

MSRC Members and guests met at the MSRC office to board a bus to take them to Tilghman Island for a Poplar Island Tour. Members that attended included: Carolyn Spicher, Dan Rider, Dirck Bartlett, Gale Nashold, Jerome Stanley, Maria D'Arcy, William Cooper and Mike Silgen. MSRC staff present was Scott Warner and Terry Deighan. Guests present were: Jack Keats, Sherry Levensgood, Kevin Deighan, Linda Prochaska of Senator Mikulski's office, Jim McCormick, IT Director of Caroline County, Mike Pennington, Kristie Eberly and Jerry Boston all from the TCCLES and Kelley Cox of Tilghman Island met us at the boat. MSRC also invited the DCT bus driver to join us on the tour. We boarded a boat that took us to Poplar Island at 9:00 a.m. and returned from the tour at 12:00 p.m. Everyone seemed to really enjoy the tour. Our tour guides were very entertaining and informative and we would highly recommend this tour to everyone.

The group then traveled to Harrison's Chesapeake House for the MSRC meeting. MSRC member Walter Chase and Chesapeake Bay Region Technical Center of Excellence (CBRTCE) C.E.O. and MUST Coordinator John General joined us for the meeting portion of the day. Introductions were made and the meeting was called to order at 12:25 p.m.

#### Action Items

Chairman Bartlett announced he was in possession of proxies for Senator Colburn and Delegates Eckardt and Haddaway-Riccio. Also in Chairman Bartlett's possession were electronic votes by member Allen Nelson on the two voting items under Action Items. Mr. Nelson was not able to attend the meeting at the last minute. These signed votes will be placed among the minutes (see attached).

#### *Approval of June 13, 2013 Minutes*

The first order was approval of June 13, 2013 minutes. Mr. Stanley made a motion to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded by Mr. Chase and the minutes were approved by unanimous consent as presented.

#### *Treasurer's Report*

The second order of business was presentation of the current Treasurer's Report. As Treasurer Fuchs was not present, Mr. Warner presented the report stating that everything is on target. Being no questions, Ms. Spicher made a motion to accept the report; the motion was seconded by Mr. Rider and approved unanimously.

## Old Business

### *Regional Medical Center Campus EDA grant*

MSRC Chairman Dirck Bartlett gave the following update regarding the project. He stated the Talbot County Council and the Town of Easton received a letter from EDA Philadelphia Regional Office Director Willie Taylor dated August 16, 2013 informing them the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) has approved their application for a \$1.65 million grant to support the construction of the sewer force main system to benefit the Shore Health System's Medical Center Campus. The grantees accepted the grant award. Signed documents were returned to EDA on September 11, 2013. Shore Health System is awaiting the Certificate of Need (CON) approval.

### *Maryland Upper Shore Transit (MUST)*

MUST Coordinator John General stated the MSRC was notified by a letter from the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) dated July 29, 2013 that the MSRC was awarded a FY2014 Statewide Coordination and Technical Assistance (SCATA) grant to support the MUST program. The formal grant agreement documents should arrive in the near future. The five counties that MUST operates are Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot, Kent and Queen Anne's. Also, the bus advertising RFP is in the final stages of completion. BEACON has completed the draft RFP and MOU. The draft RFP is currently under review by all partners: DCS/DCT, QACR, Shore Transit, and MSRC/MUST. The draft MOU between DCS and BEACON is under review as well. Once all partners have signed off the RFP will be sent to MTA for final approval. DCT and QACR are currently reviewing their bus routes. MUST will update the website and print new schedules once the providers determine appropriate route changes.

### *Eastern Shore Regional GIS Cooperative (ESRGC)*

ESRGC Director Mike Scott was unable to come to the meeting due to a scheduling conflict, but sent the following update that Mr. Warner gave. Since our last update in December, all's well at your Eastern Shore Regional GIS Cooperative! The ESRGC hired Russell Provost, via the Maryland Broadband Mapping grant, to build a statewide address point file that will not only help our broadband mapping, but will be of considerable use to 911 call centers. Russell has finished his initial collection (of 19 counties) and shared that information back to the counties that participated. He is currently working out legal agreements that will allow the other 5 counties to get involved, as well as preparing a proposal to the Emergency System Numbers Board to improve the quality of counties' address point files. Russell is a Salisbury University (SU) employee but works from the Maryland Department of Information Technology (DoIT) in Annapolis.

The ESRGC hired John McQuaid and Ed Vitalos, via the Maryland Broadband Mapping grant, to help facilitate the implementation of the regional broadband plans. They came on board a few months ago and have been talking and meeting with many of you. Hopefully, we will be able to report on some success stories soon.

The ESRGC also hired Eric Flint, a recent SU grad, to support the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation (DLLR) in their launch of an unemployment insurance fraud detection and case investigation system. He splits his time between Baltimore and Salisbury.

The ESRGC worked with several towns and counties (Federalburg, Denton, Trappe, and Caroline County) on a variety of GIS activities. Unfortunately, Molly Griffin who was heading our new local outreach effort has moved on to a new job. We'll be looking to replace her soon.

The ESRGC has been heavily involved in reviewing the new aerial photography of the Shore, taken in March and scheduled to be delivered throughout the fall. It looks excellent (nice job, Axis Geospatial of Easton) and will further improve mapping across the Eastern Shore.

The ESRGC has taken on new projects with the National Audubon Society, DoIT, and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, among others.

Caroline County's new Critical Area maps have been completed – they will be moving to a public review process shortly. Queen Anne's County is not far behind.

#### *Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) for Naval Air Station Patuxent River*

Chairman Bartlett stated that a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting on the Eastern Shore will be held on Wednesday, October 2, at the Dorchester County Public Library in Cambridge. It will begin at 12:30pm. Also, a public meeting for the Mid-Eastern Shore is scheduled for Wednesday, October 2, at the Talbot County Free Library in Easton. It will begin at 7:00pm.

#### *Other Projects and Initiatives*

Chairman Bartlett asked if anyone had any questions regarding:

- The Business and Technology Parks of either Caroline County or Dorchester County
- Maryland Broadband Cooperative
- Eastern Shore Entrepreneurship Center (ESEC)
- Shore Gourmet
- GeoDASH Initiative

There were no questions.

#### New Business

None

## Other matters

Mr. Warner stated the Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund (RMPIF) is in need of support letters. The support letters will be requested by the Rural Maryland Council in support of the RMPIF. Please send letters to the Governor and Lt. Governor. A few updates to the fund are being requested and will hopefully be changed in the 2014 legislative session including changing the sunset date from 2020 to 2030 and adding a new section - Rural Health Care.

RMC is requesting \$6 million starting in Fiscal Year 2015 with a breakdown as follows:

- \$2 million to be split among the five regional councils
- \$1 million to be split between the Rural Maryland Council and the Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund
- \$1 million for rural infrastructure projects
- \$1 million for rural entrepreneurship activities, and
- \$1 million for rural health care organizations.

### *Scheduled Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) meeting*

Mr. Bartlett stated the first CEDS Committee meeting will be on Wednesday, October 9, 2013 at 12:00pm at the Talbot County Community Center, Wye Oak Room, in Easton.

## Member comments/requests

Mr. Warner thanked the owner of Harrison's Chesapeake House, Buddy Harrison, for allowing the MSRC to have its meeting at the restaurant. Mr. Warner noted that Mr. Harrison was the first Chairman of the MSRC.

## Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:43 p.m.