

UPPER DELAWARE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
January 3, 2019

The Upper Delaware Council held its annual meeting on Thursday, January 3, 2019 at the Council office in Narrowsburg, NY. Chairperson Aaron Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and roll call followed.

In attendance: Town of Hancock-Fred Peckham, Town of Fremont-Jim Greier, Town of Delaware- Harold G. Roeder, Jr., Town of Cochecton- Larry Richardson, Town of Tusten- Susan Sullivan, Town of Lumberland- Nadia Rajs, Town of Highland-Kaitlin Haas, Town of Deerpark- David Dean, Damascus Township-Jeff Dexter, Berlin Township- Alan Henry, Lackawaxen Township- Doug Case, Shohola Township- Aaron Robinson, Staff in attendance: UDC Executive Director- Laurie Ramie, Resource Specialist- Pete Golod, Secretary- Ashley Hall-Bagdonas. Absent: Westfall Township-Michael Barth, National Park Service- Kristina Heister, Delaware River Basin Commission-Steve Tambini, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania -Tim Dugan, State of New York-Bill Rudge. Media- Richard Thomas, Peter Becker, Dave Hulse. Guests: Keith Pierson, Roger Saumure-Shohola Township, Ginny Dudko- Town of Deerpark, John Gorzynski.

Election of 2019 UDC Officers: Robinson referenced the written ballot included in members' packets. The Nominating Committee's slate of officers was presented. Candidates were: Chairperson – Harold G. Roeder, Jr. (Town of Delaware); Vice-Chairperson – Jeff Dexter (Damascus Township); and Secretary/Treasurer – Alan Henry (Berlin Township). Votes were cast and ballots were collected and presented to Ramie for tallying. Ramie reported the result was unanimous for the slate of officers as recommended by the Nominating Committee. Robinson invited Roeder to take his place in the Chairman's seat and presented him with a ceremonial UDC hardhat. Roeder thanked Robinson for all he had done for the UDC as Chairperson. Roeder conducted the remainder of the meeting

Presentation by Keith Pierson: "Erosion and Sedimentation Pollution": Roeder introduced Pierson, the Resource Conservationist at Wayne Conservation District, who shared a power point presentation. Conservation districts arose from the devastation of the Dust Bowl in the early 1930's. It was a local unit of government established under state law to carry out natural resource management programs. The first conservation district was established in 1937 in North Carolina. The first Pennsylvania conservation district was established in 1945. Every county in Pennsylvania has a Conservation District except Philadelphia, totaling 66 Conservation Districts. Today there are about 3,000 nationwide. Conservation districts work with farmers, construction companies, businesses and residents. Conservation districts promote state and federally funded programs to help keep water clean and support local agriculture and businesses. They also educate the public, and investigate and perform inspections to achieve compliance with environmental regulations. Their goal is voluntary compliance. The conservation district focuses on water erosion. The first type is raindrop erosion which is where the force of a falling raindrop can loosen and pick up soil particles; this starts the process of erosion. It breaks up soil and loosens it. Once you get raindrop erosion it tends to flow and you have splash erosion, sheet erosion where you have a lateral movement of water over earth's surface which will take soil up, and it will eventually concentrate and form rills and gullies. That will accelerate the erosion when you have a concentrated flow and will eventually flow into the water causing accelerated erosion. Pierson showed the Council photographs of a site on private property showing examples of an old stream bed that was rechanneled down a road and to a creek-bed. The slide also showed sediment deposition which was a naturally producing trout stream. Now it's full of sediment and continuing to flow. That was an example of when they would go out for an inspection violation to check out the site and deal with the problem. Factors affecting erosion are soil characteristics like the texture, organic content, structure and permeability. The finer the soil the more it can be eroded. The finer soils like silts and especially clays are very difficult to remove from water. You could take a cup of sand in a bottle of water and shake it up and in ten minutes most of it would be settled. You could take a handful of silt and do the same thing and come back in a month and the water would still be cloudy. Factors affecting erosion include vegetative cover which shields soil surface from raindrop impact; it breaks up, roots hold soil in place; runoff velocity and sheet erosion is reduced; and evapotranspiration, where the trees suck up water from the earth and release it into the atmosphere as part of photosynthesis. Evapotranspiration reduces subsurface water between rainfalls. A good size oak tree can pull 100 gallons of water out of the ground a

day and put it in the atmosphere. Topography and climate also affects erosion; the slope, gradient, length and shape. Storm frequency, intensity, snowmelt, etc. can all affect erosion.

