

TO: COUNCIL, THREE RIVERS REGIONAL COMMISSION

FROM: MS. FAYE PERDUE, SECRETARY, THREE RIVERS REGIONAL COUNCIL

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF MEETING HELD JUNE 23, 2016

The Regional Council of the Three Rivers Regional Commission held its meeting at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday June 23, 2016 at the Sharpsburg Town Hall in Sharpsburg, Georgia.

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Chairman Peter Banks advised the members that a quorum was reached, called the meeting to order and thanked the members for attending. He then asked Mr. Clayton Hicks to give the invocation; afterwards Chairman Banks led the members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Regional Council Members in Attendance

Ms. Clair Jones, Non-Public Member, Butts County
Ms. Donna Armstrong-Lackey, Non-Public Member, Carroll County
Mr. Clayton Hicks, Council Member, City of Newnan
Mr. Steve Stripling, Non-Public Member, Coweta County
Mr. Lee Boone, Chairman, Heard County
Mr. Denney Rogers, Mayor, City of Ephesus
Ms. Kathy Knowles, Non-Public Member, Heard County
Mr. Bennie Horton, Commissioner, Lamar County
Mr. Peter Banks, Mayor, City of Barnesville
Ms. Beth Hadley, Chairperson, Meriwether County
Ms. Charlene Glover, Mayor, City of Greenville
Ms. Faye Perdue, Non-Public Member, Meriwether County
Mr. Bobby Blalock, Mayor, City of Zebulon
Mr. Fred Roney, Non-Public Member, Pike County
Mr. Raymond Ray, Commissioner, Spalding County
Mr. Douglas Hollberg, Council Member, City of Griffin
Mr. Charles Jones, Non-Public Member, Spalding County
Mr. Richard English, Jr., Commissioner, Troup County
Mr. Bobby Frazier, Non-Public Member, Troup County
Mr. J. D. Stallings, Mayor, City of Thomaston
Dr. Maggie Shook, Governor's Appointee
Mr. John Rainwater, Lt. Governor's Appointee

Regional Council Members Absent

Mr. Keith Douglas, Chairman, Butts County
Ms. Kay Pippin, Mayor, City of Jackson
Ms. Shirley Marchman, Council Member, City of Villa Rica
Mr. Tim Lassetter, Chairman, Coweta County
Mr. Irvin Trice, Non-Public Member, Lamar County
Mr. Briar Johnson, Chairman, Pike County
Mr. Jim Thornton, Mayor, City of LaGrange
Mr. Steve Hudson, Commissioner, Upson County
Ms. Laurie Holmes, Non-Public Member, Upson County
Mr. Ed Bledsoe, Governor's Appointee
Mr. John Edwards, Governor's Appointee

Guests Present

Mr. James Dove, President, Georgia Association of Regional Commissions (GARC) and
Executive Director, Northeast Georgia Regional Commission
Ms. Mott Beck, Executive Assistant, Northeast Georgia Regional Commission
Mr. Ryan Pelfrey, Field Representative, Senator Johnny Isakson's office
Ms. Corrine Thornton, Office Director, Regional Community Services, Department of
Community Affairs (DCA)

Staff Present

Mr. Lanier Boatwright, Executive Director
Ms. Peggi Tingle, Administrative Services Director
Ms. Joy Shirley, AAA Director
Ms. Jeannie Brantley, Planning Director
Mr. Robert Hiatt, Governmental Services Division Director
Ms. Amanda Turner, Senior Accounting Technician
Ms. Hope King, HR Generalist
Ms. Kim Dutton, Planner
Ms. Kim Bennett, Accounting Technician
Ms. Jan Perez, Secretary

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Chairman Banks introduced Mr. Dove, Ms. Beck, Mr. Pelfrey, and Ms. Thornton and thanked them for attending the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held April 28, 2016 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Ms. Charlene Glover to approve the minutes as presented; the motion was seconded by Ms. Donna Armstrong-Lackey and carried unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Banks advised the members that Ms. Kim Dutton was celebrating her ten (10) year anniversary with Three Rivers Regional Commission (TRRC). Ms. Dutton was presented with a plaque; the chairman and council thanked for her years of service.

