

**STEEL RIVERS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
June 5, 2025 – 6:30PM**

MEETING MINUTES

Call To Order at 6:30pm by President Anthony Colecchi

Council Present: 10/19

Braddock Hills - Tom Evans, Jack Brown
Clairton – Eric Hatchett
Forward – Amy Cline
Glassport – Anthony Colecchi
Homestead – Duane Schulte
Liberty – Mike Zrenchak (via phone)
Lincoln – Tammy Firda
Port Vue – Debbie Thomas, Ken Hresko
Versailles – Jim Sheedy
Whitaker – Al Race, Rich Lassige

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcoming Remarks

Public Comments

Bob Macey addressed the importance of Local Fire Companies and community support.
Introduction of one of the new SRCOG office interns, David Bilger.

Minutes

Motion to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of March 6, 2025.

Motion made by: Tom Evans Motion 2nd by: Eric Hatchett
All in favor. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Motion to approve the Cash Statement for March 2025, April 2025, May 2025, and the List of Bills as dated.

Motion made by: Duane Schulte Motion 2nd by: Eric Hatchett
All in favor. Motion carried.

A Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual report was provided to members.

RAD reports were provided to members.

President's Report Anthony Colecchi

PSAB Annual Conference – Positive feedback from SRCOG Board President, Anthony. This was a very good event for learning and networking. He had a great experience and he would recommend this to anyone who can attend in the future..

Solicitor's Report Falco Muscante

Motion to approve Resolution 07/2025R to enter into contract with Minniefield Demolition Services, LLC in the amount of \$16,000 for Act 152 blight removal in South Versailles Township

Motion made by: Tammy Firda Motion 2nd by: Debbie Thomas
All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Resolution 08/2025R to apply for Mon Valley Public Health Fund grant on behalf of

City of Duquesne - \$15,000 Air purifiers for residents

Borough of Port Vue - \$32,000 Park improvements

Borough of Glassport - \$36,020 9th Street Park playground

Motion made by: Duane Schulte Motion 2nd by: Eric Hatchett
All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Resolution 09/2025R to apply for People, Parks, & Communities Fund grant on behalf of

City of Duquesne - \$30,000 Memorial Park Pavilion

Borough of Elizabeth - \$30,000 Duke Park Pavilion

Borough of Whitaker - \$30,000 Whitaker Park Comfort Station

Motion made by: Eric Hatchett Motion 2nd by: Debbie Thomas
All in favor. Motion carried.

Director's Report An Lewis

Allegheny County Housing Authority – Train Station Lease Update

Recently An received an email from Acting Director of Housing Authority to give 60 day notice to vacate the train station. When SRCOG sent the new lease, we were then notified of their 60 day notice. They will be out of the building by the end of July 2025.

HSC Roof Leaks - Property Discussion

The storms caused significant damage to the HSC and we had to submit an insurance claim for the water/roof damage. We are working through the process with the adjuster and then the roof consultant.

One option to explore is the sale of the HSC building and relocating the SRCOG and TCLB offices to the train station. It is difficult to get tenants into the building, and it has been financially difficult. We may have more discussion over the summer and have more to bring to the board in September. It is a possibility that this building could be sold to another non-profit and the building be turned into apartments. This would allow us to put money into the Train Station and help accommodate our staff.

SRCOG Training Complex Lease Renewal Update

We have had calls and meetings with the county to work out issues with the shooting range. There is currently no system to catch the spent casings and mitigate the lead. Allegheny County has no desire to displace the police departments that use the range, but it needs to be upgraded. Allegheny County does not want to displace our police departments, so we have

been granted a two-year time period to make improvements. If we sell the HSC building, some of the proceeds could be used towards the range. We have started to address some of the issues, such as the lighting and other issues. A lawyer we have been working with, Brian, has been looking for a firm to do a safety study and analysis, however the firms seem to be larger and more expensive. Jenny has reached out to all of our local engineering firms to try to find someone with experience with shooting ranges. Kristin has also been reaching out to any contacts that she may have. If anyone knows of an engineer with this kind of expertise, please let us know.

New Electric Street Sweeper

The new fully electric sweeper is here. We just transferred the title, got the plate, and added to insurance. An and Rasul are working on a game plan to use the new truck vs the old truck for now. These trucks are two different technologies, some areas may benefit better from one over the other. Bob Macey, Anthony, Tom Evans, and Duane attended the ribbon cutting. A reporter from Next Pgh will be here tomorrow to do a story.

U.S. Steel – Nippon

We don't have anything new to report, but we continue to pay attention to the news reports to monitor the situation.

New COG Members Discussion

Some former members of Steel Valley / Twin Rivers, namely Elizabeth Twp and West Mifflin, should have the option to participate in the Community & Economic Development Program. Those communities seem to be happy staying with SHACOG, but An asked Falco if he could determine if it would pose a conflict for them to participate with SRCOG. Falco saw nothing that restricted a municipality of being a member of multiple COG's, if that's what that were interested in doing. An suggests that we modify the bylaws address Associate Members and to create language and an opening for other COG's to have the option to participate in our COG if they are a member of another COG. The board thinks that this is something to consider over the summer and discuss further in the September Board Meeting.

