

**Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 20, 2025 – 5:00 pm**

	<b>Clarke County</b>		<b>Warren County</b>		<b>Stephens City</b>
✓	Bev McKay		Vicky Cook- OUT		Linden Fravel
✓	Brandon Stidham	✓	Cheryl Cullers (alt.)		Mike Majher (alt.)
	<b>Frederick County</b>	✓	John Vance		<b>Strasburg</b>
	John Jewell		<b>Berryville</b>	✓	Ashleigh Kimmons
✓	Eric Lawrence, Vice Chairman		(Jay) Harry Lee Arnold, Jr.		J. Waverly Coggsdale, III
✓	Jay Tibbs		Terry Russell (alt.)		<b>Winchester</b>
✓	Robert T. Liero		<b>Front Royal</b>	✓	Richard Bell
	Wyatt Pearson (alt.)	✓	Melissa DeDomenico-Payne	✓	John Fox
	<b>Page County</b>		Lauren Kopishke (alt.)		Mike Ruddy
	Keith Weakley		<b>Luray</b>		<b>Woodstock</b>
	Morgan Phenix	✓	Ron Vickers	✓	Michelle Manning
	<b>Shenandoah County</b>		<b>Middletown</b>		Lauren Bennett (alt.)
✓	Dennis Morris, Chairman		Carolyn Aliff		
	Steve Baker				
✓	Conrad Helsley				
✓	Joe Lehnen				

**Staff present:** Brandon Davis, Shelley Owens, Karen Taylor, Tina Alley

**Others present:** Mark Rhodes, Certified Public Accountant with Mark, Aukamp, Aukamp & Rhodes, PLC

**Call to Order**

Chairman Morris called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. and thanked everyone for being present. At Chairman Morris's request, Fiscal and Administrative Assistant Tina Alley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Administrative Action Items**

**Consent Agenda**

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes from September 18, 2025

Chairman Morris asked whether there were any amendments or corrections to the consent agenda and requested a motion to approve it. The consent agenda was unanimously approved on a motion by Commissioner Vance, seconded by Commissioner Tibbs.

Chairman Morris indicated that Mr. Davis has been working very hard to complete the new office, including putting together furniture, and that the new office looks wonderful.

Mr. Davis indicated it has been a long time coming, and thanked the executive committee members for their guidance and encouragement throughout the process. He encouraged Commissioners to feel free for their communities to use the space for collaborative purposes in the future.

Mr. Davis provided an update on the broadband project, referencing recent progress in permitting project-wide, the lighting of customer locations in several communities, and significant construction underway in most locations.

## **Reports**

Staff Report—Mr. Davis mentioned that the November report includes pertinent information and urged the Commissioners to distribute it as they deem appropriate.

### **Quarterly Financials:**

Mrs. Owens summarized the financials from July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025 which shows a net income of \$52,323.99.

Chairman Morris thanked Mrs. Owens for her work and dedication to the Commission.

### **Program Spotlight**

Mr. Davis showed a brief video of the pre-renovated office space and reflected on the process, again offering the space for use by NSVRC localities.

**Unfinished Business:** None

### **New Business Items:**

#### **FY2025 Audit:**

Mark Rhodes with Dunham, Aukamp & Rhodes, PLC, presented the draft audit for the year ending June 30, 2025. He stated that the audit results showed no material weaknesses or deficiencies and issued a clean, unqualified opinion.

Commissioner Fox identified two typographical errors in the calculation of business type activity totals on pages 4 and 5 of the audit, requiring an update. Mr. Rhodes noted the oversight and confirmed that the final audit would reflect the corrections as discussed.

Commissioner Kimmons moved to accept the draft audit with corrections as presented, and Commissioner Tibbs seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Morris thanked Mr. Rhodes for his report.

### **Other Business:**

Though no other business was scheduled, Chairman Morris allowed a brief discussion to ensue regarding the upcoming water supply planning effort to be undertaken by the region, and led by NSVRC.

### **Closing Remarks**

#### **Announcements & Commissioner Comments**

Members were offered the opportunity to announce upcoming events and provide updates on projects in their communities.

#### **Partner Comments—**

- Mr. Davis thanks Mrs. Owens for her work facilitating the audit, and offered commentary on the long-term financial model of PDCs in Virginia, specifically raising concern about the limitations on service delivery caused by constrained funding sources to provide grant match.

- Chairman Morris raised the question of whether the region should consider engaging a lobbyist to help the towns and counties with funding requests and relationships in Richmond.
- Commissioner DeDomenico-Payne mentioned Front Royal's ongoing work to determine water availability to support growth.
- Commissioner Cullers announced an upcoming broadband ground-breaking ceremony, the hiring of a new County Administrator, and board changes in Warren County.
- Commissioner Bell announced that the City of Winchester is currently searching for a new City Manager, and mentioned a significant redevelopment effort underway in the City.
- Chairman Morris announced that Nora Belle Comer's husband passed away a few months ago, and she is having some health issues. Please keep her in our prayers.
- Chairman Morris reminded everyone of the upcoming ZeroPac tour in Winchester, and encouraged folks to attend.

Chairman Morris thanked the Commission for each member's loyal engagement and commitment every month.

Hearing no other business, Chairman Morris adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:15 p.m.