



# Franklin Regional Council of Governments

## Executive Committee — *MINUTES*

Date & Time:	Thursday, September 12, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. <b>NOTE: Road Action Hearing at 5:00 p.m.; Regular Meeting to Follow</b>
Location:	FRCOG, 12 Olive Street, Greenfield MA , First Floor, Allen Room
Facilitator:	Jay DiPucchio, Chair

**Representatives Present:**

- Jay DiPucchio, Regionally Elected
- Jim Basford, FRPB Appointee
- Bill Perlman, Regionally Elected
- Bill Martin, Council Appointee

**Staff Members Present:**

- Linda Dunlavy, Executive Director
- Rebekah Boyd, Admin Services Coordinator
- Bob Dean, Director of Regional Services
- Claire McGinnis, Finance Director

**Additional Attendees for the Public Hearing:**

- Marlo M. Warner II, City of Greenfield
- S. Jonathan Lowe, Greenfield Neighbor
- Lawrence D. Foster, Greenfield Citizen

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Jay D. convened the Road Hearing at 5:00 p.m., welcoming attendees. Introductions were made.

**2. Public hearing for a petition to discontinue Woodard Road in Greenfield, with transfer of the road to the City of Greenfield**

**Bill P. moved to dispense with the reading of the Notice of Public Hearing. Jim Basford seconded. Motion passed with Mayor Martin abstaining.**

Bob Dean drew the attendees’ attention to the revised petition from the City of Greenfield to discontinue the entire stretch of Woodard Road (1889 Franklin County Layout of South Shelburne Road, now known as Woodard Road) between Mohawk Trail (Route 2A) and Shelburne Road. Bob explained that the original petition proposed to discontinue only the portions of the road straddling either side of the property owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts — where the Registry of Motor Vehicles houses an office. At the previous meeting, the Mayor allowed that they had done that for no other reason than uncertainty regarding the status of the road. The city, thus, provided Bob with an update to the submitted plan for consideration at this meeting.

The proposed discontinuance would transfer the road from the county to the city. The transfer of the road to Greenfield is contingent upon the city accepting it, Bob reminded the committee. The mayor said Greenfield should accept the road.

Jay asked attendees if the Executive Committee had any questions or comments. There was none. Jay asked if there were any formal objections. S. Jonathan Lowe, neighbor, told the group that he had offered the city \$50K for one piece of the road and then the city discovered the city didn't own it. Why was the city petitioning to have it transferred now, he asked. Mayor Martin said they had been working on it for 5 years, as well as on Court Square. A discussion ensued about selling a part of the road once the city owns it and about granting easements. When asked, Bob remarked that he hadn't done the research needed to answer that question. The Mayor said during his time he had never sold a piece of property. Linda pointed out that that sort of transaction doesn't fit into one of the five road actions of the Executive Committee as delineated in MGL Chapter 82.

DPW Superintendent Marlo Warner reiterated that if this board approves the petition, it then must go to the City of Greenfield to be accepted as a public way. Members examined the proposed plan.

In the matter of the discontinuance and transfer of a portion of the 1889 county layout of Woodard Road to the City of Greenfield, (Petition No. RA-2019-01), and after due consideration, and there being no objection:

**Bill Perlman moved that public convenience and necessity requires that the prayer of the petitioner be granted and we hereby discontinue and transfer a portion of said layout, between its northerly intersection with Route 2A (Mohawk Trail) and its southerly intersection with Shelburne Road, as shown on the plan titled *Plan of Woodard Road, prepared for the City of Greenfield located in Greenfield, Massachusetts, prepared by Daniel L. Werner, P.L.S, Date: September 4, 2019*, under the provisions of Chapter 82, Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and agree to sign the Order of Discontinuance and Transfer for this docket, that grants no monetary damages to any party. Transfer of the portions of Woodard Road from the Franklin Regional Council of Governments, as successor to the Franklin County Commission, to the City of Greenfield becomes effective upon the City of Greenfield's official acceptance of the road. Until such acceptance, the subject road shall remain a county way. Jim Basford seconded the motion, which passed 3-0 in favor, with Greenfield's Mayor Martin abstaining.**

**Bill P. moved to adjourn the Public Hearing. Jim seconded. The motion passed with all in favor. The public hearing adjourned at 5:13 p.m.**

### **3. Review and adopt 8.8.19 Executive Committee Minutes**

**Bill P. moved to adopt the 8.8.19 minutes. Jim B. seconded. The motion passed 4-0.**

### **4. FCECS User Agreement and FCECS Oversight Committee Operating Procedures documents review and possible vote**

Staff reminded the committee that it had considered the FCECS User Agreement and the FCECS operating procedures documents (see handouts) at the previous meeting. Staff were bringing the two documents back for consideration. The FCECS Oversight Committee vetted both documents thoroughly, and voted to adopt both documents as presented.

**Bill P. moved to adopt the *FCECS User Agreement* and the *FCECS Oversight Committee Operating Procedures* as recommended by the FCECS Oversight Committee. Jim seconded the motion, which passed with all in favor.**

Linda assured the committee that staff would get the Memo of Understanding out to all towns soon.

#### **5. Update on the FCECS migration to CoMIRS**

Linda reported that the state has made a clear commitment. Franklin County will migrate to the system, although not as quickly as staff might like. A CoMirs meeting was scheduled for September 5 because all involved thought the engineering study would be done in September, but it actually won't be completed until October, when the migration will begin. At that point, the state will send it to us, give us time to digest it and pose questions, and then we will have another meeting in Boston in early November to discuss it. Jay noted the considerable effort on Linda's part to make, and her thoughtful attention to details while ushering this program into fruition. It is a real accomplishment, he said. Other members chimed in with their appreciation.

Linda noted that we haven't come to any conclusion yet on how towns will purchase the radios. FRCOG has offered several times to assist the state with procurement. It's also unclear, as yet, if 911 funds can transition to the FRCOG. The committee discussed the two radio options; the fact that the state will give an allowance for the cheaper radio; each brand of radio's capabilities and limitations; the upgrading needed for the Greenfield and Montague dispatch centers; and issues that will be addressed in the engineering study, such as the need for a reliable paging system and digital equipment, and so on. Linda reminded the committee, finally, that during this gap season and until migration is finished and the paging problems are resolved, FRCOG will maintain the FCECS.

#### **6. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance**

It's time to begin thinking about FY21 budgeting, so Claire is updating the *Fiscal Review*. If the Executive Committee want to have any input in the budget building process, please let staff know.

**Bill P. moved to adjourn. Bill M. seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.**

#### **Documents Distributed:**

- Agenda
- FRCOG Executive Committee Road Action Hearing Protocol
- Notice of Public Highway Hearing #RA-2019-01
- Petition/Plan from the City of Greenfield for the discontinuance of Woodard Road
- Order of Discontinuance and Transfer
- Revised Plan of Woodard Road, dated September 4, 2019.
- 8.8.19 Draft Executive Committee Minutes
- Draft Memorandum of Agreement By and Between the FRCOG and FCECS Oversight Committee and Users of the FCECS
- Draft Amended Operating Procedures for the Franklin County Emergency Communication System Oversight Committee