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COMMISSIONS (GARC) UPDATE

Chairman Banks introduced Mr. James ("Jim") Dove, President of the Georgia Association of Regional Commissions (GARC), to the council. Mr. Dove is also the Executive Director for Northeast Georgia RC in Athens. Mr. Dove gave a brief overview of the GARC and members of the organization. The membership includes the executive directors of the twelve (12) regional commissions throughout the state as well as a policy official from each regional commission. The executive directors meet on a monthly basis while the policy officials meet quarterly. Several committees (such as transportation, planning, economic development, information technology, workforce development, etc.) are also a part of the GARC. The GARC also hosts two (2) conferences a year; the Economic Development Conference that is held in the spring at Lake Lanier Island and the GARC Annual Training Conference that is held in November at Saint Simons Island. The conferences provide several keynote speakers as well as various training sessions throughout the day and it offers individuals the chance to meet with their counterparts in other areas to share ideas and to discuss matters of mutual concern.

BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT

Revised FY 2016 Budget

Chairman Banks advised the members that the Budget Committee met earlier today and asked Mr. Hicks to present the Budget Committee report to the members. Mr. Hicks began his report by talking about the fiscal year (FY) 2016 budget. He advised the members that this budget was revised as recently as Monday and that the financial statement is subject to change since we have a few days before the end of the month and the fiscal year. Mr. Hicks acknowledged that when the FY16 budget was first adopted, it was projected that a transfer from the fund balance in excess of \$17,000 to balance the budget; he noted that a transfer of \$141,000 was expected to be made into the fund balance and that "this is always the right way to end the year." He also advised the members that a motion was needed from the full council to accept the revised FY 2016 budget. Mr. Hicks then made the motion that the council accept the revised FY 2016 budget; it was seconded by Mr. Bobby Frazier and carried unanimously.

Proposed FY 2017 Budget

Mr. Hicks advised the council that the FY 2017 budget must be submitted to the state by July 1st, but it is not known what the funding (from multiple grants and other sources) will be until several months into FY 2017. He noted that the FY 2017 revenues were projected to be \$14.4 million with the expenditures totaling \$14.2 million and that these numbers are subject to change. The FY 2017 budget information was pulled from the revised FY 2016 budget. Mr. Hicks stated that we will have "more concrete numbers as we go forward...maybe by October."

He did explain that insurance cost is another “big variable” that will have an impact on the budget but that information will not be known for a few more months. Mr. Hicks made the motion that the council accept the FY 2017 budget; it was seconded by Mr. Frazier and carried unanimously.

Chairman Banks noted that the council members’ meeting per diem would increase from \$45 to \$60 effective the next council meeting.

AGING PROGRAM UPDATE

Senior Markets

Ms. Joy Shirley presented this portion of the agenda. She noted that the Aging staff was very busy providing (and working) senior markets for nine (9) different locations; three (3) markets have been completed with the remaining to be finished by July 15th. A local organic farm (The Red Earth Organic Farm in Zebulon) is the supplier and the seniors receive free fresh vegetables. Ms. Shirley stated that the markets will serve 650 seniors.

The Matter of Balance

Ms. Emily Rogers, Program Manager for the Aging staff, attended a June training session about seniors and better balance. This was an exercise class geared towards senior citizens and fall prevention. Ms. Rogers has trained eleven (11) individuals on the various techniques and exercises that were presented during the June training session; these individuals will teach these exercises to seniors at the senior centers, hospitals, churches, etc.

Meeting with Director of Division of Aging Services

Mr. Lanier Boatwright and Ms. Shirley recently met with Ms. Abby Cox, the new Director of the Division of Aging Services (DHS). Ms. Shirley commented that “we had a great meeting” and emphasis was placed on better communication between DHS and the twelve (12) Area Agencies on Aging (AAA).

