

CIVIL ENGINEERING • SURVEYING • LAND DEVELOPMENT • ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES  
GEOTECHNICAL • GIS • CONSTRUCTION TESTING & INSPECTION  
GRANT WRITING & GRANT ADMINISTRATION

# VISION



FALL 2020

**BRIAN REED, DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
MOUNT ROGERS PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION**

# Brian Reed: An Advocate for Mount Rogers Planning District Commission

By Logan Smith, Contributing Writer



At 22 years old, after graduating from Emory & Henry College, Brian Reed withdrew his master's application from Appalachian State University to pursue a career at the Mount Rogers Planning District Commission (MRPDC) in the town of Marion, Virginia. Although his decision was unconventional, he never looked back.

Twenty-five (25) years later, Reed now serves as the deputy director for the MRPDC. His district, while not in charge of subdivision, interstate, or highway planning, is an integral force serving towns with water and sewage projects, downtown revitalization, housing rehabilitations and much more.

"I've always wanted to be a planner," said Reed, who is originally from Nashville, Tennessee. "I enjoyed what I did as soon as I started interning here (in 1995). I keep going because I'm good at what I do. I know the key players in all the localities and the funding agencies."

Reed partners with housing authorities and a number of different service authorities to develop innovative projects for his community. He assists localities with tourism and marketing plans, and he writes and manages grants.

COVID-19, while costly to communities nationwide, only elevated Reed's workload; the pandemic didn't stop him from submitting 12 grants regarding economic development, COVID-19 response, small business assistance and many others.

"This has probably been one of the busiest years," said Reed, who is also a member of four different management teams throughout his district. "What we do for



Southwest Virginia and the communities we serve you can't beat it, dollar-for-dollar. There may be days when my job is difficult, but I never panic on what I may have to do from day to day.

Aside from his work, Reed loves to bike, kayak, fish and travel. He has visited 48 of the 50 states, leaving Alaska and Hawaii left to venture.

"Hurt & Proffitt has been instrumental, especially

with water and sewer," he said. "Here in the last ten years, they've gotten really involved with our downtown revitalization projects, PDC's water and wastewater program, and the Town of Independence and their whole park and farmers market project. I really enjoy working with Hurt & Proffitt's staff too. I've known a lot of them for many years, and they are a great crew."

## H&P Adds Ground Penetrating Radar and Jetting Services



H&P has invested in two new pieces of equipment within the last few months to expand our services and better serve our clients. These include Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) equipment for the Geotechnical and Materials Testing department and a jetter truck for the CCTV group.

GPR is something we have been doing for our clients for several years. However, we have been renting the equipment in order to be able to do the field work. As the work has steadily increased we realized that it would be more beneficial for us to purchase the equipment rather than continue to rent it.

The jetter truck will allow us to provide a new service (or actually renew a service) to our clients when the CCTV crew discovers problems with pipelines. Problems such as a root intrusion, grease build up, and debris are often found when inspecting pipelines.

Whenever they find problems we have had to refer our clients to a third party company that would then come in to clean the pipeline. Having our own jetter truck allows us to provide this valuable service our clients.



# Letter From the President



BIF JOHNSON, PE

Fall is in the air! Even with all the turmoil going on in our world today it's nice to know there are still constants all around us. Like the changing colors of the leaves, the crisp air, the vibrant blue skies and the amazingly beautiful sunsets.

I want to, once again, thank our wonderful staff for doing everything possible to maintain our tremendous health and safety record. Our efforts, along with our partners and clients, have kept us working and providing essential services over the past 8 months. We continue to commit our diligence in maintaining safe work environments, whether in the office or the field.

We, like everyone else, are hoping and praying for better days ahead for all of us. My 15 year old daughter is reading a book entitled, *Run the Mile You're In*, by Ryan Hall. She is an avid runner and struggles at times with a past run that didn't go the way she wanted it to go. Hall's book has helped her understand that we can't look back upon the past and let it negatively affect our today, or even our tomorrow. We must use its information to help us be the best version of ourselves today. It's a great lesson for her to learn at her young age and one we could all learn from no matter how old we are or what our circumstances are.

Be the best version of you today!