Pierson talked about the impact of mud. Sediment pollution causes about \$16 billion in environmental damage annually. Army Corps dredges 497 million cubic yards of sediment to maintain waterways. All that water and sediment goes somewhere. The sediment is going to collect in municipal water systems; it will eventually collect in bays and obstruct maritime traffic. Mud degrades the quality of water for wildlife, drinking, and land surrounding streams. It prevents aquatic animals from seeing food and impacts vegetation growth. Mud destroys habitat of macro-invertebrates and can profoundly affect the food chain. It clogs fish gills, affects egg and larva development and lowers growth rates. Mud can carry sediment that activates unwanted toxic blue-green algae. It alters the flow of rivers, making recreational use more difficult, and clogs storm drains, basins and can exacerbate flooding. Manmade erosion accounts for 70% of sediment in U.S. waters. There are plenty of natural erosion events, when you get a real heavy rain you will see the rivers running brown. The most concentrated sediment releases come from large scale construction activities: home construction; minor projects such as additions, swimming pools, etc.; mining and logging. Construction activities typically remove vegetation protecting soil. It agitates, excavates and loosens soil. It exposes underlying soils like clays which are more erodible. Construction creates impermeable surfaces. Impermeable surfaces cause concentrated water flow because it doesn't allow the water to flow into the ground and often alters topography. Pierson provided a slide of a construction complaint site. It was about a half an acre of disturbance. They bulldozed for the foundation and cleared an area for the septic and left it like that for a long time. Pierson noted in the photo there was a concentrated flow of sediment, really fine soil and clay particulates down into the ditch, across the driveway. The reason why they got the complaint was because there was a nearby pond almost a quarter mile away that was totally cloudy with mud. This site could have done a fair amount of damage to that pond. It doesn't take much to mitigate these issues. The conservation district had them put down a few rock ditches and seed and straw. Next Pierson spoke about Erosion and Sediment Control Plans (E&S Plans). They come up with a plan on how to do the construction site that will tell you how to minimize extent and duration of earth disturbance. It maximizes protection of existing drainage features and vegetation, minimizes soil compaction, prevents increasing storm water runoff. If required, it must be available on site like a building permit. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits are required for any disturbance over one acre. One acre is equal to 43,560 feet. It requires an approved E&S plan and an approved Post Construction Stormwater Management (PCSM) plan. The NPDES permits must be done by qualified preparer, typically an engineer, and are costly.

Best Management Practices (BMP) is a broad term to describe measures or practices used to minimize erosion and sediment pollution. The following are considered examples of BMPs: A construction method like not working in the rain, logging in the winter with frozen ground and snow pack. Other examples are: a physical barrier like silt fence or compost filter sock; temporary or permanent stabilization with seed and mulch; a rock construction entrance. Pierson provided examples of those. They are made to be a specific length to allow the tires to make four complete rotations that will shake and break off the majority of the dirt. If you have vehicles coming in out of a construction site bringing a lot of aggregate out into the road, when you get rain that dirt will wash right into the roadside ditches and out to the water. He showed an example of an improper rock filter vs. a properly done rock filter. The conservation district finds that many times people will not bury the filters in the ground six inches. A proper rock filter goes across the entire ditch, has a low point in the center that allows water to pond and sediment to settle. Water will flow through the low point of the ditch. You can see the difference in a site in just a few months with the growth in grass. Straw bales were used a lot more in the past, they are good but are not permanent or long-term solutions. With the rain we've had this year Pierson saw the straw bales come apart in 60 days. Wood chip or mulch filter berms can also be used. They must be four feet wide by about two feet high, they filter a little bit of water but none of these options are good for concentrated flow. A compost filter sock lasts one to two years depending on the manufacturer. A compost filter sock should be cleaned if it gets up over half. Pierson provided a photo of a concrete washout and explained concrete is hazardous to fish. This prevents the discharge of pollutants from concrete waste to stormwater. Pierson provided a slide of examples of water pumping from a pipeline project. He explained if you are working in a ditch and have to pump water out, you should be using a water pump filter bag. When working in water a coffer dam totally isolates the work; stabilization is important. They are used for some of the pipeline work down the Lackawaxen. They also used a coffer dam at the Pond Eddy Bridge. A turbidity barrier is going to isolate the area.

