

Baltimore Metropolitan Council



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Anne Arundel County
Baltimore City
Baltimore County
Carroll County
Harford County
Howard County

BMC BOARD OF DIRECTORS April 20, 2011

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Honorable Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Mayor, Baltimore City and Chair, Baltimore Metropolitan Council

Honorable Kevin Kamenetz, Baltimore County Executive

Honorable Haven Shoemaker, Vice-President, Board of County Commissioners, Carroll County

OTHERS PRESENT

Rick Ayers, Harford County Emergency Management

Brian Feist, Harford County Emergency Management

Cal Bowman, Baltimore UASI

Ed Hines, Baltimore County Department of Public Works

Jamie Lake, Maryland Department of Transportation

Lt. Robert Maloney, Director of the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management

Ryan O'Doherty, Baltimore City

Sam Moxley, Baltimore County

Deborah Meehan, Baltimore County

Scott Merback, Baltimore County Fire Department

Ryan Miller, Howard County

Steve Myer, Baltimore County

Cordell Martin, NGB/DD & J, LLC

David Nitkin, Howard County

Cindy Parr, Carroll County

Steve Powell, Carroll County

Marianne Souders, Carroll County

BMC STAFF PRESENT

Larry W. Klimovitz, Executive Director

Regina Aris

Barbara Herron

Michael Kelly

Todd Lang

Mary Logan

Brad Spittel

Mayor Rawlings-Blake called the meeting to order at 2:45 p.m.

Presentations

Quarterly Update by Urban Area Work Group (UAWG)

Mayor Rawlings-Blake introduced Lt. Robert Maloney, Director of the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to give the quarterly update of the Urban Area Work Group (UAWG). Lt. Maloney stated that he would report on three areas. The first area he discussed was the funding for the Homeland Security for FY 2011. He stated that there will be an overall reduction of 2% in the program. The UASI reduction will be 18%. More staggering is the reduction of the State Homeland Security Program. We anticipate that funding could be reduced by as much as 24%. Lt. Maloney reported that we expect the guidance in mid-May. The 24% reduction for UASI will mean about \$2.2 million. Our plan is to continue to maintain our level of preparedness and prioritize future equipment purchases.

Lt. Maloney then discussed the Baltimore Regional Emergency Assistance Compact. The updates for this revision are being led by Chief Joe Herr. He has been working with Larry Klimovitz and other members of the BMC. He stated that we anticipate lowering the threshold for triggering the agreement, identifying activation procedures for specific regional assets, and to create an annual compact with the BMC.

Lt. Maloney then reported on an operation that took place at Patapsco State Park. He introduced the Chairman of the Urban Search and Rescue Task Force. The good news is that we never use this group; the bad news is that it is hard sometimes to justify the collection of expensive assets and the level of training that those assets require to implement. Recently, there was an incident where we utilized the Maryland Task Force. This was the first USAR deployment in the region. He contacted all of the UASI representatives and asked for permission to deploy the USAR team, which is under his command. Forty-four members were mobilized to conduct a search within Patapsco State Park for a young lady from Baltimore who disappeared. Police departments in various jurisdictions received information she was in a remote area of the park, an area very challenging with abandoned buildings. There was broad jurisdictional participation.

Lt. Maloney closed by saying that our main goal is to try to buy and train on what we use everyday. This will help in our daily work.

Presentation by New Generation Bio-fuels

Mayor Rawlings-Blake introduced Mr. Cordell Martin of New Generation Bio-fuels to give this presentation. Before he began, the Mayor stated that the Baltimore City Department of General Services has been working with New Generation Bio-fuels to evaluate long-term use of renewable bio-fuels in Baltimore City boilers. Last December, the City began burn tests using New Generation Bio-fuels at three facilities (Back River Wastewater Treatment Plant, Eastern Health Center, and the Pimlico Fire and Police Training Facilities). These are clean burning vegetable-based alternatives that can be used to replace number two heating oil. The Mayor then turned the meeting over to New Generation Bio-fuels.

Mr. Klimovitz stated that Mr. Martin gave his presentation to the Baltimore Regional Cooperative Purchasing Committee's (BRCPC) Energy Subcommittee. While Baltimore City is in the midst of testing this, there are also school systems and other jurisdictions that are interested.

