MINUTES
Southwest Georgia Regional Commission
Regional Council Meeting
Camilla, Georgia
March 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. Chairman Danny Palmer chaired the meeting. The following council members were present: Kevin Coker, John Spann, Eddie Hopkins, Charlie Williams, Bennie Watts Jones, Paul Nagy, Dollie Crumley, Henry Crumley, Revonn Miller, Tommie Postell, Nathaniel Clark, Raymond Breaux, Charlie Sol, Al Hutchins, Freddie Speight, Ray Prince, Joe Walden, Dwight Hickman, Glenda Battle, Jerry Bush, Carlos Williams, Luther Clearman, Ben Hayward, Brenda Peterson, Virginia Harrison, Jack Powell, Alfred Bryan, Karen Rackley and Randy Hill.

Council members calling to report conflicts were Ferrell Ruis, Clinton Johnson, Jim Sellers, Lucius Holloway, Elaine Mays, Donnie Baggett, David Mosely, Darrell Hampton and Courtney Brinson.

Council members absent were Betty Murdock, Dennis Brinson, Rick Muggridge, Robert Ramsey, Benjamin Brooks, Christopher Wright, Max Beverly, and Mike Cosby.

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

Guests present were Rhonda Gordon with Golden Triangle Resource, Conservation, and Development Council, Mr. Peterson, Willie Marshall, Ms. Speight, Tony Thompson, and Ms. Battle.

Chairman Danny Palmer called the meeting to order at approximately 7:02 p.m. Mr. McDaniel gave the attendance report stating that there were 30 members present representing 14 counties and a quorum was present. He noted that Early County, Baker County and Miller County had 100% representation and then introduced the new Council Members and the guests of the Council. Danny Palmer asked if there are any changes to the consent agenda for the February meeting. Henry Crumley motioned that the minutes be approved as they are and Jack Powell seconded the motion. The Council all said “aye”.

Danny Palmer gave the Executive Committee Report discussing the settlement of the DCH lawsuit.

Charlie Williams gave the Environmental and Natural Resources Committee report. He said there was low attendance for the meeting and climate change was the subject of discussion.

Barbara Reddick gave the Community Development report. She said their committee had low attendance as well but there was a very productive conversation on food hubs in the area and the large one that is in the beginning stages in Colquitt County. Council member Paul Nagy then informed the
Council about Colquitt’s plans for the Food Hub and the benefits of the location of the hub in Colquitt County.

Barbara Reddick delivered her Planning Staff Report to the Council. She briefed the Council on all of the Planning Department’s current projects.

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 $6,600 was added to the reserves in the General Fund bringing the total reserves in the General Fund to $219,892. The total reserves in the Transportation Fund are at a little over $111,300. The Transportation GDOT Grant application was submitted.

Robert McDaniel gave the Executive Director’s Report. He mentioned that the Regional Commission had their New Council Member Training. Mr. McDaniel then introduced the speaker Rhonda Gordon.

Guest Speaker Rhonda Gordon with Triangle Resource, Conservation, and Development Council gave a brief presentation about the scope and purpose of the Triangle RC&D organization and then showed a film to the council.

Robert McDaniel announced the next meeting will be held at the SWGA Regional Commission on April 30, 2015 at the same time. With there being no further business, Mr. Palmer adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Danny Palmer, Chairman

Robert McDaniel, Secretary