



# Minutes from 12 Dec 2019

## HRMFFA Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting

1. HRMFFA's quarterly Board of Directors meeting was held at the Regional Building in Chesapeake on 12 December 2019. Public Board members present were: Mayors Rabil, Rowe, Tuck and West; Supervisor Hipple and Councilman Southall. City Manager Tom Leahy represented Mayor Dyer. Private Board members present were: Banez, Baugh, Curtis, Faulkner, Melo and Stephens. Mr. Karl Johnson represented Joe Campbell and BAE Systems Ship Repair. Mr. Gary Jones represented Mark Klett and KCG. Mr. Bill Brown represented Mark Dreyfus and ECPI University. Executive Director Quigley, Deputy Executive Director Dwyer and Treasurer Wilson were also present. A quorum was achieved.
2. Board Chair Tuck called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and offered welcoming remarks. He then welcomed Ms. Terry Banez, CEO of the Greater Williamsburg Chamber and Tourism Alliance, to the HRMFFA Board as an ex-officio member as this was her first Board meeting.
3. Chair Tuck asked if there were any public comments; there were none.
4. Executive Director Quigley went over the end of November financials. He noted the Board/Business Meeting line item was over budget due to the October board trip to DC being included. A breakout of the DC trip expenses was included. There were no comments or questions from the Board.
5. Mr. John Martin of SIR then presented to the Board the results of the regional rebranding initiative sponsored by the Hampton Roads Chamber and Reinvent Hampton Roads. The regional moniker the study came up with is "The 757." Mr. Martin stated there were five key insights developed over the nine-month study:
  - Hampton Roads is behind other regions with similar 1 – 3 million populations
  - The region's population is aging; resembles a rectangle instead of a pyramid
  - Hampton Roads doesn't market itself as a region; just individual municipalities
  - Hard for residents and business leaders to identify the entire region
  - If we just launch a new name, we'll end up dividing the region even further





He stated the 757 is already in use and popular today, especially among young people. There were also recurring identity trends from the survey respondents when asked what they see as key aspects of the region. Those key identifiers were water, military, history and diversity and should be emphasized in a regional marketing initiative. The 757 is not meant to replace Hampton Roads and should be used in conjunction with an organization's existing name (i.e. "...a 757 community." or "...a 757 business"). Mayor West remarked that no one can tell whether it will work as a marketing initiative, but what the region has been doing hasn't worked so we should support the effort. Mr. Stephens pointed out that a lot of the research shows that 757 resonates very well with military personnel, a key demographic the region is trying to support and retain when they separate from service. Mr. Southall asked who sets the region's area code and what if it changes? Mr. Martin stated they had talked to the State Corporation Commission about that and said there will likely be another area code added when current numbers are exhausted in a few years. However, he said respondents identified 757 as a geographic area and not a phone number so they did not think another area code would be a problem.

6. Executive Director Quigley asked Matt Herrmann from The Roosevelt Group (TRG) to provide his Washington Update. Mr. Herrmann provided the Board a status update of the FY20 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), FY20 appropriations bills, GAO Public Shipyard Modernization report, and DoD leadership changes.

Key items of interest included:

- The FY20 NDAA was just passed out of the conference committee and the House overwhelmingly approved it by 377 to 48. The Senate is expected to take up the bill and pass it next week and the President has signaled his support for the legislation. The NDAA includes authorization for a new Space Force to fall under the Department of the Air Force, similar to the Marine Corps as a component of the Navy Department. Other key provisions include: a 3.1% pay raise for service members; 12 weeks of paid parental leave for all federal employees; requiring DoD to include climate and energy resilience into their facility standards; authorizing \$75M for the Defense Community Infrastructure Program; \$653M for Navy ship maintenance; maintain minimum of 11 aircraft carriers; \$360M for eight MILCON projects in Hampton Roads.
- House and Senate leadership quietly agreed to spending levels for all 12 appropriations bills and they hope to have them approved prior to the current CR expiring on 20 Dec.



- The Government Accountability Office (GAO) recently released a report on public shipyard modernization, which was critical of the Navy's cost estimates to do the work. The Navy is currently developing detailed digital models of the four public shipyards to enable simulations to inform the modernization plan in 2020.
  - Charles Williams was nominated to be the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations and Environment on 2 Dec. Lucian Niemeyer currently fills the position in an "acting" capacity. Niemeyer will likely continue as Acting ASN for several months while the Senate is busy with the impeachment trial.
7. Executive Director Quigley directed members to the notes staff took during the trip to DC at the end of October to meet with various federal leaders and our CODEL. He asked for thoughts and impressions from Board Members who went on the trip and whether they thought it was valuable and should be continued. Mayor Rowe said he thought the trip was very valuable and we should definitely do it again in 2020 around the same time. He also noted during the visit that the military looks at the value of its bases and cares very much about cyber, energy, and flooding resiliency and therefore so should our region. Mr. Stephens stated he mentioned the Board's visit to Acting Secretary of the Navy Modly during his lunch with the Hampton Roads Chamber on Tuesday. Secretary Modly indicated he was aware of the visit, that it went well, and noted the tremendous support from Hampton Roads. Mr. Southall stated he had been on many trips during his career that he saw as "boondoggles" and weren't worth the time and money. However, he said he thought this trip was very worthwhile. He thought the Board was very well received by DoD leadership and was impressed with their knowledge of the region. Mayor Rowe added that we are not far away like San Diego and it would be a shame on us if we didn't take advantage of our proximity to DC. Given the consensus to continue the annual trip, Mr. Quigley recommended the Board be prepared to discuss whether they wanted to keep the trip to a single day, or make it a 2-day trip to enable a CODEL breakfast on the second day that may enable more of the CODEL to participate. We will also commit to a date at the April meeting to allow more lead time for planning. Given the election next year, Mr. Herrmann recommended the trip take place in September.
8. Mr. Quigley invited Mr. Gary Jones from Klett Consulting Group to address the board about 5G/small cell networks. Mr. Jones gave the board a presentation on what 5G is, how it's different from current 4G and 4G LTE networks, and how it will be 100 times faster than current networks with a lot more throughput which will enable more connected devices on the "Internet of Things" or IoT. He pointed out that 5G networks will be national critical infrastructure and have

