

## MINUTES

Southwest Georgia Regional Commission  
Executive Committee for the Full Council  
Camilla, Georgia  
August 26, 2021

The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC) held an Executive Committee meeting in lieu of a full Council meeting on Thursday, August 26, 2021, at the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission in Camilla, Georgia. The Executive Committee meeting was held (SWGRC Bylaws, Article V, Section 5.1) due to a local surge in COVID cases and the potential threat to public health of holding a large in-door gathering.

Executive Committee members present at the meeting were Chairman Paul Nagy, John Spann, Elaine Mays, Danny Palmer, Donnie Baggett, Anthony Jones, and Benny Flowers. Al Hutchins participated virtually.

Council member calling to report a conflict was Brenda Peterson.

Staff members present were Executive Director Suzanne Angell, Deputy Director Barbara Reddick, Executive Assistant Heather White, and Receptionist/Assistant Harrison Edwards.

Full Council members and guests virtually attending the meeting via ZOOM were Jon Howard, Casawn-Lhuillier Yheyeis, Jim Sellers, Charlie Williams, Tracie Beard, Steve Brock, Raymond Breaux, Jack Powell, and Eddie Hopkins.

Chairman Nagy called the meeting to order at approximately 6:06 p.m.

Chairman Nagy asked Executive Director Suzanne Angell to give the attendance report.

Mrs. Angell gave the attendance report stating that there were 7 Executive Committee members in attendance (in person) and a quorum was present. Ms. Angell also stated that one member was participating virtually.

Chairman Nagy asked for a motion that the July 2021 Council meeting minutes to be approved. Anthony Jones made a motion to accept the minutes. Benny Flowers seconded the motion; all agreed.

Chairman Nagy asked for a motion that the May 2021 Executive Committee meeting minutes to be approved. Donnie Baggett made a motion to accept the minutes. Elaine Mays seconded the motion; all agreed.

Chairman Nagy asked Donnie Baggett to give the Audit Committee report. He stated that the Audit Committee met earlier in the evening. The purpose of the meeting was to have initial contact with the Auditors for the annual audit of the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission. Ms. Denise Rackley of Valenti, Rackley and Associates, LLC, PC joined the meeting virtually to speak with the committee. She reviewed the annual engagement letter and explained the scope of the audit and the responsibilities of the auditors and the SWGRC.

Chairman Nagy gave the Executive Committee report. He stated that the Executive Committee members met earlier in the evening to discuss and vote to present the FY21 Annual Performance Review of the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission and Executive Director to the council. He invited Executive Director Suzanne Angell to present the summary of the review. Ms. Angell explained that the overall

scores of the Regional Commission and the Executive Director were good, with a 90.80% satisfactory rating for the RC and a 90.30% satisfactory rating for the Executive Director. Ms. Angell also stated that we had good feedback in the comments and that she appreciated everyone who took the time to do the evaluation. Chairman Nagy asked for a motion to accept the FY21 Annual Performance Review. Danny Palmer made the motion. John Spann seconded the motion; all agreed.

Chairman Nagy asked Suzanne Angell to present the financial report for the period ending July 31, 2021. The General Fund had an excess of revenues over expenditures in the amount of \$1,118.25, bringing the ending fund balance to \$567,178.12. The Revolving Loan Fund had an excess of \$597.21, bringing the ending fund balance to \$612,474.26. The Regional Transportation Fund had an excess of revenues over expenditures of \$117,789.77, bringing the ending fund balance to \$2,561,402.44. The Regional Partner's Network's fund balance is \$7,195.08. The Pension Trust Fund had an excess of revenues over expenditures in the amount of \$5,947.61, bringing the fund balance to \$1,077,020.34. Chairman Nagy asked for a motion to accept the financial report as presented. Donnie Baggett made a motion to accept the financial report. Elaine Mays seconded the motion; all agreed.

Suzanne Angell gave the Executive Director's report. Ms. Angell said that every three years the Georgia Department of Transportation requires us to update our Title VI (of the Civil Rights Acts of 1964) Plan. The Title VI Plan prohibits discrimination, on the basis of race, color or national origin, in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance. The updated plan has been reviewed and determined to be compliant with the law by the GDOT consultant and has been forwarded to GDOT for the issuance of a compliance letter. A vote is needed for approval of the updated plan by our Council. Donnie Baggett made the motion to approve the updated plan. Elaine Mays seconded the motion; all agreed.

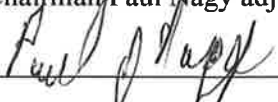
Ms. Angell stated that everyone received a copy of her Executive Director's Report in their packets. The Revolving Loan Fund has approved a \$40,000 microloan. The loan has not closed yet but should close soon. There has been a good bit of interest in that program. To date we have 68% of the funds in that program committed. We have a new Planning Administrative Assistant, Ms. Sameka Toombs. She comes to us through Workforce Program. Scott Stephenson, Director of Finance, has resigned. I have interviewed and am hoping the position will be filled soon. We are still interviewing for a vacant planner position. The RC will be closed for Labor Day. Mrs. Angell revisited the regulations regarding meeting virtually. The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission put in an application to National Association of Development Organizations (NADO). Each year they do innovative awards. We have been awarded one of the NADO innovation awards for our AARP Age-Friendly Livable Communities program. We will receive national recognition and a certificate.

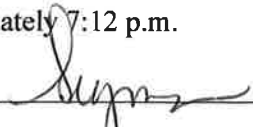
Chairman Nagy asked Deputy Director Barbara Reddick to give the Planning Report. Mrs. Reddick stated that everyone should have received the planning report in their council packets that were mailed out. The planning department has been busy writing a lot of grants. We were awarded the Age-Friendly Regional Grant to improve open spaces in the amount of \$19,871. We are writing the grant for Dougherty County and the Feeding the Valley Food Bank. The City of Sylvester's Broadband Infrastructure Grant has been submitted. The amount of that grant would be 1.5 million dollars. We have potential CHIP applications for Cordele, Meigs, Boston, Thomas, Grady/Cairo, Doerun and Seminole County. We are expecting the award announcement of the 2021 Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) in September. The quarterly reports to the Department of Transportation have been submitted. We are working with Leesburg on a Recreation Trails Grant which is due in November. The City of Camilla Rural Zone Designation application has been submitted. We are currently working on a resubmission of the Brownfields Grant. We scored 150.3 out of 160 points on our previous application. Nationwide, 314

applications were submitted and 106 were funded. Our region, which includes Florida and Georgia, had 29 applications funded out of the 89 submitted. New contracts include City of Camilla Rural Zone Designation, City of Boston housing plan update and GICH, and Grady County's Pre-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Chairman Nagy stated in the spirit of social distancing, the next council meeting will be held virtually on September 30, 2021. We will notify you and let you know if it will be an Executive Committee meeting or a full Council meeting. Chairman Nagy asked if any virtual participants have any questions or comments they wish to make. There were none.

Chairman Paul Nagy adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:12 p.m.

  
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Paul Nagy, Chairman

  
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Suzanne Angell, Executive Director