Pierson spoke about stabilization with proper placing, grading, constructing, reinforcing, lining and covering of soil, rock or earth to ensure their resistance to erosion, sliding or other movement. Stabilization is getting the ground back to where it's not highly erodible. Gravel, concrete, blacktop are all forms of stabilization. You can also use seed and mulch. Mulch is a vague term, it can be made from a variety of organic materials, typically straw. Pierson provided a detailed description of an erosion control blanket and its specifications. Erosion control blankets are installed to help slow down the flow of water across the surface. Its material varies and it keeps the growing conditions ideal while doing their job of protecting and covering the soil. Pierson said hydro-seeding is great; it has binding agents to keep everything together and after being at a site a month later what a difference it was with green grass everywhere. For a stabilized area you are looking for a uniform 70% vegetative cover of erosion resistant perennial species. Critical areas, such within 50 feet of surface waters should be blanketed. He said they can hydro-seed by helicopter for hard to reach areas. Pierson provided a photo of a truck hydro-seeding.

Next topic was riparian buffers which trap sediment, nutrients and pollutants, recharges groundwater, and is a better fish habitat for fish and other wildlife habitat. A riparian buffer is a vegetated area near a stream, generally forested, that helps shade and partially protect the stream from impact. The old school thought was that grass was a great filter and it is but riparian buffers like trees and forests are a much better buffer and are a lot better for the streams, particularly in Pennsylvania where there's a lot of cold water. Riparian buffers trap the sediment as the water comes through as well as nutrients and pollutants. It recharges the ground water. Riparian buffers feed macroinvertebrates, stabilize streambanks, keep waters cool and can be multiuse. He provided photos of a site at Skinners Falls before and after as well as before and after photos of a River Road house site. Pierson went to the Stroud Water Research Center in Avondale, Pennsylvania where a lot of research on topics like riparian buffers, streams and aquatics are done. They did research on how far a leaf would travel if you let it go in a stream. Stroud found that very few made it more than 100 yards. They just get composted and eaten by macroinvertebrates and organisms break that down in the water. Pierson explained that Post Construction Stormwater Management is when you build a property and change the topography to account for the changes in the impermeable surfaces like roofs, parking areas, patios and roads. They improve water quality by reducing erosion and catching water to allow settling and reduction of pollutants in runoff. Pierson provided photos of retention ponds and rain gardens as examples.

Gorzynski asked if Pierson could address square impermeable services relevant to the footage relative to the acreage or if that is a federal program. Pierson said that would be something that PA DEP could address and it's more of a zoning issue. Once it gets to be over one acre of disturbance then they have to put in for a NPDES permit and they would have to get a Post Construction Stormwater Management Plan (PCSM). Much of that is done by an engineer who does a hydrology study which will address any impermeable surfaces. Pierson will do a completeness review on that and the PCSM is sent to an engineer at DEP to be reviewed. Hulse said Penn State developed Penngift Crownvetch (*Coronilla varia* L. Penngift). It grows 1 to 2 feet tall and bears small clusters of 1/2-inch pink and white flowers from early summer to late fall. He asked if it is still used. Pierson said it was thought to be a really good stabilization plant but was found that it's actually not because the roots aren't that significant and it is very invasive. Pierson said when requesting plants for permits, they must put in for certain species and they are very particular. Peckham asked what the conservation district does with tributaries. They have natural courses and people may want to change the course of a creek. Peckham said a creek always wants to find its way back. In Hancock and Equinunk they are doing a lot with existing tributaries to solve erosion problems, so deforestation is minimized. Where does a conservation district come in to this? Pierson said in Pennsylvania you are not supposed to change the channel or work in the channel of water. What a conservation district can do is authorize a general permit, for example a permit for streambank restoration. If you are a property owner and you have an area where the stream is eroding the bank the conservation district can authorize a permit to put in rip rap. Changing the flow of the stream, that would go to DEP as a joint permit. Gorzynski, who sits on the Sullivan County Soil & Water Board, said there is Section 404 Clean Water Act where they redefined what navigable waters were. Gorzynski said their office has minimal services. With the floods that have happened there are a number of projects in NYC DEP with streambank stabilization. Ramie asked what authority does the Wayne Conservation District have to stop a project that they see is polluting. Pierson said the conservation district is delegated by the DEP. There are different levels of delegation. Pike County has a higher level of delegation; they can issue fines. Wayne Conservation District can get in touch with DEP for reinforcement. If it comes to a violation, their goal is to get voluntary compliance. 95% of the time it's individuals who aren't familiar with the regulations and they try to get into compliance. The other instances they will take pictures, do reports and get in touch with DEP to work with them. If they are not compliant it goes to

enforcement action. Ramie asked what the distinction was between Wayne and Pike Counties. Pierson said he's not certain. Hulse asked if there is the same water stream quality between Wayne County and Pike County. Pierson said in Wayne and Pike Counties there are a lot of high quality waters. He shared a slide showing exceptional value and high quality streams and made note that the Delaware River is considered a cold water fishery. Roeder thanked Pierson for the presentation and gave him a UDC lapel pin in appreciation.

