

MINUTES

Southwest Georgia Regional Commission

Regional Council Meeting

Camilla, Georgia

December 17, 2013

The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC) held its Council meeting Thursday, December 12, 2013, at the Southwest Regional Commission building in Camilla, Georgia. Chairman Jack Powell chaired the meeting. The following council members were present: Mr. John Spann, Mr. Eddie Hopkins, Mr. Charlie Williams, Ms. Bennie Watts Jones, Mr. Ferrell Ruis, Ms. Revonn Miller, Ms. Gloria Gaines, Mr. Stephen Kaplan, Mr. Raymond Breaux, Ms. June Merritt, Mr. Al Hutchins, Mr. Freddie Speight, Ms. Lafaye Copeland, Mr. Joe Walden, Mr. Jim Sellers, Mr. Vincent Cutts, Ms. Glenda Battle, Mr. Carlos Williams, Mr. Luther Clearman, Ms. Brenda Peterson, Mr. Lucius Holloway, Mr. Alfred Bryan, Mr. Randy Hill, and Ms. Karen Rackley.

Council members calling to report conflicts were Mr. Johnny Hardin, Mrs. Dollie Crumley, Mr. Henry Crumley, Jr., Mr. Russell Smith, Ms. Janice Baty, Ms. Jenny Crisp, Mr. Ben Hayward, Mr. W.D. Palmer, III, Mr. Charles Barineau, Ms. Brenda Broome, Mr. Christopher Wright, and Mr. Courtney Brinson.

Council members absent were, Ms. Connie Hobbs, Mr. Christopher Pike, Mr. Demetrius Love, Mr. Rick Muggridge, Mr. Kreg Freeman, Mr. Benjamin Brooks, Ms. Elaine Mays, Mr. Max Beverly, Mr. Donnie Baggett, and Mr. Mike Cosby.

Staff members present were Executive Director Robert McDaniel, Deputy Director Suzanne Angell, and Administrative Assistant Heather White.

Guests present were Representative Jay Powell, Jamie Womack, Joe Hood, Peter Adams, Col. McDonough, Capt. Mercier, Lt. Stan Stalnaker, Ms. Emma Katz, Mr. Charles Winchester, Mr. Nick Valenti, Mr. Bennett Adams, David Waller, Jamie Sullivan, James Bue, Mrs. Al Hutchins, Mrs. Freddie Speight, and Mrs. Holloway.

Chairman Jack Powell called the meeting to order at approximately 6:48 p.m. Mr. McDaniel gave the attendance report stating that there were 25 members present representing 13 counties and a quorum was present. He noted that Early County, Grady County and Calhoun County had 100% representation and then introduced the guests of the Council. Mr. Powell asked that the agenda be amended to move item VI (Guest Speaker) to immediately following Item III (Staff Reports). Mr. Luther Clearman moved the approval of the agenda as amended, seconded by Mr. Raymond Breaux. The motion was unanimously approved. Mr. Powell asked that the consent agenda be passed. Luther Conyer so moved and it was seconded by Ms. Glenda Battle. All approved.

Ms. Suzanne Angell gave the Audit Committee Report and presented the amended Budget. Ms. Karen Rackley moved that it be passed and Mr. Vincent Cutts seconded the motion, all accepted the revised budget.

Mr. Robert McDaniel introduced the commander of the Georgia State Patrol, Col. McDonough. Col. McDonough discussed the roles of the state patrol. He then discussed his purpose of speaking at the meeting. Col. McDonough had organized a movement to locate a life flight operation out of Camilla. He discussed the needs of the life flight station. A motion was made by Mr. Steve Kaplan to support the efforts of Col. McDonough and the State Patrol in their efforts of the organization of a Life Flight operation based in Camilla. Mr. Raymond Breaux seconded the motion. All were in favor with no opposition.

Ms. Angell introduced Nick Valenti of Valenti, Rackley, and Associates. Mr. Valenti explained the report that has been drafted regarding the independent audit. There were no findings. Ms. Suzanne Angell stated that the report would be completed with the addition of the Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) the following week. Mr. Steve Kaplan motioned to accept the draft and Ms. Glenda Battle seconded the motion. There was one opposed and the rest of the votes were in favor.


Ms. Suzanne Angell presented the board with the revised budget amendment. She stated that there are plans for the employees to come off of their one day a month mandatory furloughs. Ms. Angell explained we are utilizing a worker sent to us from DFACS, three high school students, and we have Ms. Helen Williams back, all of which are costing the RC nothing. This along with the two administrative assistant positions that were vacated in July being filled by one new administrative assistant, and getting the contracts and grants we have, the reserve is looking better. Ms. Karen Rackley motioned to accept the revised budget and Mr. Vincent Cutts seconded the motion, the board unanimously moved to accept it.

Mr. Robert McDaniel made presentations for the council members that maintained 100% attendance through the year. These council members are John Spann, Eddie Hopkins, Jack Powell, Al Hutchins, Luther Clearman, Lucius Holloway, and Randy Hill.

With there being no further business, Mr. Jack Powell adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.



Jack Powell, Chairman



Robert McDaniel, Secretary