

Meeting opened at 6:04 pm.

North Carolina State Representative Larry Strickland is welcomed.

Central Pines Regional Council (CPRC) Executive Director Lee Worsley asks that members of the committee email Tyler Queen at [tqueen@centralpinesnc.gov](mailto:tqueen@centralpinesnc.gov) with any requests to adjust previous sets of minutes.

Lee Worsley let the committee know that there is no update on Zoom presentation or annexation questions. An update should be expected at the next meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

JD Solomon from JD Solomon Solutions was welcomed and invited to present information on regionalization and county information from the Black and Veatch study. The presentation slides can be found [HERE](#). JD offered his email: [jd.solomon@jdsolomonsolutions.com](mailto:jd.solomon@jdsolomonsolutions.com) should any further questions come up. The full report is expected to be presented to the county on April 15<sup>th</sup>, Black and Veatch will present to this committee at the April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

A question was raised about handling short-term repairs and maintenance on water and sewer infrastructure before the formation of a potential authority can be finalized. Representative Strickland spoke on doing what he can to replace existing, old infrastructure. He wants to focus on strengthening the current systems to be better prepared for growth. He states that the regionalization project still has a lot to discuss and work out, so he will continue to work for funding to piece together fixes as he can.

Representative Strickland also emphasized the importance of the members of the study committee having a master plan for the future, whether as individuals or as an authority. Having a plan makes it a lot easier to go in and ask for funding. A point is raised that combining smaller local improvements into medium sized projects can be helpful in accessing funding and solving longer-term issues.

Lee Worsley brought up the provided by-law examples and says the CPRC will work to get full documents on utility ordinances that get into the details of growth and service. A point is made that while annexation may be a concern, it is not so concerning that other communities involved in water and sewer authorities are not growing and annexing. At the next meeting, CPRC will have more information on annexation as well as utility ordinances.

Lee Worsley stated that this group should focus on high-level decisions and worry about the details later, once a barebones structure is determined. It is a good idea to have a skeleton structure in place as soon as possible, because the makeup of the committee will change over time.

It was agreed to table governance discussion until more information is available.

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.