



Columbus Office
 710 Front Avenue, Suite A
 P. O. Box 1908
 Columbus, GA 31902
 Phone (706) 256-2910
 Fax (706) 256-2908
 TDY (706)256-2944

Americus Office
 228 West Lamar Street
 Americus, GA 31709
 Phone (706) 256-2910
 Fax (229) 931-2745
 Fax (229) 931-2917

www.rivervalleyrc.org

RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
Marion County Commission Office
20 Gibson Way
Buena Vista, Georgia
Minutes
May 24, 2017

Members Attending/Representing

(Representing 16 Counties)
 A.J. Rivers, Crisp County
 Bruce Hill, City of Oglethorpe
 Carvel Lewis, Georgetown-Quitman County
 Chip Jones, Stewart County
 Clinton Perry, Jr., Taylor County, RVRC Chair
 Danny Blackman, Georgetown-Quitman County
 Debbie Stone, Stewart County
 Dr. Edward Lee, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
 Evelyn Turner Pugh, Muscogee County
 Fred Gordon, Muscogee County
 Freeman Montgomery, Talbot County
 Harry Lange, Harris County, ACCG 1st Vice President
 Hobby Stripling, City of Vienna
 James R. "Bump" Welch, Marion County
 Jason Hoch, Schley County
 Jayson Griffin, Macon County
 Jeanie Barteel, City of Cordele
 Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Muscogee County
 Jim Lawrence, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
 Jimmy Bradley, Randolph County
 Knox Blackmar, City of Talbotton
 Pam Jordan, Talbot County
 Patricia Goodman, Randolph County
 Randy Howard, Sumter County
 Shirley Ann Christian, City of Fort Gaines
 Tameka Harris, Taylor County
 Terrell Hudson, Dooly County, ACCG
 Tom Queen, Taylor County
 Tony Kennedy, Webster County
 Wally Summers, Sumter County

Members Not Present

Barry Whitley, City of Butler
 Carlton Wilson, City of Ellaville
 Cecil "Butch" McMickle, Marion County
 Doug Etheridge, Harris County
 Dr. Carole Rutland, Muscogee County
 Greg Barineau, Schley County
 James Morton, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
 Joe Lee Williams, Stewart County
 Lee Hubbard, Clay County
 Maggie McGruther, Sumter County
 Melvin Crimes, Webster County
 Mickey George, Macon County
 Nelson Brown, City of Americus
 Ralph Brown, City of Buena Vista
 Rebecca Chambers, City of Hamilton
 Richard McCorkle, Marion County
 Sam Farrow, Jr., Crisp County
 Steve Whatley, City of Cuthbert
 Tommy McKenzie, Macon County

Others Present

County and City Representatives
 Ross King, Executive Director, ACCG
 Allen Poole, Haralson County Chair, President, ACCG
 Johnny Davis, Jefferson Co. Comm., 3rd Vice President, ACCG
 Representative Debbie Buckner, District 137
 Representative Patty Bentley, District 139
 Representative Bill McGowan, District 138
 Representative Buddy Hardin, District 148
 Greg Panzer, Representative for Congressman Drew Ferguson
 Kathy Burns, Representative for Senator David Perdue
 Laura Gower, Representative for Senator Johnny Isakson
 Casey Beane, DCA Representative, Region 8
 Candy Head, GA Department of Labor, Region 8
 River Valley Regional Commission Staff

Welcome and Recognition of Visitors

Clinton Perry, Jr., Chair, brought the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. He welcomed council members, distinguished guests and visitors. Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Secretary, led the council in prayer and Randy Howard, Vice Chair, led the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review and Approval of Minutes*

Council reviewed the minutes of the April 26, 2017 council meeting which were mailed or email to each council member the previous week for their review.

Harry Lange, Harris County, made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Patricia Goodman, Randolph County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Election of Officers

Before the election of officers, ACCG Ross King recognized Clinton Perry's service as the former President of ACCG and presented him with a resolution from ACCG for his years of service and gave him a photograph of the Taylor County Courthouse.

Harry Lange, Harris County Chair and Chair of the Nominating Committee, then explained that the Nominating Committee had met and were recommending current officers Clinton Perry, Jr., Chair; Randy Howard, Vice Chair; and Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Secretary; remain in their positions. He explained that the vice chair and secretary had recently moved into their position due to changes in the makeup of the council.

Terrell Hudson, Dooly County, made a motion to approve the nomination committee's recommendation as presented; Carvel Lewis, Georgetown-Quitman County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Legislator's Remarks

The following legislators and field representatives were present to update the council and guests about legislative matters.

Representative Debbie Buckner, Georgia, District 137
Representative Patty Bentley, Georgia, District 139
Representative Bill McGowan, Georgia, District 138
Representative Buddy Harden, Georgia, District 148
Greg Panzer, Representative for Congressman Drew Ferguson, 3rd District
Laura Gower, Field Representative for US Senator Johnny Isakson, Georgia

STAFF RECOGNITIONS

Several staff members were recognized for their years of service with River Valley Regional Commission. Patti Cullen, Executive Director, recognized staff members with five years or more in five year increments. They were:

Sarah Walls, Assistant Executive Director, 45 years
Gerald Mixon, Planning Director, 40 years
Janice West, WIOA Director, 30 years
Grant Richardson, Community Developer, 10 years
Julio Portillo, Regional Community & Bicycle-Pedestrian Planner, 10 years
Annie Thompson, Financial Assistant, 10 years

Chattahoochee | Clay | Crisp | Dooly | Harris | Macon | Marion | Muscogee
Quitman | Randolph | Schley | Stewart | Sumter | Talbot | Taylor | Webster

Clinton Perry, Chair, then recognized Patti Cullen, Executive Director, for 35 years of service with the Regional Commission. Patti was also presented a framed copy of an article that she had published in the Georgia Trend Magazine.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the council; Clinton Perry requested George Neal give the blessing and the meeting was adjourned for lunch.

6/21/2017
Date

Clinton Perry, Jr.
Clinton Perry, Jr., Chairman
Jerry Pops Barnes
Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Secretary