

MINUTES

Southwest Georgia Regional Commission
Executive Committee for the Full Council
Camilla, Georgia
September 30, 2021

The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (RC) held an Executive Committee meeting in lieu of a full Council meeting on Thursday, September 30, 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 indoor gathering.

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

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 guest speaker Mike Beatty of The Beatty Team, Raymond Breaux, Dwight Hickman, Jim Sellers, Casawn-Lhuillier Yheyeis, Mitchell Blanks, and Jack Powell.

Chairman Nagy called the meeting to order at approximately 6:02 p.m.

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

Mrs. Angell gave the attendance report stating that there were 8 Executive Committee members in attendance (in person) and a quorum was present.

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

Chairman Nagy asked for a motion to amend the agenda to include an action item regarding a letter of support requested by the City of Albany. Elaine Mays motioned to amend the agenda. Benny Flowers seconded the motion; all agreed.

Chairman Nagy introduced the guest speaker, Mike Beatty, of the Beatty Team. Mike Beatty spoke about The Beatty Team. The mission of The Beatty Team is to partner with communities to help create a climate of success for youth, families, and businesses. The vision is to provide specialized team assistance to communities, to help design implementation strategies that will allow you to achieve your vision, creating vibrant and livable communities.

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. She told the Council that a new planning administrative assistant, Sameka Toombs has been hired. A Redevelopment Fund Grant has been submitted for the City of Colquitt. We were awarded a USDA Housing Preservation Grant to revitalize homes throughout the region (\$100,000). We are still working with Dougherty County on the Feed the Valley Food Bank CDBG grant application. We submitted a broadband grant for the City of Sylvester. We have several grants we are submitting under the American

Rescue Plan. We submitted four Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) and were awarded two, the City of Bronwood and Terrell County. The region was awarded fourteen total.

Chairman Nagy asked Suzanne Angell to present the financial report for the period ending August 31, 2021. The General Fund had an excess of revenues over expenditures in the amount of \$1,226.76, bringing the ending fund balance to \$566,621.17. The Revolving Loan Fund had an excess of \$1,247.66, bringing the ending fund balance to \$613,120.46. The Regional Transportation Fund had an excess of revenues over expenditures of \$65,409.95, bringing the ending fund balance to \$2,848,409.03. The Regional Partner's Network had an excess of revenues over expenditures of \$1 bringing the ending fund balance to \$7,196.08. The Pension Trust Fund had an excess of revenues over expenditures in the amount of \$23,141.62, bringing the fund balance to \$1,094,214.35. Chairman Nagy asked for a motion to accept the financial report as presented. Danny Palmer made a motion to accept the financial report. Al Hutchins, Jr. seconded the motion; all agreed.

Suzanne Angell explained that we need approval on resolutions for the submission of two FTA (Federal Transit Authority) transportation applications. One application is for the 5311 Transit program and the other is for the 5304 Transportation Planning grant. She stated that we submit these applications every year and asked if anyone had any questions. With no questions, Elaine Mays made the motion to submit the FTA 5311 resolution. Benny Flowers seconded the motion; all agreed. Donnie Baggett made the motion to submit the FTA 5304 Resolution. Al Hutchins seconded the motion; all agreed.

Suzanne Angell gave the Executive Director's report. Ms. Angell we currently have eight disbursed microloans totaling \$305,000. The one loan that was approved in August and was set to close in September was denied by the Economic Development Authority (EDA) because the project (assisted living center) was considered residential (not a business) and is inconsistent with the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965. The defederalization of EDA Revolving Loan funds is still pending. Mrs. Angell asked everyone to review the updated FY22 Work Program & Activities in their packets. The FY21 Audit fieldwork is underway. The new Finance Director, Traci Hall started on Monday, September 27. The Georgia Association of Regional Commissions Conference has been cancelled this year due to COVID. The Southwest Georgia Regional Commission has been awarded the 2021 NADO Aliceann Wohlbruck Impact Award for our designation as an AARP Age Friendly Region. This award honors NADO members for their creative approaches to advancing regional economic development and improved quality of life for their regions. Mrs. Angell stated that she has attended many meetings and trainings, most virtually. The City of Albany asked the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission for a letter of support to include with their application for State Fiscal Recovery Funds. Ms. Angell read the letter of support that had been drafted. Elaine Mays made the motion to send a letter of support for the City of Albany. Benny Flowers seconded the motion; all agreed.

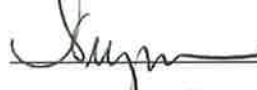
Chairman Nagy stated that the next meeting will be held Thursday, October 28, 2021. The details will be determined the closer to that date and will be determined by COVID numbers.

Chairman Paul Nagy adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:03 p.m.



Paul Nagy, Chairman

Anthony Jones



Suzanne Angell, Executive Director