Approval of December 6th Meeting Minutes: A motion by Henry, seconded by Peckham, to approve the December 6th, 2018 meeting minutes was carried.

Public Comment on the Agenda: Gorzynski said he would have liked Pierson to touch on agricultural land in his speech. Roeder said maybe that is something UDC could consider in the future for a presentation.

Committee Reports: Committee reports were provided based on the meeting minutes. They were: Dec. 18th Water Use/Resource Management by Peckham; Dec. 18th Project Review by Richardson, and Dec. 18th Operations by Robinson.

Status Reports

Delaware River Basin Commission: The hydrologic report was handed out. Roeder said we are 80 billion gallons above one year ago today. Golod said he found it interesting the average precipitation for November and December actual and historical, also looking at the actual storage percentage it's up 10% from normal.

NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation: None

PA Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources: None

National Park Service-Upper Delaware: None

UDC Executive Director's Report: Ramie said during the WU/RM report Peckham mentioned that UDC wrote a letter to the NYC DEP requesting a follow-up on the study into improving the emergency public notification system for the Cannonsville Reservoir. A copy of the letter is provided in meeting packet. Ramie received a reply from Director of Public Affairs Adam Bosch, who said in his email he will be happy to come back and present the findings but that Schnabel Engineering received an extension of their contract and may not be done until the early spring. Bosch will let us know when that occurs so we can schedule the presentation. Bosch also said, "As it relates to sirens, I don't think DEP is the appropriate agency to talk about the effectiveness or opinions about sirens. We have only shared the feedback we got from local emergency management professionals, mostly at the county level, who have told us their preference is not to have sirens in the valley. So it might be better for UDC to seek that information from emergency management directors in the counties." There was a letter referenced out of the Project Review Committee which UDC sent to Sullivan County on Dec. 21st also provided in the meeting packets. It asks to be kept apprised of any plans by the county to expand wireless broadband service into the Delaware River Corridor since that's a project we would certainly support. That gave Ramie an opening to remind the county about UDC's call box idea to address cell phone dead zones along Rt. 97. While we haven't received a reply from the county to this letter, Ramie was surprised to see it published in the *Sullivan County Democrat* on Jan. 1st as a Letter to the Editor. It wasn't Ramie's intention when sending it to them, she was just letting them know that Isabel Braverman's article had alerted UDC to this project for any future stories that may get written, but the publicity is appreciated and puts the UDC's position out there. Regarding Operations issues, Eckersley and Ostrowski sent the final IRS 990 form with our requested revisions, as well as our New York State Charities Bureau filing, for which Ramie has obtained officer signatures. They also provided 11 copies of the Fiscal Year 2018 Financial Review report. UDC has filed them internally and sent copies to the National Park Service Upper Delaware and Northeast Region. Ramie said if any board member would like a hard copy, six extras are available and Hall-Bagdonas has also scanned the report to be available electronically. Ramie conducted an email poll of the Operations Committee to evaluate two proposals we had sought for hosting the UDC's 31st Annual Awards Ceremony at venues in PA or NY. Based on value, price, and past positive experiences, the banquet will take place on Sunday, April 28th, at the Central House Family Resort in Beach Lake, PA. Now that we have the date and location confirmed, Ramie would like to propose

