

WPAFB CoG Meeting
February 13, 2025
Minutes

Call to Order

- Attendance - Daniel Palmer (WSU), David Cordonnier (DDC), Vince King (WPAFB), Cherise Schell (Fairborn), Pete Landrum (Beavercreek), Josh Rauch (Riverside), Kassie Lester (Bath Twp), Alex Zaharieff (Huber Heights), Dave Burrows (DDC), Emily Crow (Deputy Director Planning/Neighborhoods from Dayton), Megan Coffey (WPAFB), James Landfair (WPAFB), Greg Rogers (WPAFB), Martin Kim (MVRPC),

Called to Order by Pete Landrum at 10:01am.

Pete asked for a moment to review the minutes.

Minutes – Motion to Approve by Josh Rauch, seconded by Alex Zaharieff. No opposition; motion carried.

Old Business

Pete had his assistant make an excel spreadsheet of the Implementation Plan from Chapter 7. Josh Rauch led a discussion regarding the long term strategy plans. Which direction do you go from here? There are deliverables that have been produced from the CUP as well as the MIR. Congressman Turner was instrumental in setting up the CoG as well as securing funding for specific projects. Some of the funding has supported projects like moving telephone poles and electric lines from the runway, supporting an EUL and of course the CUP and MIR. The funds can't necessarily be applied to operating cost. The little bit of funding the CoG has left can be used to support other plans, like deliverables from the Implementation Plan or a follow up to the MIR.

Josh Rauch mentioned possibly going to the state to get additional funding for projects. The CoG could push the position that Ohio is a competitive place for the defense department to be located and do business. Alex Zaharieff also thought having the state involved would be beneficial.

Dave Burrows stated in San Antonio, the Alamo CoG is equivalent to the Dayton Chamber or the Dayton Development Coalition. They have a lot of people and a lot of revenue. They all contribute as investors. Then they get a large amount of federal grants. He gave an example of the Alamo CoG director telling him they had a road issue and went to the government, went through the process and got a couple million to fix the road. Dave did state the Alamo CoG has been operating for a long time. He mentioned that as this CoG can talk to the Alamo CoG anytime we need. They are the model for base CoGs. Alex Zaharieff stated it's worth exploring to understand how these other organizations operate.

Pete Landrum stated we need to figure out the role the CoG is going to play. Not stepping on the toes of the DDC or MVRPC. We need to see what role the CoG is going to play, and who are our members. He believes we need to limit the number of full memberships because if everyone that pays dues is a member, the do decisions ever get made. It's in his opinion that only full memberships be those

represented by elected officials since elected officials are elected for a reason. He did give a card to Congressman Turner's staff to see if maybe a couple of CoG members could meet with him and get an update and "pick his brain". He went over the CUP priorities spreadsheet and how you look at the different tabs. He went on to state we need a long term goal. If we decided to get an executive director, how would that individual be paid.

Josh Rauch stated he believes we need to engage DDC and MVRPC before going to Columbus to have discussions with the state.

Martin Kim stated MVRPC provides transportation implementation funding and that sort of thing is already taken care of. He also stated it would be beneficial to have the CoG advocate for funding for local jurisdictions.

Emily Crow stated the number of items on the Implementation List looks like a 10 year list for a well-funded organization. She believes we need a nominative group to go through the list and prioritize the items before we go to the state for a funding attempt. She forwarded the list to several of her staff. She stated they could come in in April and facilitate the process for us.

Pete Landrum asked if the CoG should form a smaller committee to look over the list and report back to the board.

Vince King stated he reviewed the list for items required on WPAFB side to do.

Pete Landrum asked the group if everyone was alright with Dayton being the lead on prioritizing the list since they volunteered. This would be with help from Wright Patt, DDC and MVRPC. The April 10th meeting will be set for the discussion regarding priorities.

Pete Landrum stated the discussion regarding membership. He knew Mike Gebhart would want to be part of that discussion. He also stated Beavercreek Township also touches WPAFB and there probably is no disagreement that they should be a full member. He stated he would have the discussion with them or have Alex Zaharieff do it, in his other position. Also Greene County wanted to be a full member, as asked by Dick Gould.

A discussion ensued regarding the bylaws. The bylaws would need to be gone over and possibly changed to add additional full memberships. Discussion on making the March meeting regarding bylaws. The meeting on March 13th would be changed to March 27th to allow Mike Gebhart to attend the meeting. Motion made by Alex Zaharieff and seconded by Josh Rauch. All in favor.

The March 27th meeting will be on the bylaws, please sure sure to go over the bylaws prior to the meeting. April 10th will be a work session regarding priorities list.

New Business

None

Executive Session

Motion to enter into executive session made by Josh Rauch and seconded by Alex Zaharieff. All in Favor at 11:25am. Came out of Executive Session at 1:10pm.

Josh Rauch made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alex Zaharieff. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,


Kassie Lester

3/27/2025
Date


Mike Gebhart
Interim Executive Director


Pete Landrum
CoG President