*Bif*

## H&P Assists Buckingham County with Water Tank Rehabilitation

Buckingham County utilizes two elevated storage tanks to provide the greater Dillwyn area residents a safe and reliable water supply, meeting the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) requirements. Their Sprouses tank has a volume of 300,000 gallons while their Dillwyn tank has a volume of 250,000 gallons. Like many other communities in our area, Buckingham's water monitoring was showing increased levels of trihalomethanes especially during the summer months. With TTHM concentrations approaching the required level, Buckingham County contacted Hurt and Proffitt to evaluate options for reducing the levels.

There are currently two major manufacturers of treatment equipment designed to remove THMs from the water system. After contacting both manufacturers and reviewing their equipment and proposals, the County decided to proceed with THM treatment equipment consisting of a single phase submersible mixer (Model GS-12) to circulate water in the tank preventing stratification and a single phase blower (Model

F4) to add air to the tank head space to force the oxidized THMs out the tank's vent.

Since the tanks were painted approximately 20 years ago, the County wanted to have the tanks repainted and mixing systems installed at one time. H&P worked with the Buckingham County Utility Director, Mike Markley, to review previous tank inspection reports and develop contract documents for public advertisement and bidding. The

documents included cleaning requirements, painting requirements, mixing equipment, and miscellaneous tank repairs that comply with VDH standards.

With Buckingham County only having two (2) water tanks, project coordination was necessary to only have one tank out of service at a time. Project work began with an exterior pressure wash to remove buildup and loose scale before painting. The interior was then sandblasted and painted. Once that process was complete, the tanks were then disinfected and THM equipment installed and tested in accordance with VDH standards before returning to service.





# APELSCIDLA Board Celebrates Centennial



The Virginia Board of Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects (APELSCIDLA) is celebrating 100 years of licensure for Architects, Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors in the Commonwealth of Virginia. In June of this

year, Governor Ralph Northam signed a Certificate of Recognition for the centennial.

The mission of the APELSCIDLA Board has been to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth. The Board currently licenses 7,523 Architects, 29,623 Professional Engineers and 1,360 Land Surveyors. These professionals have made significant contributions over the last century across the state of Virginia.

As part of their 2020 centennial celebration, APELSCIDLA has released a book showcasing work done by licensed professionals in the Commonwealth. To view a copy of the book, visit [http://www.dpor.virginia.gov/uploadedFiles/MainSite/Content/Boards/APELS/APELSCIDLA\\_Centennial.pdf](http://www.dpor.virginia.gov/uploadedFiles/MainSite/Content/Boards/APELS/APELSCIDLA_Centennial.pdf)



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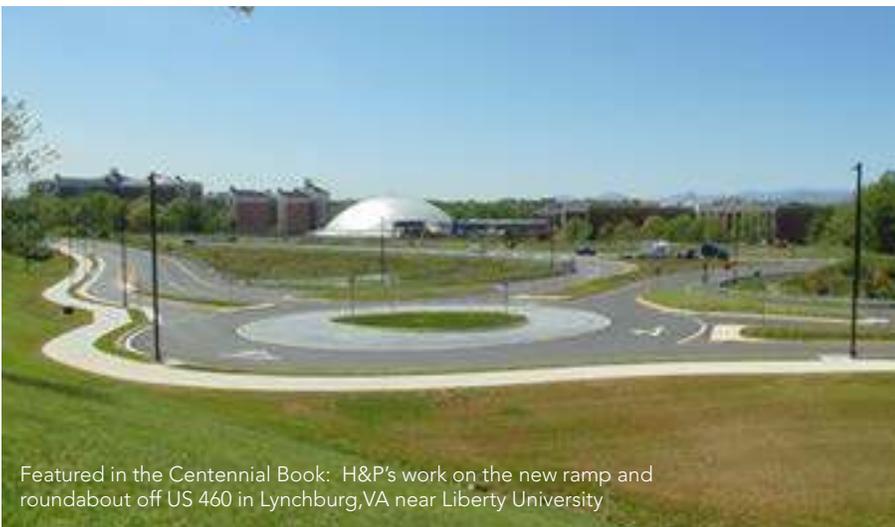
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Featured in the Centennial Book: H&P's work on the new ramp and roundabout off US 460 in Lynchburg, VA near Liberty University



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