Mr. Martin thanked the Council for the opportunity to make the presentation. He stated that his company, DD & J, LLC, an energy management company, corporately-based in Howard County was hired by New Generation. He stated that the fuel can be made from a variety of feed stock, vegetable oil

is but one. Some of the testing we are doing with the city has been postponed until the fall because some of the fuel tanks we were going to use need work. We have worked with Ted Atwood and Mike Cook from the City and agreed to lengthen the time period. But, it doesn't change what this offers. We are also working on the development of a marine fuel. It may possibly be manufactured by using switch grass grown in Maryland. He then discussed the cost. He stated that because of the research we believe that by late spring – early summer, we will have a feedstock called pyrolysis oil (a waste product) which won't be dependent on government subsidies or tax incentives to be profitable.

Mr. Martin believes we can make it less costly than what we would now pay in fuel costs. Currently, the purchase of fuel is based on the commodities market. If we made our own fuel, we are no longer dependent on fossil fuels. For the initial testing, our company will match what you pay for fuel oil No. 2. Our intent is to lower your cost so it would be less than traditional fuel. Worst case scenario is that it doesn't work. We are asking that you take a look at it.

Mr. Klimovitz suggested that due to the fact that we were waiting on the arrival of one more member to meet a quorum, we move to the next agenda item. Mayor Rawlings-Blake agreed and Mr. Klimovitz proceeded with Program Updates.

Program Updates

Baltimore Regional GIS Committee

Mr. Klimovitz reported that in CY '10, the previous Board agreed to initiate a new project to develop a regional Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data base. One of the things we saw was a great success with the development of the Regional Data Base for Pawn Shops. This led to a great reduction in robberies. We thought it would be helpful if we could develop and house at BMC a regional data base for a variety of different geographic systems. This process began late last year. Mr. Klimovitz introduced Mr. Brad Spittel, GIS Coordinator, to give a brief update. Mr. Klimovitz stated that Mr. Spittel chairs the GIS Subcommittee. He stated that each jurisdiction has a representative on this subcommittee.

Mr. Spittel thanked the Mayor and Board for this opportunity. He stated that through some great coordination and collaboration, the Baltimore Regional GIS Committee (BRGISC) has finalized the Regional Data Sharing MOA. The MOA has been approved by each of the GIS managers and legal offices. The main focus of the MOA is to aid in the data-sharing between BRGISC partners and establish a formal document for data sharing. Mr. Spittel stated as an example some of the types of information we are looking at are: parcels, address points, road center lines, transit and rail lines, water and sewer boundaries, as well as hydrology. The data sharing will give BMC the most up to date and accurate data sets available for regional planning projects and studies. This is a huge time saver for everyone. We will no longer need an agreement for every project. We built this MOA from the Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor (CSSC) data sharing MOA, which was used for the CSSC mapping application developed for the BRAC initiative. Thus far, this has been signed by Baltimore City, Baltimore and Harford counties. He stated that we hoped to get this MOA signed within the next month.

Mr. Spittel turned further comments over to Mr. Kelly to discuss the MOA. Mr. Kelly indicated that he has been in contact with the local jurisdictions' legal departments to get approval of the MOA.

Mr. Klimovitz reminded everyone of the Street Smart Program that is coming up shortly. He stated that the first event is scheduled in Howard County on June 21st.

BRCPC Activities

Mr. Klimovitz then reported on the Baltimore Regional Cooperative Purchasing Committee (BRCPC). He referred to the Annual Report 2010 and all of the subcommittees that this group is involved with. He also reported on the contracts and items that are purchased and the money that is saved through this group. Mr. Klimovitz stated that energy is a very important area for this group and that Steve Myer and Debbie Mehan would give an update.