Implications for national security. Since 5G networks will utilize software-defined digital routing it can make them more susceptible to malicious actors introducing harmful code to the networks. Additionally, there will be a lot more 5G antennas in the network which could be used as points of entry into the network. It is important that Hampton Roads be mindful of 5G network vulnerabilities in future development given the large military presence here.

9. Mr. Bob Crum, Executive Director of the HRPDC, briefed the Board on the region's new Broadband Authority and plans for a broadband fiber ring. Mr. Crum stated the three undersea highspeed data cables landing in Virginia Beach are the only cables on the east coast between the northeast and Florida. These cables in Virginia will more than triple the capacity of all the other existing cables combined. The region is taking a phased approach to its fiber ring with the first phase to be constructed on the Southside and the second phase connecting to the Peninsula. The ring will connect the various municipalities, community colleges and universities throughout the region. Mr. Crum said the RFP was published on 5 December and a pre-proposal conference is set for 17 December which will result in an addendum to the RFP. Deadline for receipt of proposals is currently set for 14 January.
10. Mr. Quigley then invited Supervisor Hipple as Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee to update the Board on HRMFFA's FY21 budget. Mr. Hipple stated the committee met that morning to go over the initial draft budget. That draft will be provided to all Board members to review between now and the April Board meeting where we'll discuss further. He also said the committee requested the staff forward to the Board and Chief Administrative Officers what HRMFFA's FY21 ask of all the municipalities will be so they can start working the numbers into the budgeting process earlier.
11. Mayor Tuck then briefed the Board on the recent NASA Advisory Committee meeting that took place on 6 December. Mayor Tuck said that NASA Langley Research Center (LaRC) Director Clayton Turner and Government Relations Director, Donna Lawson, met with the group for an update on impacts of the lack of FY20 appropriations on the center, future potential impacts if they remain under a continuing resolution (CR), government shutdown implications, and NASA Langley's role in the return to the moon mission. Mr. Turner said CRs are obviously bad for the center due to the uncertainty they create regarding funding and budget execution for the year. They also necessitate planning for potential shutdowns should another CR not be passed which is an inefficient use of their time. If programs are not funded at their FY20 approved

levels, NASA will not be able to meet an already aggressive schedule to return to the moon by 2024. A full year CR could also put Langley's new \$45 million Flight Dynamics Research Facility (or vertical spin tunnel) at risk because NASA's overall facility budget will be about \$200 million less under a CR than it would under a FY20 appropriation. There is also a Human Landing System contract, led by the Marshall Space Flight Center in Alabama, with a lot of work done at Langley, that would not go forward under a CR. Additional hiring authorities needed in FY20 would also not be available which would keep NASA and Langley from meeting the Artemis (return to moon) program timelines. As bad as a full-year CR would be, another government shutdown like last year would be MUCH worse in terms of delays to programs and impacts to employees and contractors. The committee discussed several ways HRMFFA could carry the message of how important it is for Congress to pass a FY20 budget in a timely manner. The consensus is for the staff to draft a memo to our CODEL urging them to do everything they can to get a FY20 budget passed as soon as possible. Mr. Quigley stated he would provide the memo to Mayor Tuck this week.

12. Mr. Quigley then invited the Board's attention to HRMFFA's draft FY21 Legislative Priorities in their binders. He asked Board members to review the priorities and let the staff know if they have any others they think should be added to the list, or whether any should be removed. The plan is to hold off on going final on the priorities until after we have a chance to review the President's FY21 budget submission (scheduled for early February) and its impacts on the region. In order for staff to deliver the priorities to our CODEL in a timely manner, we may have to send out the final draft priorities for approval via email before our next Board meeting in April. Mr. Quigley also reminded members to contact the staff if they needed a refill of their HRMFFA challenge coin supply. He also stated Supervisor Hipple had requested the staff brief the James City County Board of Supervisors on HRMFFA activities, and we could do the same for any of the other Board members' organizations.
13. Mayor Rowe stated that he and Mr. Faulkner would like the record to reflect "Go Army, Beat Navy." However, several Board members objected vigorously. 😊
14. Chair Tuck thanked the Board for their attendance, wished everyone a Happy Holidays and adjourned the meeting at 11:59 a.m.