

MINUTES

Southwest Georgia Regional Commission

Regional Council Meeting

Camilla, Georgia

August 31, 2017

The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC) held its Council meeting Thursday, August 31, 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, Charlie Williams, Chuck Cowart, Bennie Watts Jones, Paul Nagy, Ferrell Ruis, Revonn Miller, Bobby Coleman, Freddy Grimsley, Raymond Breaux, Al Hutchins, Freddie Speight, Keith Moye, Jim Sellers, Joe Walden, Dwight Hickman, Chad Griffin, Jerry Bush, Carlos Williams, Ben Hayward, Danny Palmer, Nathaniel Keaton, Mitchell Blanks, Tracie Beard, Ed Wade, Terry Scott, Donnie Baggett, Randy Hill, and Courtney Brinson.

Council members calling to report conflicts were Dollie Crumley, Henry Crumley, Billy Poppell, Anthony Jones, June Merritt, Brenda Peterson, Karen Rackley, and Norma Gilpatrick.

Council members absent were Dennis Brinson, Erica Savage Wilson, Dennis Roland, Ernest Johnson, Jack Powell, Ken Hickey, Elaine Mays, and Fred Dent.

Staff members present were Executive Director Robert McDaniel, Deputy Director Suzanne Angell, Planning Director Barbara Reddick, Planner Kim Brooks, Planning Assistant Tonya Rossitter, Executive Assistant Heather White, High School Intern Abby Casey, and Grant Administrator Brenda Wade.

Guests present were Kathy Wade, Cynthia Hopkins, Faye Bush, Sylvester City Manager Autron Hayes, Mrs. Speight, Ms. Battle, Harvey McCoy, Feraby Moye, Executive Director of WIOA Melody Pierce, and Toney Thompson.

Chairman Glenda Battle called the meeting to order at approximately 7:03 p.m. Mr. McDaniel gave the attendance report stating that there were 32 members present representing 14 counties and a quorum was present. He noted that Mitchell, Baker, Calhoun, and Grady County had 100% representation and then introduced the guests of the council. Mr. McDaniel introduced the new Planning Assistant Tonya Rossitter. He acknowledged the high school interns Tyke 'De'Antre Williams and Abby Casey and the WIOA Intern Shelby Rhymes.

Glenda Battle asked that July 2017 minutes be approved. Ed Wade motioned the minutes be accepted and Terry Scott seconded the motion; all agreed.

Chairman Glenda Battle asked Ben Hayward to give the Audit Committee Report. He mentioned that a quorum was present. There was a review of bank balances and reconciliation to the general ledger as well as a review of transactions and journal entries and everything looked good. He went on to explain this was the meeting when 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. Executive Director Robert McDaniel mentioned that there is a little bit of money left over in the SOWEGA account that has been just sitting in the inactive account. There is \$2600 in the account and the Audit Committee discussed transferring it to the 501(c)3 Regional Partner's Network organization. The Audit Committee voted on the recommendation and all agreed on the transfer. The council will let this recommendation sit for 30 days to be voted on by the council at the September meeting.

Chairman Battle asked Planning Director Barbara Reddick to present the council with her staff report for the Planning Department. She stated that the Planning Department is currently waiting to hear about the housing preservation grant for \$100 thousand dollars submitted in July. The pre-hazard mitigation plans for Seminole, Terrell and Grady County are being worked on. There are currently two high school interns at the Regional Commission and they are Tyke' Williams and Abby Casey. The Regional Commission also has a WIOA intern, Shelby Rhymes. The Universal Design Institute Grant for Housing Rehab is in progress. Two homes have been completed

totaling six homes to be completed with the first \$50 thousand dollars. The second \$50 thousand dollars will complete six additional homes.

Glenda Battle asked Deputy Director Suzanne Angell to give the July 2017 financial report. Ms. Angell reported that the General Fund had a year to date excess of revenues over expenditures of \$10,798.19. The General Fund's ending fund balance was \$365,261.00. The Revolving Loan Fund had a year to date excess of revenues over expenditures of \$618.18 which brings the fund balance to \$294,658.72. Ms. Angell stated that the year to date excess of revenues over expenditures for the year of the Regional Transit Program is \$2,566.95 and the ending fund balance is \$154,890.64. The defined benefit Pension Trust Fund had a year to date gain on investments for the year of \$12,503.93. Ferrell Ruis made a motion to accept the July 2017 financial report and Dwight Hickman seconded the motion; all agreed.

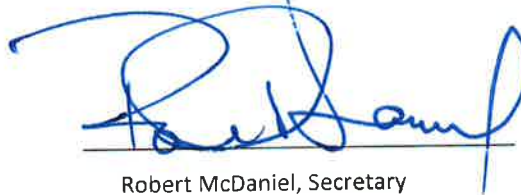
Deputy Director Suzanne Angell asked for approval of an authorizing resolution to apply for FTA 5304 funds. Courtney Brinson made the motion and Donnie Baggett seconded the motion; all agreed.

Executive Director Robert McDaniel let the council know that November is the Georgia Association of Regional Commissions Conference. Everyone received registration forms and the September meeting is the last day to register. Mr. McDaniel then mentioned that due to the consistently low October turnout to the Annual Legislative Reception the council is being asked if there are any alternative suggestions of dates to have the reception. It was agreed that October would not be the Legislative Reception. At the September meeting a decision will be made as to what new dates would be acceptable, preferably the Spring or early Summer.

Chairman Glenda Battle mentioned that the next Council meeting would be held at the Regional Commission meeting room September 28, 2017. Terry Scott made a motion to adjourn. Donnie Baggett seconded the motion; all agreed.



Glenda Battle, Chairman



Robert McDaniel, Secretary