

MINUTES

Southwest Georgia Regional Commission

Regional Council Meeting

Camilla, Georgia

July 28, 2016

The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC) held its council meeting Thursday, July 28, 2016, at the Southwest Regional Commission in Camilla, Georgia. Vice-Chairman Glenda Battle chaired the meeting. The following council members were present: Chris Moore, John Spann, Eddie Hopkins, Charlie Williams, Benny Watts-Jones, Ferrell Ruis, Dollie Crumley, Henry Crumley, Erica Savage Wilson, Charlie Sol, Allen Baggs, Raymond Breaux, Jim Sellers, Al Hutchins, Dwight Hickman, Jerry Bush, Carlos Williams, Ben Hayward, Nathaniel Keaton, Brenda Peterson, Mitchell Blanks, Tracie Beard, Elaine Mays, Ed Wade, Jack Powell, Terry Scott, Donnie Baggett, Mike Cosby, Karen Rackley, Jeanie Crittenden, and Randy Hill.

Council members calling to report conflicts were Paul Nagy, Revonn Miller, Tommie Postell, Billy Poppell, Ray Prince, Anthony Jones, Freddie Speight, Rick Muggridge, Joe Walden, Danny Palmer and David Mosely.

Council members absent were Dennis Brinson, Chad Griffin, Ernest Johnson and Courtney Brinson.

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

Guests present were Ms. Stephens, Ms. Blanks, Mrs. Hutchins, Mrs. Bush, Mr. Peterson, and Mrs. Wade.

Vice Chairman Glenda Battle called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. Mr. McDaniel gave the attendance report stating that there were 32 members present representing 13 counties and a quorum was present. He noted that Miller County, Worth County, Seminole County, Baker County, Thomas County and Calhoun County had 100% representation and then introduced the guests of the Council. Ms. Battle then asked that June minutes be approved. Donnie Baggett motioned the minutes be accepted and Raymond Breaux seconded the motion; all agreed.

Glenda Battle gave the Executive Committee report. She mentioned that there was only a small percentage of the council that returned their Commission Evaluations and Executive Director Evaluations. She mentioned that after evaluation of the results the Executive Committee voted to present the evaluation results to the full council. She asked for motion to approve the evaluation results. Henry Crumley made the motion and Mitchell Blanks seconded the motion; all agreed. Secondly, the Executive Committee discussed the Personnel Policy revisions that needed to be completed as a result of the DOAAA Performance audit. Elaine Mays made a statement in protest to the requirement by the auditors that every full time employee be required to have a Regional Commission credit card in their name. She stated that since it is a requirement of the auditors that she would reluctantly support to pass the amended personnel policy.

Audit Committee Chairman Ben Hayward deferred to Suzanne Angell to give the Audit Committee Report to the council. She first reported that there was a review of bank balances that were reconciled to the general ledger by Karen Rackley. Ben Hayward reviewed transactions. Ms. Rackley and Mr. Hayward said there were no irregularities found. Ms. Angell went on to explain that this was the meeting that Denise Rackley from Valenti, Rackley and Associates met for the initial communication with the Audit Committee prior to this year's annual audit. She briefed the committee on procedures.

Glenda Battle asked Planning Director Barbara Reddick to present the council with the Planning report. Mrs. Reddick mentioned that next year they will be applying for the Brownfield grants and everyone should begin preparing for that. The Planning Department is beginning the work on Albany's Public Service Grant. The Pre-hazard Mitigation Plans are still being worked on. Comprehensive Plans are still being worked on and some are being completed. Ms. Reddick asked the council to make sure their county or city has their Data Universal Numbering System (DUN) number and their System for Award Management (SAM) registrations completed so that they can apply for grants and funding. She mentioned that the Regional Commission could help guide the government entities as to register with these agencies. Any consultation over an hour would be charged for. Copies of instructions on how to apply were distributed to the council. If these registrations are not complete, funds may not be released.

Vice Chairman Glenda Battle asked Suzanne Angell to present the council the June 2016 Financial Statement. The General Fund has a year to date excess of revenues over expenditures in the amount of \$47,626.16. The unassigned fund

balance in the General fund as of June 30 was \$294,786.89. The Revolving Loan Fund has a year to date excess of revenues over expenditures in the amount of \$2,159.71. The Revolving Loan Fund balance at June 30, 2016 was \$292,013.82. The Transportation Fund has a year to date excess of revenues over expenditures in the amount of \$18,337.54. The Transportation fund reserves at June 30, 2016 were \$148,073.28. Glenda Battle asked for a motion to approve the financial statement for June 2016. Dwight Hickman made the motion to approve the financial statement and Randy Hill seconded the motion; all approved.

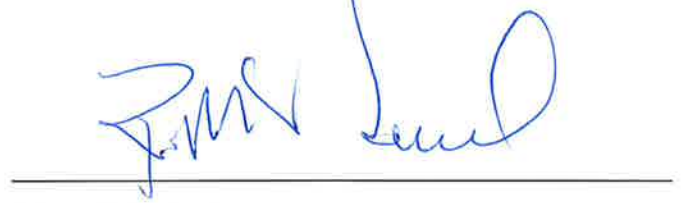
Robert McDaniel mentioned in his Executive Director's report that Census 2020 is approaching quickly and each community should begin preparing for it. He discussed how there were problems with the last count where certain populations such as those in prisons were counted in some communities and not in others. Mr. McDaniel introduced Georgia Watch's Beth Stevens to the council as the guest speaker for the night.

Ms. Stevens presented the council with an overview of the consumer services Georgia Watch has to offer Georgians. She mentioned that they are involved in lobbying for consumer-type legislation and that they are a non-profit.

After announcing the next meeting being on August 25, 2016 at the Regional Commission, Glenda Battle adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:15 p.m.



Danny Palmer, Chairman



Robert McDaniel, Secretary