

**KERR-TAR REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**Executive Committee**  
**Conference Call**  
**September 19, 2016**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

John Alston  
Eddie Ellington  
Tommy Hester  
Linda Jordon  
Barry Richardson  
Danny Wright

Jimmy Clayton  
Walter Gardner  
Zelodis Jay  
Bryan Pfohl  
Joe Shearon

**COG STAFF PRESENT:**

Diane Cox  
Gina Parham  
Mark Warren  
Katie Conner  
Ben Foti

**OTHERS:**

Becky Bowen

**Call to Order**

Chairman Tommy Hester called the conference call meeting to order and asked Diane to begin with first Agenda item.

Diane advised members had been sent the Draft SET plan as well as the Executive Summary for review prior to the call. She highlighted the five (5) goals:

- Improve Access to Jobs
- Support Development of Targeted Manufacturing Industries
- Enhance Quality of Place and Build Regional Pride
- Increase Awareness and Enjoyment of the Region's Cultural and Natural Resources
- Strengthen Agriculture and Food-Related Enterprises

She also reviewed the strategies that had been suggested to help meet each goal. The next step once the Board recommends approval is to send to USDA for their approval. This plan will also be used for the Kerr Tar COG CEDS plan.

Meeting was then turned over to Becky Bowen of NCSU and Mark, Katie and Ben of the COG staff.

Becky advised that she works with NCSU Cooperative Extension and that Kerr-Tar was one of four regions currently working through this planning process. Kerr-Tar was successfully awarded participation in the SET program and the original kick-off meeting was held last October and 5 additional planning sessions had been held since the original kick off. Two sessions were dedicated strictly to analysis of data.

Discussion arose around the plan and if the goals were in order of priority. Becky informed members that all were equally important and there was no order.

Members also discussed the importance of Broadband infrastructure. After discussion all agreed that Broadband should be worked into the plan most likely under Improved Job Access. Members discussed the possibility of adding a bullet for Broadband under Goal # 1. Tommy Hester stated that NC Commerce may be able to assist with the Broadband effort too.

Katie confirmed that this was just a draft and COG staff understood that there would be additional strategies and pictures added to the final document.

Becky advised that the next steps were:

- Approval of the Draft
- Forward the draft to all that participated in compiling the plan data
- Get final approval
- Forward to USDA for peer review (3 people)
- Comments back from Peer Review within 30 days – staff will make changes accordingly
- Plan to make it a high quality plan with the seed grant of \$5,000
- A good plan is a priority to receive funding from USDA

**Approval of SET Strategy**  
**Motion # 1**

Motion was made by Barry Richardson to approve the plan as presented with an addition to Goal 1 regarding Broadband. Motion was seconded by Zelodis Jay. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business or comments the meeting (conference call) was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia S. Cox, Executive Director  
Secretary to the Board of Directors

**NEWS RELEASE**

Diane Cox  
Executive Director

Member  
Governments

**COUNTIES**

Franklin  
Granville  
Person  
Vance  
Warren

**MUNICIPALITIES**

Bunn  
Butner  
Creedmoor  
Franklinton  
Henderson  
Kittrell  
Louisburg  
Macon  
Middleburg  
Norlina  
Oxford  
Roxboro  
Stem  
Stovall  
Warrenton  
Youngsville

The Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments held its Annual Awards Banquet on Thursday, September 22, 2016 at The Henderson Vance Farmers Market in Henderson, NC. Tommy Hester, Chairman of the Kerr-Tar Board of Directors presided over the meeting, which hosted an attendance of 140. Guest speaker for the evening was Dr. Pat Mitchell of the NC Department of Commerce and Rural Economic Development.

New officers for 2016/2017 were installed as follows:

**CHAIRMAN: Barry Richardson - Warren County  
Warren County Commissioner**

**VICE CHAIRMAN: Quon Bridges - City of Oxford  
Commissioner City of Oxford**

**TREASURER: Jimmy Clayton - Person County  
Person County Commissioner**

Finance Manager, Donna Lee sang the National Anthem prior to dinner.

Kerr-Tar Annual Award presentations were made as follows:

**KERR-TAR OUTSTANDING BOARD MEMBER AWARD**

**David Smith - Granville County Commissioner**  
Making the presentation was Kathy May  
Director of Granville County Senior Center

**OUTSTANDING MUNICIPAL ELECTED OFFICIAL**

**Merilyn Newell- Mayor of Roxboro**  
Making the presentation was Henry Daniel  
Council Member City of Roxboro

Diane Cox  
Executive Director

Member  
Governments

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Youngsville

**OUTSTANDING COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIAL**

**Tony Cozart – Granville County Commissioner**  
Making the presentation was Louis Bechtel  
Granville County Department of Social Services

**OUTSTANDING CITY OR COUNTY MANAGER**

**Mike Felts – County Manager Granville County**  
Making the presentation was Zelodis Jay  
Granville County Commissioner

**OUTSTANDING CITY OR COUNTY CLERK TO THE BOARD**

**Trevie Adams – City of Roxboro**  
Making the presentation was Brooks Lockhart  
City Manager of the City of Roxboro

We also acknowledge the assistance of Matt Jackson, Mike Overton and Sam Gerald of the Henderson Police for assistance with shuttle service and parking for the event.