

MINUTES

Southwest Georgia Regional Commission

Regional Council Meeting

Camilla, Georgia

April 27, 2017

The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC) held its Council meeting Thursday, April 27, 2017, at the Southwest Regional Commission building in Camilla, Georgia. Chairman Glenda Battle chaired the meeting. The following council members were present: Chris Moore, John Spann, Eddie Hopkins, Chuck Cowart, Ferrell Ruis, Dollie Crumley, Henry Crumley, Bobby Coleman, Freddy Grimsley, Raymond Breaux, June Merritt, Al Hutchins, Freddie Speight, Jim Sellers, Joe Walden, Dwight Hickman, Jerry Bush, Carlos Williams, Danny Palmer, Nathaniel Keaton, Ed Wade, Jack Powell, Ken Hickey, Donnie Baggett, Randy Hill, Courtney Brinson and Norma Gilpatrick.

Council members calling to report conflicts were Charlie Williams, Benny Watts Jones, Paul Nagy, Revonn Miller, Anthony Jones, Keith Moye, Chad Griffin, Ben Hayward, Mitchell Blanks, Terry Scott, Elaine Mays, Karen Rackley, and David Mosely.

Council members absent were Dennis Brinson, Billy Poppell, Erica Savage Wilson, Dennis Roland, Brenda Peterson, Tracie Beard, Ernest Jonson, 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 Mrs. Bush, Mrs. Wade, Mrs. Speight, Sylvester City Manager Mr. Autron Hayes, Mr. Toney Thompson, and WIOA Director Ms. Melody Pierce.

Chairman Glenda Battle called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 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 Early County had 100% representation and then introduced the guests of the Council. Glenda Battle asked that March minutes be approved. Henry Crumley motioned the minutes be accepted and Randy Hill seconded the motion; all agreed.

Barbara Reddick gave the committee report for the joint Human Services and Community Development meeting that was held. They reviewed the draft form of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs). Ms. Reddick then talked with the Council on what CEDs is. The next step is to obtain permission to work on the Regional Agenda portion of the CEDs. There will be a regional hearing and the documents will be available to the public. She asked for a motion to transmit the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy as well as to transmit the Regional Agenda portion of the SWGA Regional Plan. Donnie Baggett made a motion to transmit these documents. Freddie Grimsley made the second motion. All agreed.

The Planning Report was given by Planning Director Barbara Reddick. She mentioned that the Planning Department is currently working on 10 plans that are due to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs in June and October. They submitted 3 Multi Modal Grants for Cairo, Arlington, and Moultrie. Cairo and Moultrie were awarded the Grants. Ms. Reddick briefed the Council on the upcoming housing conference. The theme will be Housing Recovery. This year fees for attendance will be waived due to the two storms that hit the region. The Planning Department is currently working with Albany on Capacity Building Training and working with them on Public Service grants again. Requests for proposals are going in the local papers to ask non-profits to apply for this grant.

Glenda Battle asked Deputy Director Suzanne Angell to give her Financial Report. Ms. Angell reported that the General Fund had a year to date excess of revenues over expenditures of \$43,167.73. The General Fund balance year to date was \$337,254.62. The Revolving Loan Fund had a year to date excess of revenues over expenditures

of \$2,543.34 which brings the fund balance to \$294,557.16. Ms. Angell stated that the year to date excess of revenues over expenditures of the Regional Transit Program is \$9,370.21 and the fund balance is \$157,443.49. The Pension Fund's defined benefit plan had a gain on investments of \$77,506.92. Ms. Angell explained that the Regional Partners Network (RPN) had been added as a component of the SWGRC financial statements. This was necessary due to the new Universal Design Institute (UDI) grant that the RPN was recently awarded. This will ensure that the program is audited appropriately. Ms. Angell asked Barbara Reddick to explain the new Universal Design Institute Grant (UDI). Mrs. Reddick explained that this grant would go towards repairs for homes of the disabled. Ms. Angell then told the Council to expect to receive the FY18 preliminary budget proposal at the May meeting. They will be asked to review it, and it will then be tabled for 30 days and voted on at the June meeting. There will also be an amended FY17 budget presented at the May meeting to be considered for adoption. Jack Powell made a motion to accept the March 2017 financial report and Danny Palmer seconded the motion. All agreed.

Robert McDaniel gave his Executive Director report. He stated we received a new contract and since it is over \$25,000 it requires Council approval. The contract is the GIO contract for Map 21. It is a program with the United States Department of Transportation. He discussed what this contract consists of. Donnie Baggett made a motion to accept the contract. Danny Palmer seconded the motion. All approved.

Robert McDaniel invited the WIOA/Worksource Georgia Program Director Melody Pierce to address the council. She spoke briefly on college funding opportunities to those wanting to enter the workforce. She also spoke of other training opportunities. She will be returning in June as the guest speaker.

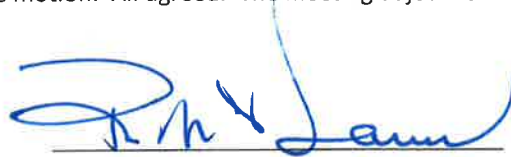
Executive Director Robert McDaniel discussed the upcoming Census 2018 preparations including the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA). He agreed to share information with the cities and counties as the Regional Commission receives it.

Chairman Glenda Battle stated that the next meeting will be in Camilla on the last Thursday in May which is May 25th at the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission.

With no further business, Glenda Battle asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Donnie Baggett made a motion to adjourn and Raymond Breaux seconded the motion. All agreed. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.



Glenda Battle, Chairman



Robert McDaniel, Secretary