MINUTES
Southwest Georgia Regional Commission
Regional Council Meeting
Camilla, Georgia
February 26, 2015

The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC) held its Council meeting Thursday, February 26, 2015, at the Southwest Regional Commission building in Camilla, Georgia. Vice Chairman Glenda Battle chaired the meeting. The following council members were present: Kevin Coker, Eddie Hopkins, Charlie Williams, Bennie Watts Jones, Ferrell Ruis, Dollie Crumley, Henry Crumley, Dennis Brinson, Clinton Johnson, Tommie Postell, Raymond Breaux, Charlie Sol, Al Hutchins, Freddie Speight, Jim Sellers, Joe Walden, Rick Muggridge, Dwight Hickman, Luther Clearman, Ben Hayward, Brenda Peterson, Darrell Hampton, Lucius Holloway, and Randy Hill.

Council members calling to report conflicts were John Spann, Revonn Miller, Ray Prince, Robert Ramsey, Jerry Bush, Carlos Williams, Danny Palmer, Jack Powell, Benjamin Brooks Elaine Mays, Donnie Baggett, and David Mosely.

Council members absent were Betty Murdock, Paul Nagy, Virginia Harrison, Christopher Wright, Alfred Bryan, Mike Cosby, Karen Rackley, Courtney Brinson, and Max Beverly.

Staff members present were Executive Director Robert McDaniel, Deputy Director Suzanne Angell, Planning Director, Barbara Reddick, Grants Administrator Brenda Wade and Administrative Assistant Heather White.

Guests present were Mr. Peterson, Mrs. Clearman, Mrs. Speight, Mr. Edwards, Reverend Clark Johnson, and Commissioner Roger Lane.

Chairman Brenda Peterson called the meeting to order at approximately 7:01 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 had 100% representation and then introduced the new Council Members and the guests of the Council. Brenda Peterson asked if there are any changes to the minutes or attendance report for the January meeting. Henry Crumley motioned that the minutes be approved as they are and Clinton Johnson seconded the motion. The Council all said “aye”. Ms. Peterson then asked if everyone approved the January financial reports Henry Crumley motioned that the financial reports be approved and Darrell Hampton seconded the motion. All were in favor of approval.

Mr. Al Hutchins asked if anyone had any changes or suggestions to the slate of officers that were presented at the January meeting and tabled for 30 days before a vote is taken. No one had any other comments, suggestions, or changes so a vote was taken. Clinton Johnson motioned that the slate of
officers stand as presented by the Nominating Committee and Raymond Breaux seconded the motion, all approved.

In the new Chairman’s (Danny Palmer) absence, the new Vice-Chairman, Glenda Battle took over the meeting. Ms. Battle introduced Barbara Reddick to give the Human Services Committee report. Ms. Reddick mentioned that there was not a quorum in the committee so they went over the Regional Work Program, the Youth Summit and other activities.

Barbara Reddick presented her planning department staff report. She stated the planning department was very busy working on Stronger Economies Together, the food hub project, and other projects. Ms. Reddick mentioned the multiple webinars and an upcoming Lunch and Learn. The homeless count has been completed. There were several conference calls with GA. D.O.T. about some business practice changes on the D.O.T.’s side. There is bicycle rodeo planned in conjunction with Camilla’s Gnat Days in May.

Suzanne Angell presented the Financial Report. She reported that the Regional Commission has, to date, surpassed the excess in reserves planned in the budget. Approximately $11,641 was added to the reserves in the General Fund. The reserves in the Transportation Fund are at a little over $110,000. The D.H.S. Transportation Grant application was submitted and the GDOT application is due in March. Bids will be accepted for new auditors.

Robert McDaniel gave the Executive Director’s Report. He asked that the CDBG and CHIP projects be identified and presented to the Planning Department in a timely manner so that there is time to complete all of the projects. Mr. McDaniel discussed the homeless count and asked counties to get more involved in the homeless counts in the future.

Glenda Battle mentioned that March 26 will be the new member’s orientation and the importance of the new members to attend. Rick Mugridge made an announcement that there needs to be more participation in the CEOO meetings and gave the council a brief overview of that need and asked everyone to discuss this with their mayors and commission chairs about attendance or ask them to appoint a designee to attend.

Robert McDaniel announced the next meeting will be held at the SWGA Regional Commission on March 26 at the same time. With there being no further business, Ms. Battle adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Danny Palmer, Chairman

Robert McDaniel, Secretary