inviting U.S. Congressman Matt Cartwright as our keynote speaker. He represents the newly-redistricted PA District 8 which covers all of Wayne and Pike Counties and we've yet to meet him. Henry motioned that UDC extend an invitation to Rep. Matt Cartwright to be a keynote speaker, seconded by Dexter. The motion carried. Ramie has been collecting district office addresses to send UDC introductory letters to our new state and federal legislators for the river valley. Those letters will request meetings with our Government Officials Liaison Subcommittee, which has a fluid membership. Ramie will let everyone know when these sit-downs are arranged so all can decide if they would like to participate. One document that will be taken as well as to submit to incumbent office-holders is an Overview of State Funding for UDC. Ramie said her rough draft was included in the packets which she will organize further. Rajs asked to refer to page eight, December 2006, almost all of the supporting township sent supporting letters. On page twelve October 2017, only four towns sent their support. Ramie said that latter request was specific to the New York towns. UDC submitted a funding request to the DEC for a \$50,000 project so it only concerned the New York side. We had a different strategy for Pennsylvania. Each town and township has received the 2019 UDC representative and alternate form asking them to provide us with any appointment updates following their reorganizational meetings. In the meeting packets are the Annual Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement that must be completed. Hall-Bagdonas will be mailing those to any board members who aren't at the meeting tonight. The cover memo provides instructions for how to fill it out. When our committees meet this month on Jan. 15th and 22nd, elections will take place for chairs and vice-chairs. Please let us know for the purposes of establishing quorums if you'd like to join or perhaps retire from any of the standing committees. UDC will have our swearing-in ceremony for 2019 officers to formally take their oaths next month on Feb. 7th, which will include cake and we'll take our annual board photo. The January calendar was provided for personal review. Greier asked regarding the banquet wasn't past practice to switch from Pennsylvania to New York every other year. Ramie said UDC had done that in the past and someone is always disadvantaged some way, by the travel time generally. UDC now focuses on the price and value we can get. For the past two years UDC has held it at Central House because everyone has been happy with it. They did look into a New York option but there was a somewhat significant difference.

Old Business Roeder said he has served on the UDC for many years and he doesn't recall having such a problem with finances and the way things are structured. The structured payments from the Federal Government, the UDC can't do anything about. When you look at UDC's funding and how close we are to sustainability, UDC is teetering. UDC had a tough time last year not knowing if we could continue. Roeder thinks an organization that does so much for the towns and townships should be given more recognition from both New York and Pennsylvania. He realizes as a non-profit organization UDC is not allowed to go out to solicit but the UDC can go after something that was promised to us 31 years ago. UDC should not lose sight of this. This is something to put first in the agenda. Roeder looked into the purchasing power of the dollar. In 1988 for what you could buy for \$1 now costs \$2.1362564. Add that up, we get \$300,000 a year from the Federal Government, you multiply \$100,000 would be \$213,625.64, let's just say \$213,000 rounded off. Back in 1988 \$100,000 could buy \$100,000, today it takes \$213,000 to do the same thing. UDC's \$300,000, we should be getting \$640,000 just to equal that. Not to gain, just to equal that. The Federal Government has UDC at \$300,000 if we were able to attain and have each state kick in the \$100,000 they were supposed to give us that would give UDC \$500,000 a year and it's still \$140,000 less buying power, even if we got all that money this year. It really tells us that our money has eroded, depreciated 113% since 1988. Roeder really appreciates Ramie's work in compiling the Briefing Report. Roeder wondered why in the beginning UDC didn't go after the states because they were supposed to give the money. Did they not care about it at the time? Roeder surmises that \$300,000 was a lot of money back then. They didn't have a financial problem with \$300,000; they weren't in that bind. Roeder said if UDC doesn't do anything, we won't be here. He wants UDC to flourish. UDC has two main things to concern ourselves with from Hancock down to Mongaup; we have to help conserve the river and corridor, and we have to help conserve and protect private property rights; that's UDC's mission. Let's not forget this was the first organization that was formed and partnered with the Federal Government and it has been replicated all over the country, so UDC is not alone now. We must make a concerted effort to get UDC's funding from the states. There are a lot of people that come to this area. If they knew about this maybe they would write letters to the government. When you look at the budget of the state and what they spend money on like a study for the relative temperature of wintering population of diving ducks, UDC should get a little money for this. Robinson said one fact that is overlooked is that we have a substantial influx of visitors in this area and sales tax is collected from these visitors. As the usage of this corridor increased over the years the states have enjoyed the fruits of that but have returned zero to maintaining this organization. Robinson said we have a very solid argument on two fronts.

