1. **Introductions**
   The Natural Resource and Community Development discussed the purpose of the meeting and asked staff to assist with facilitating the discussion.

2. **Agriculture**
   The Natural Resources and Community Development Committee had a joint meeting to discuss the regional agriculture forum. WRC staff opened the discussion by saying that the current intent is to organize a facilitated discussion focused on understanding what role the WRC can play in making the agricultural industry more vital. It was suggested that WRC staff contact other RPCs to determine what they are doing to support agriculture and arrange a number of one-on-one discussions with individuals from within the agricultural industry over the next year. This information can be used to inform a facilitated conversation. Committee members recommended including staff time for this effort in the FY2016 budget.

3. **Minutes Approval**
   The minutes of the 11th of September 2014 meeting were approved as written.

4. **Update on the Windham County Economic Development Program**
   S. McMahon updated the Committee that she finished the review of 25 Windham County Economic Development Program (WCEDP) proposals. She reviewed the applicants in relationship to how they were consistent with the Regional Plan. When asked about the type of applicants that were received. She explained that there were a few businesses and a majority of non-profits applying in this round. She felt that this would change as the funded non-profits implement their economic development programs and more businesses are made aware of the WCEDP funds.
5. Village Revitalization Program
S. McMahon updated the Committee on the status of staff’s work with villages. She discussed the following:

- **Readsboro** – Met with Readsboro Hometown Revitalization Committee for an update on how they were doing with implementing their village revitalization plan. Laura Sibilia from BDCC joined her at the meeting. She was impressed with how much they had done and left with some tasks to assist them some more. Her intent is to meet with all of the villages that we assisted with the EDA revitalization planning in the next couple of months.
- **Jamaica** – Has asked for assistance with a village SWOT (Strength, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats) analysis. Susan and Laura will attend the November 17, 2014 meeting to facilitate the discussion.
- **Londonderry** – The Planning Commission is putting on a workshop for investors, business and realtors in Londonderry on October 29, 2014. The purpose of this workshop is to explain the benefits of village center designation. S. McMahon will present at the workshop and will be inviting other communities that might find this information valuable.

6. Forest Economy Progress
S. McMahon discussed that the forest economy work group is focusing on education the Region of the importance of this economic sector. They are planning a series of monthly articles in the *Commons* and an art exhibit at the Brattleboro Museum and Art Center.

7. Update and Announcements in Topic Areas
- **Brownfields** – S. McMahon discussed that the Brownfields Committee has just finished pre-qualifying environmental consultants for the next three years of work.
- **Housing** – S. McMahon discussed that she assisted with facilitating a meeting on the future of the Melrose property.
- **Cultural and Historic**
- **Infrastructure**
- **Recreation**
- **Economic/Community Development**
- **Education**
- **Human Services**

8. Other Business/Next Meeting
Next meeting scheduled for November 13 @ 4:30 pm with the following topic areas:
- Municipal Shared Services
- Update on WCEDP
- Water and Wastewater programs

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.