

MINUTES

Southwest Georgia Regional Commission

Regional Council Meeting

Camilla, Georgia

August 25, 2016

The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC) held its council meeting Thursday, August 25, 2016, at the Southwest Regional Commission in Camilla, Georgia. Chairman Danny Palmer chaired the meeting. The following council members were present: Chris Moore, John Spann, Charlie Williams, Paul Nagy, Ferrell Ruis, Dollie Crumley, Henry Crumley, Dennis Brinson, Revonn Miller, Billy Poppell, Anthony Jones, Erica Savage Wilson, Charlie Sol, Freddie Speight, Rick Muggridge, Raymond Breaux, Jim Sellers, Al Hutchins, Joe Walden, Dwight Hickman, Chad Griffin, Glenda Battle, Jerry Bush, Ben Hayward, Nathaniel Keaton, Brenda Peterson, Ed Wade, Jack Powell, Ernest Jackson, Terry Scott, Donnie Baggett, Jeanie Crittenden, and Randy Hill.

Council members calling to report conflicts were Eddie Hopkins, Benny Watts Jones, Tommie Postell, Allen Baggs, Carlos Williams, Tracie Beard, Elaine Mays, Mike Cosby and David Mosely.

Council members absent were Ray Prince, Mitchell Blanks, Karen Rackley 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, Planner Kimberly Brooks, and GIS Assistant Jeffery Hamilton.

Guests present were Mrs. Wade, Mrs. Bush, Mr. Peterson, Mr. Lyle, Mrs. Speight, Mrs. Walden, Mrs. Brinson, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hickey, and Mr. Ekin.

Chairman Danny Palmer called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. Mr. McDaniel gave the attendance report stating that there were 34 members present representing 14 counties and a quorum was present. He noted that Lee County, Colquitt County, Early County, Mitchell County, Decatur County and Terrell County had 100% representation and then introduced the guests of the Council. Mr. Palmer then asked that July 2016 minutes be approved. Henry Crumley motioned the minutes be accepted and Donnie Baggett seconded the motion; all agreed.

Executive Director Robert McDaniel gave the Retirement Trustees Report. He discussed the Defined Benefit Plan and the Contributory Plan with the council. There was a 6.7% return on the Defined Benefit Plan last year.

Mr. Jim Sellers gave the report for the Human Services Committee. He updated the council on the Regional Plan. He stated there are no Human Services issues.

Mr. Paul Nagy presented the council with the Community Development Committee report. He stated that they were laying the groundwork for an Economic Development Strategy. He stated that they were trying to get input from the public and to establish goals.

Chairman Palmer asked Planning Director Barbara Reddick to present the council with the Planning report. Mrs. Reddick mentioned that the Regional Plan is being worked on as well as the CEDS (Community Economic Development Strategy) plan. She said that an award for a housing preservation grant came through in the amount of \$61,000. The awards for the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) have not been announced yet. The planning department is working on volunteers for the Homeless Count. An EDA grant was awarded for the city of Moultrie.

Chairman Palmer asked Deputy Director Suzanne Angell to present the council the July 2016 Financial Statement. The General Fund has a year to date excess of revenues over expenditures in the amount of \$1,253.47. The unassigned fund balance in the General fund as of July 31 was \$295,340.36. The Revolving Loan Fund has a year to date excess of revenues over expenditures in the amount of \$602.12. The Revolving Loan Fund balance at July 31, 2016 was \$292,615.94. The Transportation Fund has a year to date excess of revenues over expenditures in the amount of \$3,845.17. The Transportation fund reserves at July 31, 2016 were \$151,918.45. In July, the Pension Trust Fund had a gain on investments of \$28,075.90. The total assets in the Defined Benefits Plan are \$946,966.92. Danny Palmer asked for a motion to approve the financial statement for July 2016. Donnie Baggett 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 more communities are needed to apply for the Brownfields Grant. Mr. McDaniel introduced Georgia Surplus Director Steven Eakin to the council as the guest speaker for the night.

Mr. Eakin briefed the council on the Georgia surplus items available to local governments. He passed out brochures and flyers as additional information. He mentioned that local governments must update their information every two years since elected officials may change due to elections.

After announcing the next meeting being on September 29, 2016 at the Regional Commission, Danny Palmer adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m.



Glenda Battle, Vice-Chairman



Robert McDaniel, Secretary