Sullivan said when the letter writing campaign came up with the Town of Tusten it was very interesting because towns' attitudes towards UDC sometimes vary, but when it came down to: "What if the UDC wasn't there?" they are supportive. Sullivan said, when a committee focuses and targets the right people, letters from every single town and township supporting UDC would be effective. In New York State towns carry power and she's sure they do in Pennsylvania as well. It's not an individual, it's a whole municipality, Sullivan feels UDC will get there if we stay focused. Roeder hopes it gets to the point where the Governor says "I am so pleased to be able to help this area because it has done such wonderful things for the State of New York." The same applies to Pennsylvania. Peckham asked if UDC was the only entity exactly like this; he knows there are very degrees of autonomy with the Park Service. Peckham asked how those organizations are funded. UDC could present State of New York and Pennsylvania with those findings. Greier said it's not just about the money but about the time consumed by the office to try to collect this money. It takes such a portion of their time to fill out forms; it was never like this in the past, UDC used to get a check up front. Roeder said this is supposed to be a partnership. He just wants to see this function properly and UDC needs these funds to continue. Henry said he heard Roeder say it would be advantageous with the press assisting but we can also send the Briefing Report to all Towns and Townships and let them know a letter of support would be beneficial, perhaps in Operations come up with a plan. He said he's sure most of the towns and townships do not know 90% of the information compiled in the Briefing Report like the funding history of the council and the shortfalls. One of the intentions of the River Management Plan is to develop assistance for towns and townships. UDC is limited by NPS and you see it, such as their elimination of cultural and historical TAG grants. If UDC had this extra money coming in, we could structure assistance to individual towns. For instance, UDC could fund part of an ambulance service if UDC sees it as a critical issue. That is the intent of the UDC; it's not an office of the government. It's really like a chamber of commerce for the towns and townships. Dexter said he and Steve Adams are likely to have lunch with the Governor of Pennsylvania on Jan. 9th. Dexter said he could put something in the Governor's hands and thought it would be beneficial to give the Briefing Report directly to him. Ramie said the information is all there; it just needs to be formatted. Robinson said he understands in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Governor's budget there's \$2.4 million going directly to the DRBC this year for the first time. The suggestion Robinson got was to carve \$100,000 out of that money for the UDC.

New Business

Draft Resolution 2019-01 Authorizing Signatories for Council's Bank Accounts in 2019: A motion by Peckham to adopt Resolution 2019-01 seconded by Henry was carried unanimously.

Discussion on Partial Federal Government Shutdown's Impact on UDC Operations: Ramie said UDC can continue operating at our own risk while the shutdown is in effect. There is no guarantee that UDC's Federal expenses will be reimbursed for this time period. A memo from the National Park Service included in the packets indicated that if there are Federal staff or if we are working on federal property, those would be circumstances under which the organization would need to follow suit along with NPS. That doesn't apply here given that UDC is a private corporation and we have our own board of directors to make decisions. Our intentions are to stay functioning for the time being. UDC has approximately \$123,000 available in our bank account which is unrestricted funds. UDC has been fully reimbursed for the first quarter of this fiscal year since October 1st. We paid ourselves back at the 18.63% budget rate allowed. Expenditures are approximately \$20,000; that will last for approximately six months although Ramie is sure UDC would not want to fully deplete our reserves. There was legislation passed for Federal employees to receive their pay for this period. Kris Heister was in on Jan 2nd to update Ramie. As of Dec. 22nd when the shutdown began, all Upper Delaware employees were furloughed and their leaves were cancelled (although apparently legislation protects their salaries and time off). Heister and the law enforcement rangers are on very limited duty without pay, a few hours a week. She's handling communications and any essential services from home. Nobody is allowed to use their government-issued phones or computers. The rangers are checking on building security, fuel levels, and are on call individually for any emergencies. Maintenance crews will be called out to plow the Roebling Bridge if needed, but there will be no clearing of parking lots or sidewalks. Heister said that Jan 11th is a critical date since it's the next payroll. If the shutdown isn't over before then it gets complicated for them. That's where it stands from their perspective. Ramie said it does trickle down to affect an organization like ours which is reliant on Federal funds. Ramie had mentioned to reporters inquiring about the UDC's status this exemplifies why having all your funding eggs in one basket, in this case the Federal Government, is a precarious

position for UDC and why we need the state funding as a backup for such situations. Ramie doesn't feel UDC needs to set any hard and fast deadlines now for a closure or shutdown. She will keep the board apprised of what the status is. Hopefully the shutdown will end soon and everyone will be back in business. Sullivan said the UDC appreciates the staff having to live with that uncertainty and continuing to function.

Other: Ramie thanked Richard Thomas from Blue Ridge Cable Channel 13 for coming in to cover the meeting.

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: A motion by Peckham, seconded by Rajs, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. was carried.

Minutes prepared by Ashley Hall-Bagdonas 1-15-19