Mr. Myer reported to the BMC Board and discussed a new contract for a long-term power purchase with Energy Answers. We started signing the contract on March 2nd. He stated that all 22 jurisdictions should have completely executed the contract by July 1st. This means that we can purchase 25 mw of power being produced in the BGE zone in Baltimore. We won't have to worry about the congestion price coming in from the western side of the grid. We are buying capacity at the same time. The prices start in 2013 because of the lead time we were requiring for offerors. The company is building a waste to energy plant. It is anticipated it will be classified as a Tier 1. The State DGS is interested in another 25 mw. The plant will produce 140 mw which will be sold to other customers. They will take waste products from other developing partners in Fairfield and produce electricity from that. For us, the cost will be \$68/mw hour starting in 2013. We are also buying capacity which is one of the reasons we started this endeavor. The capacity charge is set by PJM.

To the overall energy consortium we've added two additional school systems. We have 23 jurisdictions now participating. He stated we are planning to compete for another power purchase agreement, concentrating on solar power. He concluded by saying that this is what the Energy Board is currently working on. Mr. Klimovitz briefly discussed the cost savings from this group. He further stated that Mr. Harry Bain, of the BMC staff coordinates all of the BRCPC activities.

FY 2011 3rd Quarter Financials

Mr. Klimovitz stated that for the month of March, which we just closed out, we are well below budget. The projected net income for this fiscal year is \$56,246.00. We are about three times where we expected to be at almost \$175,000.

Action Item –Approval of Minutes from November 25, 2010

Mr. Klimovitz stated that the minutes were presented to the Management Committee with the recommendation that they be approved. Mayor Rawlings-Blake called for a motion to approve the minutes. County Executive Kamenetz motioned for approval and it was seconded by Commissioner Shoemaker. As there were no corrections or additions to the minutes, they were approved unanimously by voice vote.

Action Item – Nomination of BMC Board Vice-Chair for Calendar Year 2011

Mayor Rawlings-Blake moved on to the next action item. Commissioner Shoemaker nominated County Executive Kamenetz as Vice-Chair. Mayor Rawlings-Blake seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Action Item – Consideration of Proposed BMC Operating Budget for FY 2012

The next item was the proposed BMC Operating Budget for FY 2012. Mr. Klimovitz noted the materials contained in the packets. He stated this was information he reviews with the Management Committee representatives every year. He noted the dues and payment structure for 2012. He then presented charts which explained the BMC's projected revenue and expenses. Mayor Rawlings-Blake called for a motion to approve the Operating Budget for FY 2012. Motion was made by County Executive Kamenetz to approve and Commissioner Shoemaker seconded the motion. Mayor Rawlings-Blake noted that County Executive Ulman submitted his absentee ballot. As there were no comments, the FY 2011 operating budget was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Action Item – Consideration of BMC Resolution 2011-1

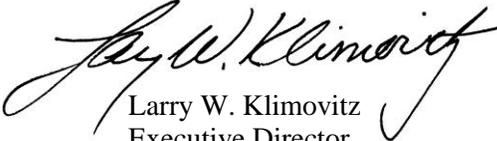
Mr. Klimovitz stated that this resolution maintains BMC's Retirement Plan to make a contribution to the Plan year ending June 30, 2012. He stated that he is asking for authorization to contribute to the trust maintained under the Plan an amount equal to 8.62% of each participant's compensation to be allocated to each participants' accounts for the Plan year ending June 30, 2012. He added that there is no long-term continuing financial obligation to the BMC. Mayor Rawlings-Blake called for a motion to approve. The motion was made to approve by Commissioner Shoemaker and seconded by County Executive Kamenetz. As there were no comments, the BMC Resolution 2011-1 was approved unanimously by voice vote. Mayor Rawlings-Blake noted that County Executive Ulman submitted his absentee ballot for this action item.

Mr. Klimovitz reminded everyone of the upcoming meeting on June 22, 2011 from 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. and November 14, 2011 at 2:30 followed by the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board at 4:30 p.m.

Mayor Rawlings-Blake thanked everyone for their support during the 2011 legislative session. She stated that together we worked to minimize cuts to local government in a very difficult budget year. She stated she would especially like to thank County Executive Ulman for his help with the illegal gun legislation. She added that with the recent passing of Governor William Donald Schaefer, it is a reminder to us of how important it is to work together to make Baltimore, Maryland and our region better, safer, and stronger. She explained what this meant to her and how he often stated that what is good for Baltimore is good for the region.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Larry W. Klimovitz
Executive Director