THREE RIVERS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSION

Workforce Contracts

Mr. Robert Hiatt presented this portion of the agenda. He advised that the Workforce Board met this morning and had a “very productive meeting and planning session.” The Workforce Board adopted its annual budget for FY 2017. Mr. Hiatt provided each member with a copy of a page that listed the Workforce Development contracts and their worth; these contracts were approved by the Workforce Board and Mr. Hiatt asked for the council’s concurrence. Mr. Hicks made the motion that the council approve the Workforce contracts; it was seconded by Mr. Richard English and carried unanimously.

Local Planning Summits

Mr. Hiatt explained that two (2) planning summits were held on June 10th and June 20th; each summit was well attended. He stated that the staff received “good input on how we can continue to tailor our training to meet the needs of our area employers.”

Work Experience for High School Students

The Workforce Development’s Youth Coordinator has contacted various businesses and local governments to ask if they need high school students to work during the summer or other times of the year. This would provide valuable work experience to young people. The Youth Coordinator is still in the process of contacting businesses; Mr. Hiatt asked the members to contact him if they knew of any businesses that would like to employ students.

Surplus Equipment

Mr. Hiatt mentioned that the Workforce Development program has surplus equipment that accumulated during the move to the present office site. He encouraged the members to contact him if they knew of any local governments that could use this additional equipment.

TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Renewal of Transportation Contracts

Mr. Hiatt presented this portion of the agenda. He advised the members that several transportation contracts (Georgia Department of Human Services, Georgia Department of Transportation as well as the local transit contracts for the counties) were received in the office and needed to be approved. He noted that these contracts were routine and renewed each year. He asked for the council’s approval for the items. Mr. Doug Hollberg made the motion to approve the contracts; it was seconded by Mr. Fred Roney and carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Department of Audits

Mr. Boatwright stated that the Department of Audits had completed the TRRC audit; TRRC is still waiting for the draft which should be available in July. It was noted that the auditors spent more time with the Planning Department because of the contract with the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). Mr. Boatwright advised the members that the auditor’s’ comments were “subjective comments” and that the draft will be shared with the council once it has been received. The chairman noted that the auditors’ report will be discussed during the August meeting if it is received in a timely manner. Mr. Boatwright shared that the auditors traveled to several local governments and talked with officials; the auditors would not disclose which governments or officials were involved in these meetings.

Local Product

The members were each given a package of Kimble's "Ole School Cornflake Chewy" to enjoy. This product is produced by Kimble's in LaGrange.

OTHER BUSINESS

Nothing was mentioned under this portion of the agenda.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Chairman Banks mentioned that Ms. Shirley Marchman was recently selected as Villa Rica's mayor pro tem.

Chairman Banks mentioned that Mr. Ed Bledsoe recently celebrated a birthday. He also invited the members to a free classical music concert that the City of Barnesville and the Bach Society of Atlanta will host on July 15, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.; the concert will be held at Ritz Park and it is free.

Mr. Bobby Blalock relayed that Pike County had a "horrific" wind storm on June 17th; the storm destroyed many trees and some houses, but no one was injured.

Ms. Charlene Glover advised the members that the Hill Brothers building in downtown Greenville will have a grand opening on July 16. This structure has been renovated and will contain loft and retail space; it has been renamed Hill Brothers Corner.

Ms. Kathy Knowles invited the members to the SummerFEST 2016 which will feature food, fireworks and music. This celebration will be held on July 2nd.

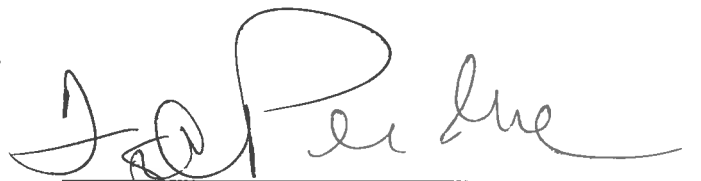
Ms. Corrine Thornton advised the council that the Georgia Academy for Economic Development will begin in August and end in November; there will be four (4) sessions and the cost is \$225.00. The classes will be held at the Griffin Welcome Center.

DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

Chairman Banks announced that the next meeting would be August 25, 2016. The meeting location will be the Sharpsburg Town Hall and the meeting time is scheduled for 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Banks adjourned the meeting.



Faye Perdue, Secretary