

MINUTES

Southwest Georgia Regional Commission

Regional Council Meeting

Camilla, Georgia

September 29, 2016

The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC) held its council meeting Thursday, September 29, 2016, at the Southwest Regional Commission in Camilla, Georgia. Vice Chairman Glenda Battle chaired the meeting. The following council members were present: Chris Moore, Eddie Hopkins, Benny Jones, Paul Nagy, Raymond Breaux, Erica Savage Wilson, Freddie Speight, Jim Sellers, Al Hutchins, Joe Walden, Dwight Hickman, Carlos Williams, Nathaniel Keaton, Mitchell Blanks, Tracie Beard, Ed Wade, Jack Powell, Ernest Johnson, Terry Scott, Donnie Baggett, Elaine Mays, Mike Cosby, and Norma Gilpatrick.

Council members calling to report conflicts were John Spann, Ferrell Ruis, Dollie Crumley, Henry Crumley, Revonn Miller, Billy Poppell, Anthony Jones, Tommie Postell, Charlie Sol, Ray Prince, Jerry Bush, Ben Hayward, Danny Palmer, Brenda Peterson, Randy Hill, Jeanie Crittenden, Karen Rackley, David Mosely, and Courtney Brinson.

Council members absent were Charlie Williams, Dennis Brinson, Rick Muggridge, and Chad Griffin.

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

Guests present were Jim Dove, Gina Webb, Sandra Cosby, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Wade, and Mrs. Speight.

Vice Chairman Glenda Battle called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. Mr. McDaniel gave the attendance report stating that there were 24 members present representing 13 counties and a quorum was present. He noted that Terrell County had 100% representation and then introduced the guests of the Council. Ms. Battle then asked that August 2016 minutes be approved. Elaine Mays motioned the minutes be accepted and All Hutchins seconded the motion; all agreed.

Deputy Director Suzanne Angell gave the report for the Transportation Committee. She briefed the council on the 5311 Resolution. She asked for a motion to apply for the 5311 transportation funds. The council received copies of the resolution. Donnie Baggett made the motion and Dwight Hickman seconded the motion; all agreed. Ms. Angell then discussed the new rider surveys that will be going out monthly.

Ms. Battle asked Deputy Director Suzanne Angell to present her staff report. She discussed the audit being on track. She also briefed the council on the upcoming GARC conference. Ms. Angell then discussed the August 2016 Financial Statement. The General Fund has a year to date excess of revenues over expenditures in the amount of \$15,255.87. The unassigned fund balance in the General fund as of August 31 was \$309,342.76. The Revolving Loan Fund has a year to date excess of revenues over expenditures in the amount of \$835.36. The Revolving Loan Fund reserve balance at August 31, 2016 was \$292,849.28. The Transportation Fund has a year to date excess of revenues over expenditures in the amount of \$9,042.90. The Transportation fund reserves at August 31, 2016 were \$157,115.37. In August, the Pension Trust Fund had a gain on investments of \$33,569.99. Ms. Angell asked for a motion to approve the financial statement for August 2016. Jack Powell made the motion to approve the financial statement and Dwight Hickman seconded the motion; all approved.

Ms. Battle asked Planning Director Barbara Reddick to present the council with the Planning report. She discussed the award of the CDBG (Community Development Block Grants) grants. Homeless count funds were applied for with DCA (Department of Community Affairs). Pre-hazard Mitigation Plans and Comprehensive Plans are in various stages of completeness. She directed everyone to look at her planning report that was in their packets to see all of the projects they are working on and handouts of programs being offered to the communities. Brenda Wade discussed contractors are needed in order to complete projects approved for CHIP funds.

Gina Webb, Department of community Services Regional Representative for Region 10 discussed a program that helps citizens who are upside down in their mortgages with the council called Underwater Georgia. Underwater Georgia was developed to help families who were most effected by the housing crisis of 2007 to help them avoid foreclosure. She answered questions from the council.


Robert McDaniel introduced Jim Dove, the current president of GARC (Georgia Association of Regional Commissions) and Executive Director of the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission. Mr. Dove discussed the upcoming GARC Conference at St. Simons Island. He talked about the guest speakers and training opportunities.

Robert McDaniel presented his Executive Director's report. He discussed the regional award of CDBGs (Community Development Block Grants). He emphasized early documentation of needs for communities CDBG applications.

The next meeting being will be on October 27, 2016 at the Depot at 6:00 p.m. for the Legislative Reception. The November-December combined meeting will be on December 15, 2016. Glenda Battle asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m. with Mike Cosby moving to adjourn and Freddie Speight seconding the motion, all approved.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danny Palmer", written over a horizontal line.

Danny Palmer, Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert McDaniel", written over a horizontal line.

Robert McDaniel, Secretary