New Executive Assistant position

An asked the board for permission to look for an assistant to support the Executive Director and the SRCOG senior staff. We had a position budgeted earlier this year that we have not filled yet, so there is funding in the budget. TCLB has a goal of fundraising \$3m this year. The Hillman Foundation sent An an invitation for TCLB to apply for a \$1m dollar grant. As we work to grow the TCLB foot print, we will need this new position to help. An will work on a job description to have the ad ready for mid to late June and hopefully onboarding in August.

Motion to create the Executive Assistant position.

Motion made by: Duane Schulte Motion 2nd by: Al Race
All in favor. Motion carried.

Mike Zrenchak voted no.

A Roll Call was completed to carry out motion. Motion carried.

Mon Valley Tour with Allegheny County Manager - July 29th

County Manager was not able to attend previously scheduled event. This event will start at the Range and work over to this area. Space will be limited and we will use a standard vehicle, not

a bus. We cannot stop everywhere, but the plan is reach as many areas in the Mon Valley as possible. Tammy thinks it's better to tour the "hot spots", showing the issues and our needs, not just all the great parts. TCLB can share in the cost of renting the vehicle for the tour as it will benefit them as well. Please reach out to An and/or Alan with feedback, comments, or suggestions.

TCLB Advisory Committee - June 12th at 6:30pm – These meetings are always open. Allegheny County will be doing the Vacant Property Recovery Program Presentation.

Finance Director's Report Kristin Gusten

The audit will begin at the end of June and we should be ready to hit our dates to present in October.

Today is Kristin's 1 year anniversary with SRCOG.

Government Grants Report Jenny Kwiatek

Project Survey Form coming in June to plan for CDBG, Act 152, GEDTF, and LSA applications.

CDBG will have another application round. CD51 awards have not been announced yet, but Jenny will notify everyone as soon as she hears.

Amy asked about results of the LSA applications from last year. Jenny stated that last year it was November, so she believes it will be around the same time this year.

Jenny would like to add municipal events in the newsletter. Please look out for the upcoming survey to provide that info.

Special Projects Report Alan Sisco

CURE Program and FY26 budget Update

CURE is now fully staffed. CURE has received very positive feedback. A funding increase was requested and it was approved. Alan feels that CURE is trending in the right direction.

CMU Student Projects

Over the spring semester, some CMU students were given an opportunity to discuss some projects that could be done with US Steel should that not continue. The report that they created was very good.

Energy Foundation

They are a national foundation that works on the clean energy economy. They have invited us to apply for a \$50,000 grant for engagement and communications work.

Motion to authorize an application to Energy Foundation to support activities focused on clean energy industry development in the Mon Valley and eastern suburban region of Allegheny County.

Motion made by: Jack Brown Motion 2nd by: Eric Hatchett
All in favor. Motion carried.

ARC

An stated that in the event that the application opens over the summer, we would like to apply.

Motion to authorize an application to the Appalachian Regional Commission to support the startup of the SRCOG Community and Economic Development Program

Motion made by: Rich Lassige Motion 2nd by: Duane Schulte
All in favor. Motion carried.

SRCOG Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

If any municipality would like to host a SRCOG 2025 Board of Directors Meeting, please reach out to Penny Donaldson – pd@steelriverscog.org or 412-462-7600.

Meeting Date	Location
June 5, 2025	SRCOG – Human Service Center, 1705 Maple St, Homestead
July 2025	***No Meeting***
August 2025	***No Meeting***
September 4, 2025	TBD
October 2, 2025	TBD
November 6, 2025	TBD
December 4, 2025	*Holiday Dinner* – TBD

Motion to authorize SRCOG Executive Director, An Lewis, to manage all business matters, execute legal documents and agreements, and pay all bills during the summer break.

Motion made by: Tom Evans Motion 2nd by: Eric Hatchett
All in favor. Motion carried.

Community Reports / Discussion

Braddock Hills:

Clairton:

Dravosburg:

Duquesne:

Elizabeth:

Forward:

Glassport:

Homestead: Duane agrees with selling the HSC, but maybe we continue to lease out the train station and move the COG office to the Walgreens building. On another note, Duane would like the SRCOG to help him with addressing the train station crossing on Amity St. There are issue with larger vehicles, buses, and trucks when going across the tracks and if a train

comes, or is already passing, it causes lots of danger and problems. For three years, he has been working on this and is not getting anywhere.

Liberty:

Lincoln: This is Councilman Macey's last year serving us and Tammy would like to thank him for helping with so many things.

McKeesport:

Munhall:

Port Vue: Debbie wants to know if we can get the charging stations moved if we relocate to the train station. An stated that we could work possibly with Allegheny county to get charging stations at the range and keep the street sweeper there.

South Versailles:

Versailles:

West Elizabeth:

West Homestead:

Whitaker:

White Oak

Motion to Adjourn at 7:40pm.

Motion made by: Al Race Motion 2nd by: Debbie Thomas
All in favor. Motion carried.



ATTEST: Penny Donaldson



An Lewis, Executive Director