

MINUTES

Southwest Georgia Regional Commission

Regional Council Meeting

Camilla, Georgia

August 29, 2013

The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC) held its Council meeting Thursday, August 29, 2013, at the RC offices in Camilla, Georgia. Chairman Jack Powell chaired the meeting. The following council members were present: Mr. John Spann, Mr. Eddie Hopkins, Mr. Charlie Williams, Mr. Ferrell Ruis, Ms. Dollie Crumley, Mr. Henry Crumley, Jr., Mr. Johnny Hardin, Ms. Revonn Miller, Ms. Janice Baty, Mr. Russell Smith, Ms. Gloria Gaines, Mr. Christopher Pike, Ms. June Merritt, Mr. Al Hutchins, Mr. Marshall Hooks, Mr. Jim Sellers, Mr. Rick Muggridge, Ms. Jenny Crisp, Mr. Vincent Cutts, Ms. Glenda Battle, Mr. Luther Clearman, Mr. Ben Hayward, Mr. Danny Palmer, Ms. Brenda Peterson, Mr. Lucius Holloway, Mr. Mike Cosby, Ms. Karen Rackley, Mr. Courtney Brinson and Mr. Randy Hill.

Council members calling to report conflicts were Mr. Joe Walden, Ms. Connie Hobbs, Mr. Benjamin Brooks, Ms. LaFaye Copeland, Ms. Elaine Mays, Mr. Donnie Baggett, Mr. Charles Barineau, and Mr. Alfred Bryan.

Council members absent were, Ms. Bennie Watts Jones, Mr. Stephen Kaplan, Mr. Raymond Breaux, Mr. Demitrius Love, Mr. Mills Herndon and Mr. David Herndon, Mr. Kreg Freeman, Carlos Williams, Ms. Brenda Broome, Mr. Christopher Wright, and Mr. Max Beverly.

Staff members present were Executive Director Robert McDaniel, Deputy Director Suzanne Angell, Grants Administrator Brenda Wade, Senior Planner Barbara Reddick, Planner Kerrie Davis, and Administrative Assistant Heather White. Guests attending the meeting were Mr. Carlos Tobar and Mr. Toney Thompson, Ms. Sandra Crosby, Mr. Kevin Coker, Ms. Doris Gay, Mr. Patrick Holloway, Ms. Barbara Clearman, Mr. Patterson, Ms. Sammie Battle, Mr. Charles Sol, and Mr. Roger Lane.

Chairman Jack Powell called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. Mr. McDaniel gave the attendance report stating that there were 29 members present representing 13 counties and a quorum was present. He noted that Colquitt, Worth, Lee, Early, and Decatur Counties had 100% representation and then introduced the guests of the Council. After a brief review of the Agenda, July Minutes and Financial Statements, Mr. Henry Crumley, Jr. moved the approval of the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Al Hutchins. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Suzanne Angell reported that the Audit Committee had met with the Auditors and the Auditors directed anyone with any concerns or questions to contact their office. The auditor also spoke to the committee on the scope of the audit. Ms. Angell also stated that random test audits of several transactions were successfully executed during the meeting.

Ms. Barbara Reddick presented the Planning Report to the committee and went over it in detail. She mentioned that we have applied for a Housing Preservation grant. All of the committee members present received an invitation to the "Call in to Connect" meeting. She announced the CDBGs that were awarded. Ms. Reddick also mentioned the status of the CHIP grant applications. It was reported that this year's Youth Summit would feature "soft skills" such as the value of getting to work on time, not using cell phones at work, how to dress, just to lightly touch on what will be covered. She also mentioned the continued search for an intern for the planning department.

As previously reported in the July meeting, the RC has signed a \$55,000 contract with the Middle Georgia RC to prepare a broadband study for the 14-county region. Robert McDaniel presented the Broadband Coverage maps to the committee explaining what the map means, elaborating on the report of the contract discussed at last month's council meeting.

Ms. Suzanne Angell presented her financial reports. She mentioned we had good financial results in July. She mentioned that we were looking for an additional administrative support person through the Experience Works program or WIA. Ms. Angell reported that CDBG awards and the broadband contracts have added revenue to the budget this year. Also, she mentioned that the Department of Human Services is implementing cut backs due to the federal sequestration and there may be no aging trips in September.

Mr. McDaniel mentioned that he had attended the Tired Creek Ground Breaking ceremony. He made mention of the Open Records Round Table that will be held on October 31st at the Camilla Depot. He also stated that we are now taking reservations for that event. Also, our Legislative reception will be the same night. Next, Mr. McDaniel informed everyone the GARC Conference is on November 6-8 and it is time to register for that. Ms. White mentioned that the GARC registration information is on our website under the heading of "In the Loop". Mr. McDaniel continued his report to the committee with the mention of the GPS work our GIS department is doing for cities and counties for the mapping of their wet and dry hydrants and stated that the committee members may want to consider this for their counties and cities. He mentioned that we have four active applications for our RLF (Revolving Loan Fund).

With there being no further business, Mr. Henry Crumley, Jr. moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Luther Clearman. The meeting was adjourned.

Jack Powell, Chairman

Robert McDaniel, Secretary