

Minutes
Southwest Georgia Regional Commission Meeting
Depot, 212 East Broad Street, Camilla, Georgia

July 26, 2012

The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC) held its Council meeting, Thursday, July 26, 2012 at the Depot in Camilla, Georgia. Chairman Jack Powell chaired the meeting, with the following council members present: Mr. John Spann, Mr. Eddie Hopkins, Mr. Charlie Williams, Mr. Ferrell Ruis, Mr. Henry Crumley, Jr., Ms. Janice Baty, Mr. George Washington, Ms. Gloria Gaines, Mr. Christopher Pike, Mr. Stephen Kaplan, Mr. Raymond Breaux, Mr. Al Hutchins, Ms. Christie Haynes, Mr. Billy Poitevint, Mr. Jim Sellers, Mr. Joe Walden, Mr. Vincent Cutts, Ms. Jenny Crisp, Mr. Jimmy Haywood, Mr. Carlos Williams, Mr. Luther Clearman, Mr. Ben Hayward, Mr. W.D. Palmer, III, Mr. Charles Barineau, Mr. Howard Floyd, Mr. Alfred Bryan, Mr. Randy Hill and Ms. Karen Rackley.

Those Council members calling to report conflicts were Dr. CT Stafford, Mr. Richard Ward, Ms. Glenda Battle, Mr. David Sullivan, Mr. Lucius Holloway, Ms. Elaine Mays, Mr. Max Beverly, Mr. David Maschke and Mr. Courtney Brinson.

Council members absent were Mr. John Gaines, Ms. Bennie Watts Jones, Mr. Johnny Hardin, Ms. Debbie McIntyre, Mr. Ed Duffy, Ms. Brenda Peterson, Ms. Brenda Broome, Mr. Matt Medders, Ms. Elizabeth Millsaps, Mr. Mills Herndon and Mr. David Herndon.

Staff members present were Executive Director Robert McDaniel, Deputy Director Suzanne Angell, Executive Secretary Anna Singletary, Workforce 44 Director Charles Williams, Transportation Planner Gerald Goosby, Senior Planner Barbara Reddick, Planner Kerrie Davis, HR Manager Sherry Knighten. Guests attending the meeting were Mrs. Robbie Floyd, Mrs. Dolly Crumley, Mr. Dean Nelson, Mr. Charlie Sol and Ms. Doris Gay.

Chairman Jack Powell called the meeting to order at approximately 7:10 p.m. and called on Mr. Robert McDaniel for the Attendance Report. Mr. McDaniel reported that there were 29 members present representing fourteen counties and a quorum was present. He noted that Grady and Miller Counties had 100% representation and then introduced the Council guests. **After a brief review of the Agenda, May and June Minutes and June Financial Statements, Mr. Henry Crumley moved the approval of the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Luther Clearman. The motion was unanimously approved.**

Chairman Powell called on Mr. Gerald Goosby for the Transportation Planner's report. Mr. Goosby noted that the TSPLOST was scheduled to be voted upon on July 31st and that the RC staff had attended, hosted or facilitated approximately 40 meetings that included Roundtable meetings, public information forums and procedural process workshops. He further noted that the RC would have an implementation role of the tax if it passed. Mr. Goosby reported that the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Planning FY13 Contract and the Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS) Rural Transit FY13 Contract had been received. He stated that the ACCG (Association of County Commissions of Georgia) Risk Management representative came to review the safety measures of the GDOT 5311 transit program and would issue a recommendation next month.

Chairman Powell called on Mr. Charles Williams for the workforce investment program, Workforce 44, Director's report. Mr. Williams reported that Workforce 44 was continuing to meet or exceed performance goals, and that the State would be meeting with the Federal government to increase those goals. He reported that the main office would be relocated to 75 Broad Street in Camilla; and further reported that he and Chief Elected Officials Organization (CEO) Chairman Ben Hayward had met with the Executive Director, Tricia Pridemore, of the Governor's Office of Workforce Development (GOWD). He said that Ms. Pridemore listened to the recommendations of the group to better the services of the WIA program. Mr. Williams announced that a CEO meeting was scheduled for August 30th and that a meeting with federal officials to define the role and

responsibilities of the CEOO and WIB Board would commence before the end of the year. Lastly, he invited all members to a luncheon on August 24th at the Job Corp in Albany, Georgia where he would be the keynote speaker to discuss the legislative affairs of the workforce program.

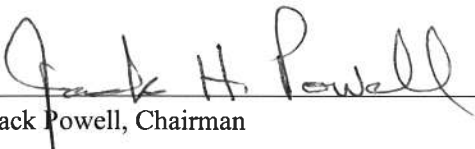
Chairman Powell called on Senior Planner Barbara Reddick to report on planning activities. Ms. Reddick called attention to the handout referencing the planning activities for the month of July. She noted that planning for the Regional Youth Summit was underway and was in need of volunteers and sponsors. Ms. Reddick reported that an intern would begin August 13th. She further reported that the Department of Community Affairs FY13 contract was also underway. Ms. Reddick then gave a summary of grants being applied and/or awarded for that included farmer's markets in the City of Arlington and the City of Sylvester. She gave the Council a summary of the Housing Task Force meetings and presented them a quarterly update. Lastly, Ms. Reddick explained the Community Home Investment Program (CHIP) whereby communities can apply for grants to rehabilitate housing.

Chairman Powell called on Ms. Angell for the Finance Director's report. Ms. Angell reported that she and staff had been working on year end responsibilities and audit adjustments for FY12, and that the Audit Committee would meet in August to review the quarterly financials and have the initial communication with the auditors from Valenti, Rackley and Associates. She reported that the FY13 Budget had been adopted at the last meeting, and that the said budget would be reviewed quarterly to make any necessary adjustments.

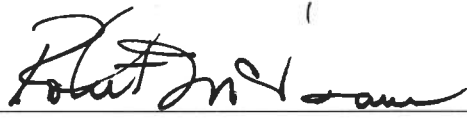
Chairman Powell called on Mr. Robert McDaniel for the Executive Director's report. First, Mr. McDaniel gave Economic Developer report on behalf of Robert McDonald. He reported that there were still three loans in the Revolving Loan Fund, with a fourth loan in the amount of \$60,000 having been approved for Mr. & Mrs. White in Meigs, Georgia. He further reported that Mr. McDonald was working on the five year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and Opportunity Zones for the City of Albany, the City of Camilla and the City of Cairo.

Mr. McDaniel then reported that staff was marketing RC services to the cities and counties and encouraged members to direct folks to the RC for assistance. He stated that the Aquifer Storage Recovery (ASR) application to Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA), had been successful through the first round, and that he was waiting to hear from the consultants on the next step to take. He updated the Council on the move to McRee Hall, noting that rehabilitation work had begun. Mr. McDaniel reported that planning director, Jay Sargent, had resigned, and Ms. Reddick would handle planning activities for the time being. Lastly, he stated that the RC had computers and furniture for sale, surplus from the NET program, and that the IT Manager, Brad Hurst, had been marketing the computers and other IT services to local governments.

Chairman Powell noted that the next Council Meeting would be held at the Depot. With there being no further business, Mr. Luther Clearman moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Danny Palmer. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



Jack Powell, Chairman



Robert McDaniel, Secretary