

SOUTHSIDE PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION
Virtual Quarterly Meeting
January 22, 2026

Brunswick County	Present	Virtual	Absent
Dr. Alfonzo Seward			X
Leslie Weddington – Treasurer	X		
Dr. Barbara Jarrett-Harris		X	
Halifax County			
Larry Roller	X		
William Claiborne			X
Jerry Lovelace	X		
Keith McDowell			X
Ron Brade	X		
Mecklenburg County			
Joe Cappaert	X		
Charlie Simmons			X
Claudia Lundy	X		
Tom Tanner – Chair	X		
Kirk Gravitt			X
South Boston			
Joseph Chandler	X		
George Leonard – Vice Chair	X		
South Hill			
Keli Reekes	X		
Lillie Feggins-Boone	X		
TOTAL	11	1	5

Staff	Present	Virtual	Absent
Andy Wells, Executive Director	X		
Leslie Kubasek, Finance Director/HR	X		
Ashleigh Zincone, Senior Community Planner	X		
Sangi Cooper, Senior Planner			X
Chad Neese, Senior Planner/GIS Specialist	X		
Tyler Creedle, GIS Coordinator	X		
Donna Wall, Community Project Manager	X		
Tanya Jessup, Administrative Assistant	X		
	X		

Guests in Attendance:

Scott Simpson, previous commissioner from Halifax County.

Kim Callis, previous commissioner from the Town of South Hill.

David Lipscomb Vice President of Member and Energy Services from Empower Broadband, was in attendance as the Guest Speaker.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF NEW COMMISSIONERS

- Keli Reekes – Town of South Hill
- Ron Brade – Halifax County
- Larry Roller – Halifax County

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chair Tanner asked for public comments. Hearing none, the public comment period was closed.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda including the Meeting Agenda, Meeting Minutes dated October, 30, 2025, and the Treasurer's Report dated December 31, 2025 were submitted in the meeting packet emailed prior to the meeting. **Joseph Chandler made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Lillie Feggins Boone, the motion carried unanimously.**

RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING COMMISSIONERS

Chair Tanner recognized the three outgoing Commissioners.

- Mr. Kim Callis, Town of South Hill, served since 2007.
- Mr. Stanley Brandon, Halifax County, served since 2018.
- Mr. Scotts Simpson, Halifax County, served since 2019.

Chair Tanner highlighted the meaningful contributions they have each made to the Commission. Chair Tanner made a motion to consider adopting the resolutions recognizing and honoring the service of Mr. Callis, Mr. Brandon, and Mr. Simpson. Executive Director Wells read each of the three resolutions in full. **Leslie Weddington made a motion to adopt the Resolutions, seconded by Lillie Feggins Boone, the motion carried unanimously.**

After adoption of the resolutions, Chair Tanner invited Kim Callis and Scott Simpson to the front of the room to receive their awards, recognizing their service on the Executive Committee and Mr. Callis's tenure as Chair. Mr. Callis shared remarks reflecting on his time with the Commission and spoke highly of the PDC's commitment to non-partisan collaboration and working together for the good of all.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Andy Wells reported on the following:

- Executive Director Wells began his report by personally thanking Scott Simpson and Kim Callis for their commitment to the Commission and for their support during the Executive Director

transition. He also thanked the Commission for its continued support and willingness to serve on committees.

- Executive Director Wells reported that he officially assumed the role on October 1st, sharing responsibilities with Deborah Gosney during October and fully transitioning into the position in November.
- Conferences and Meetings – Executive Director Wells attended the NADO Training Conference in Salt Lake City and the VAPDC Training Conference in Richmond. He has met with all member locality administrators, several non-members, and has additional meetings scheduled. He has also met with other PDC Executive Directors and attended VAPDC Board and Executive Directors meetings. Since October, he has participated in over a dozen GO Virginia-related meetings.
- Project Activity – There are currently 84 active projects, plans, and initiatives underway. Additional details are included in the active projects list and year-in-review provided in the meeting packet.
- Staffing Updates – A significant accomplishment this last quarter was hiring Donna Wall as Community Project Manager. She has transitioned into the role successfully. Tyler Creedle was promoted from GIS Technician to GIS Coordinator in December.
- Staff Recognition – Executive Director Wells commended the staff for their dedication and commitment to the region's localities. Following staffing changes, team members assumed additional responsibilities while continuing to take on new projects to ensure uninterrupted services. He also noted that during recent snow days, staff voluntarily worked remotely despite not being required to do so.
- Locality Feedback – Executive Director Wells reported that he has requested candid feedback from county administrators and town managers and has received positive responses, with localities expressing satisfaction with services provided and the value received.
- Executive Director Wells concluded his report by expressing his gratitude for the staff's professionalism and commitment to serving the Commission and its member localities.

GUEST SPEAKER

Chair Tanner introduced guest speaker David Lipscomb, Vice President of Member & Energy Services at Empower Broadband. Mr. Lipscomb provided an update on the SPDC Regional Fiber Broadband Project, including current totals for fiber installed, premises passed, and overall project investment to date. He also discussed ongoing efforts to reach unserved areas and highlighted the use of the project website as a resource for coverage information.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Chair Tanner made the following appointments for the Executive Committee. Jerry Lovelace will replace Scott Simpson representing Halifax County and Lillie Feggins-Boone will replace Kim Callis for the Town of South Hill. Leslie Weddington, George Leonard and Tom Tanner (Chair) remain on the Executive Committee as well.

Chair Tanner appointed a Nominations Committee for 2026. The members of the Committee are Joe Cappaert, Lillie Feggins-Boone, George Leonard, Tom Tanner and Leslie Weddington.

ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS

Chair and Vice Chair are up for election this January. George Leonard read the Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair. Tom Tanner was re-elected as Chair and Jerry Lovelace as Vice-Chair. Leslie Weddington was re-elected as Treasurer by the Executive Committee. **Lillie Feggins-Boone made a motion to approve the Election of Officers, seconded by Joe Chandler, the motion carried unanimously.**

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:47 p.m.


Tom Tanner, PDC Chair


Andy Wells, PDC Secretary