in each of the counties in the region, and local assistance provided to Madison County and the Town of Remington.

Commissioners discussed the FIRM changes and overall impact on the region and potential role for the Regional Commission in working to develop education or outreach materials to support the Counties and Towns in ensuring public awareness of the changes.

11. **Staff Updates**

   a) **Foothills Housing Network – Point-in-Time Count**
Chairman Crozier asked C Zielinski to report on the recently completed Point-in-Time Count. C Zielinski noted that January 24th was the annual point-in-time count across the country and provides a snapshot of the region’s homeless population. Since RRRC became the lead agency for the Foothills Housing Network in 2011, homeless counts have trended down. The 2018 count showed 146 homeless individuals (79 homeless households). The number of individuals decreased from 2017, while households increased, but both numbers are down significantly from 2011. C Zielinski shared that there were eight unsheltered homeless individuals on January 24th.

12. **New Business**

   a) **Request from Piedmont Environmental Council Solarize Piedmont Campaign**
Chairman Crozier asked M Edwards to report on item 12-A. M Edwards noted that the Piedmont Environmental Council, along with other partner organizations, sponsors the Solarize Piedmont initiative that provides residential solar assessments in the region, as well as the Solarize NOVA initiative in the Northern Virginia area. PEC requested that the Regional Commission be a partner organization in marketing the Solarize Piedmont initiative during the upcoming season. The RRRC logo would be placed on marketing materials.

P. McCulla moved to approve the request, 2nd by R. Welch. The motion passed unanimously.

b) **RRRC Applications to Virginia Housing Alliance and Virginia Housing Development Authority related to AmeriCorps VISTA**
Chairman Crozier asked P. Mauney to review the requests related to the AmeriCorps VISTA. P Mauney shared that the Executive Committee approved staff sign-off on a Memorandum of Agreement with the Virginia Housing Alliance for a VISTA member to assist with the Foothills Housing Network for one year beginning in late May. P Mauney also referenced $15,000 included in the FY 2018 budget to cover matching funds required for the VISTA program. Subsequently, staff learned of an opportunity to apply for $15,000 in matching funds through the Virginia Housing Development Authority.

D Painter moved to ratify the Executive Committee approval of the MOA with Virginia
Housing Alliance and to approve application for matching funds to the Virginia Housing Development Authority. 2nd by M Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

c) RRRC Application to DHCD for FY 2019 VA Homeless Solutions Program Grant
Chairman Crozier asked P. Mauney to review item 12C. P Mauney referenced the earlier presentation by Cathy Zielinski regarding the Foothills Housing Network and noted that the grant request presented here provides funding for the Commission’s role as FHN lead agency and to operate the Central Entry program.

R Coiner moved to approve the application to DHCD for the FY 2019 VHSP request, 2nd by M Roby. The motion carried unanimously.

d) RRRC Application to DRPT for FY 2019 Vanpool Assistance Funding
Chairman Crozier asked P Mauney to review item 12D. P Mauney noted that the Regional Commission approved in December a grant application for the RRRC Commuter Services program to DRPT for $148,000 (80% State, 20% Local). DRPT subsequently requested a second application for Vanpool Assistance funding in the amount of $10,000 with the same matching rate. D Painter asked for clarification that the $10,000 is in addition to the previously approved request. P Mauney responded that that was correct.

D Painter moved to approve the application to DRPT for Vanpool Assistance funding, 2nd by R Welch. The motion passed unanimously.

e) RRRC Application to VDOT for FY 2019 Rural Transportation Planning Grant
Chairman Crozier asked P Mauney to review item 12E. P Mauney referenced annual funding received from the Virginia Department of Transportation to support rural transportation planning activities in the region. The funding amount of $72,500 (80% Federal/State, 20% Local) will remain the same for FY 2019.

D Painter moved to approve the application for FY 2019 Rural Transportation Planning Grant funding, 2nd by J Hobbs. The motion passed unanimously.

f) 2018 Virginia CDBG Program Regional Priorities
Chairman Crozier asked P Mauney to review item 12F. P Mauney noted the annual request from the Department of Housing & Community Development to set priorities for the Community Development Block Grant program, referencing that the priorities for the region have remained in place for the past ten years. Staff has been notified of two probable CDBG planning grant requests in the region, as well as the potential for a CDBG project in support of the Carver Center in Culpeper. R. Coiner asked whether it would be necessary to adjust the regional priorities. P Mauney reported staff’s recommendation to move Community Service Facility from tier three to tier one, and to move Community Facility to tier two and Economic Development – Development Readiness to tier three.

R Coiner moved to approve the 2018 regional priorities based on staff recommendation, 2nd by B David. The motion carried unanimously.
13. **Election of 2018/2019 Officers for terms beginning March 1, 2018**
Chairman Crozier noted that the current Executive Committee was appointed as the nominating committee at the December meeting and has a slate to present for terms beginning on March 1st. The slate as proposed:

Chair – Jim Crozier, Orange County  
Vice-Chair – Bob Coiner, Town of Gordonsville  
Treasurer – Meaghan Taylor, Town of Culpeper  
At-Large – Jack Hobbs, Madison County  
At-Large – Paul McCulla, Fauquier County

Chairman Crozier asked for nominations from the floor for Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and At-Large members. Hearing none, Chairman Crozier closed the nominations.

P McCulla moved to approve the slate as presented, 2nd by B David. The motion carried unanimously.

14. **Closed Session**
No closed session was held.

15. **Upcoming Meetings**
Chairman Crozier referenced upcoming meetings, including the April 25th Regional Commission meeting, Packages & Promotions workshop on March 21st hosted by the Regional Tourism Committee, and the Solar Planning workshop on April 13th in Remington.

16. **Regional Roundtable**
Commissioners discussed items of interest from their localities.

17. **Adjournment**
R. Welch moved to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by M. Roby.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Patrick L. Mauney  
Secretary & Executive Director

(Drafted by Kristin Lam Peraza)