

## MINUTES

Southwest Georgia Regional Commission

Regional Council Meeting

Camilla, Georgia

May 31, 2018

The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC) held its Council meeting Thursday, May 31, 2018, at the Southwest Regional Commission building in Camilla, Georgia. Chairman Glenda Battle chaired the meeting. The following council members were present: John Spann, Eddie Hopkins, Ferrell Ruis, Preston Jimmerson, Revonn Miller, Anthony Jones, Freddy Grimsley, Raymond Breaux, Matthew Reid, Al Hutchins, Freddie Speight, Jim Sellers, Dwight Hickman, Ben Hayward, Danny Palmer, Nathaniel Keaton, Mitchell Blanks, Tracie Beard, Ed Wade, Jack Powell, Donnie Baggett, Elaine Mays, Fred Dent, and Charles Jones.

Council members calling to report conflicts were Chris Moore, Deidre Evans-Severson, Paul Nagy, Joe Walden, Allen Worsley, Brenda Peterson, and Norma Gilpatrick.

Council members absent were Charlie Williams, Benny Watts Jones, Dennis Brinson, Kregg Close, Billy Poppell, Matt Fuller, Jeffery Haynes, Keith Moye, Dennis Roland, Chad Griffin, Carlos Williams, Jayme Smith, Ernest Johnson, Ken Hickey, Terry Scott, Karen Rackley, and Courtney Brinson.

Staff members present were Executive Director Robert McDaniel, Deputy Director Suzanne Angell, Planning Director Barbara Reddick, GIS Manager Heidi Penny, High School Intern Abby Casey and Executive Assistant Heather White.

Guests present were Kathy Wade, SOWEGA Council on Aging Executive Director Debbie Blanton, Juli Bruner, Charlie Sol, Katherine Speight, and Department of Community Affairs Representative Gina Webb.

Chairman Glenda Battle called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. Mr. McDaniel gave the attendance report stating that there were 25 members present representing 12 counties and a quorum was present. He noted that Mitchell County had 100% representation and then introduced the guests of the Council.

Glenda Battle asked for a motion for April 2018 minutes be approved. Donnie Baggett motioned the minutes be accepted and Freddy Grimsley seconded the motion; all agreed.

Chairman Glenda Battle introduced the Guest Speaker Director Debbie Blanton of the SOWEGA Council on Aging. Ms. Blanton told the Council of new evaluations for Alzheimer's and Dementia patients. She told of new technologies for the elderly to be more self-sufficient (new tools). She spoke of some of the programs offered to the aging population and then invited her staff member, Juli Bruner, to speak. Ms. Bruner told about programs to help nursing home patients return back home and the ways that the Southwest Georgia Council on Aging can assist these patients and their needs once they get them home.

Chairman Glenda Battle told the Council that there was an Executive Committee meeting. She invited Deputy Director Suzanne Angell to present the FY18 budget revisions for approval. After presenting the FY18 budget revisions to the Council and asking for questions or comments Ms. Angell asked for a motion to accept the revisions. John Spann made the motion. Dwight Hickman seconded the motion; all agreed. Ms. Angell then presented the proposed FY19 Southwest Georgia Regional Commission budget. After asking for questions or comments she stated that the FY19 budget will be tabled for 30 days and then it will be voted on at the next meeting. She encouraged everyone to call her with any questions.

Planning Director Barbara Reddick was asked to present her Planning Report to the Council. She stated the Planning Department has been working on the Regional Work Plan. There has not been as much participation as they had hoped. An Immediate Threat and Danger grant application has been submitted for the City of Leary and the announcement is anxiously being waited on. The Housing Conference was held May 8<sup>th</sup> at the Albany Civic

Center and was a success. Twelve homes have been completed with funding from the Universal Design Institute Housing Rehabilitation Grant. Our Mitchell County High School intern Tyke' Williams will be attending North Georgia Technical College in the Fall. The Planning Department is currently working on the City of Albany Public Services Grant. The Donalsonville Zoning Contract is currently under review and changes are forthcoming. The Camilla zoning draft contract is under review by the city. The City of Sylvester housing projects are in progress, as is the Technical Assistance for a Rural Zone Designation for the City of Sylvester. The City of Moultrie's Urban Redevelopment Plan Update has been completed. Both the City of Bainbridge and Colquitt County's Solid Waste Plans are in progress.

Glenda Battle asked Deputy Director Suzanne Angell to give the April 2018 Financial Report. Ms. Angell reported that the General Fund had net surplus of \$118,465.54 and the General Fund balance was \$469,612.35. The Special Revenue Fund had a net surplus of \$1,500.00. The year to date Revolving Loan Fund net surplus was \$3,095.20 and the ending fund balance was \$291,848.49. The SOWEGA Economic Development fund balance had a net deficit of \$11,648.22 and the balance remaining is \$2,183.96. Ms. Angell stated that Regional Transit Program has net surplus of \$11,885.35 and the ending fund balance is \$164,209.05. The Regional Partner's Network had a net surplus of \$470.00 and the ending fund balance was \$7,484.59. The Pension Trust Fund has a gain on investments of \$59,661.35. Suzanne Angell gave an update on the progress with the Georgia Department of Transportation. She said she was assured they would have an answer soon. The RFP for Transit Services was posted on the website as well as advertised in national publications. There will be an RFP Proposers Conference Monday at the Regional Commission. Dwight Hickman made a motion to accept the April 2018 financial report and Ed Wade seconded the motion; all agreed.

Glenda Battle asked Executive Director to give his report. He introduced GIS Manager Heidi Penney to discuss LUCA, Local Update on Census Addresses. She briefed everyone on the process of the update on census addresses. Ms. Penney distributed an updated spreadsheet on the status of the participating local government's LUCA progress. Ten local governments decided to review on their own.

Executive Director Robert McDaniel asked Heidi Penny to remain at the podium. He then presented her with an employee 10 year service award.

Chairman Glenda Battle implored the Council to turn in their Annual Performance Reviews. The evaluations have been passed out and will be emailed. They are also being posted on the website. Those not at the meeting will have evaluation packets mailed to them. The next meeting will be held June 28, 2018 at the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission building.

With no other business, Glenda Battle adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:30 p.m.



Glenda Battle, Chairman



Robert McDaniel, Secretary