MINUTES
Southwest Georgia Regional Commission
Regional Council Meeting
Camilla, Georgia

February 23, 2017

The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC) held its Council meeting Thursday, February 23, 2017, at the Southwest Regional Commission building 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 Jones, Paul Nagy, Ferrell Ruis, Dollie Crumley, Henry Crumley, Anthony Jones, Freddy Grimsley, Raymond Breaux, June Merritt, Al Hutchins, Jim Sellers, Joe Walden, Dwight Hickman, Carlos Williams, Ben Hayward, Nathaniel Keaton, Ed Wade, Ken Hickey, Donnie Baggett, Elaine Mays, Randy Hill, Karen Rackley and Norma Gilpatrick.

Council members calling to report conflicts were Chuck Cowart, Billy Poppell, Bobby Coleman, Freddie Speight, Keith Moye, Dennis Roland, Chad Griffin, Jerry Bush, Danny Palmer, Brenda Peterson, Mitchell Blanks, Jack Powell, Terry Scott, David Mosely, and Courtney Brinson.

Council members absent were Dennis Brinson, Revonn Miller, Erica Savage Wilson, Tracie Beard, Ernest Johnson and Fred Dent.

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

Guests present were Toney Thompson, Spencer Mueller, Sandra Molden, Ms. Wade and David Wills.

Vice Chairman Glenda Battle called the meeting to order at approximately 7:01 p.m. Mr. McDaniel gave the attendance report stating that there were 28 members present representing 12 counties and a quorum was present. He noted that Baker County and Colquitt County had 100% representation and then introduced the guests of the Council. Glenda Battle asked that January minutes be approved. Randy Hill motioned the minutes be accepted and Elaine Mays seconded the motion; all agreed.

Glenda Battle asked that Karen Rackley present the Nominating Committee report. Karen Rackley presented the Nominating Committee’s slate of officers for 2017. The slate was as follows; Glenda Battle for Chairman, John Spann as Vice Chairman, and Ben Hayward as Treasurer, Brenda Peterson as member, Danny Palmer as member, Elaine Mays as member and Jack Powell as member. Ms. Rackley asked if there were any other nominations from the Council. There were no other nominations so the slate of officers as presented by the Nominating Committee will be tabled until the March Meeting and then voted on.

Robert McDaniel was called on to give the Retirement Trustees report. He explained that it was decided at the meeting of the Trustees to move the defined benefit investment from Prudential to Charles Schwab for better service and convenience.

Planning Director Barbara Reddick gave her planning report. She mentioned that Meigs, Moultrie, and Sylvester had Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) funds awarded. Ms. Reddick stated that the Homeless Count for 2017 was completed with 191 counts completed in 12 counties. The Homeless Resource Guide was updated at the same time. Hazard Mitigation Plans were completed for Decatur County and Calhoun County. Currently the Planning Department is working on the Regional Plan. The Regional Assessment has been submitted. The Planning Department is currently working on an Economic Development Association (EDA) Grant for the city of Moultrie. The Youth Summit for 2017 was just held and 77 students participated from 6 counties.

Glenda Battle asked Deputy Director Suzanne Angell to give her Financial Report. Ms. Angell reported that the General Fund had a year to date surplus of $28,437.14 and the General Fund’s balance was $322,524.03. The year
to date Revolving Loan Fund surplus was $2,078.95 and the fund balance was $294,092.77. Ms. Angell stated that the Year to Date Surplus of the Regional Transit Program is $5,064.65 and the fund balance is $153,137.93. The Pension Fund’s defined benefit plan had a gain on investments of a little over $56,000.00. Donnie Baggett made a motion to accept the January 2017 financial report and Henry Crumley seconded the motion. All agreed.

Robert McDaniel gave the Executive Director’s Report.

Speaker David Wills of ACCG presented upcoming proposed legislation to the Council and provided information on T-SPLOST.

Mr. McDaniel stated that the next meeting will be at the Regional Commission offices in Camilla on March 30, 2017 at the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission.

With no further business, Glenda Battle asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Paul Nagy made a motion to adjourn and Dwight Hickman seconded the motion. All agreed. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Danny Palmer, Chairman

Robert McDaniel, Secretary