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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