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**RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING  
Marion County Commission Office  
100 East Burkhalter Avenue  
Buena Vista, Georgia  
April 24, 2019  
MINUTES**

**Members Attending/Representing**

(Representing 15 Counties)

- A.J. Rivers, Crisp County
- Barry Waters, City of Ft. Gaines
- Bruce Hill, City of Oglethorpe
- Carlton Wilson, City of Ellaville
- Clay Jones, Sumter County
- Damon Hoyte, Cusseta-Chattahoochee Co.
- Danny Blackmon, Georgetown-Quitman Co.
- Doug Etheridge, Harris County
- Ernest Jenkins, Clay County
- Harry Lange, Harris County
- Hobby Stripling, City of Vienna
- Jayson Griffin, Macon County
- Jeanie Bartee, City of Cordele
- Jimmy Bradley, Randolph County
- Joseph Williams, Stewart County
- Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Muscogee County, RVRC Secretary
- Knox Blackmar, City of Talbotton
- Matt Gunnels, Marion County
- Melvin Crimes, Webster County
- Pam Jordan, Talbot County
- Randy Howard, Sumter Co., RVRC Vice-Chair
- Richard McCorkle, Marion County
- Tameka Harris, Taylor County
- Terrell Hudson, Dooly County
- Tony Kennedy, Webster County
- Wally Summers, Sumter County

**Members Not Present**

- Barry Whitley, City of Butler
- Carvel Lewis, Georgetown-Quitman Co.
- Chip Jones, Stewart County
- Clinton Perry, Jr. Taylor County, RVRC Chair
- Dr. Carole Rutland, Muscogee County
- Dr. Edward Lee, Cusseta-Chattahoochee
- Evelyn Turner Pugh, Muscogee County
- Fred Gordon, Muscogee County
- Freeman Montgomery, Talbot County
- Greg Barineau, Schley County
- James Morton, Cusseta-Chattahoochee Co.
- James R. "Bump" Welch, Marion Co.
- Jimmy Babb, City of Lumpkin
- Maggie McGruther, Sumter County
- Mickey George, Macon County
- Nelson Brown, City of Americus
- Patricia Goodman, Randolph County
- Ralph Brown, City of Buena Vista
- Rebecca Chambers, City of Hamilton
- Sam Farrow, Jr., Crisp County
- Steve Whatley, City of Cuthbert
- Tom Queen, Taylor County

**Others Present**

- Haydn Blaize, Manager, Floodplain Unit, GA EPD
- Jack Krolikowski, Manager, Floodplain Unit, GA EPD
- Brian Shoun, Floodplain Unit, GA EPD
- Kathy Burns, Senator Perdue Rep.
- Elaine Gillispie, Cong. Bishop's Rep.
- Tammye Pettyjohn-Jones, Cong. Bishop's Rep.
- Shonda Blair, Taylor County
- Sarah Lee Crumbs, Georgetown-Quitman Family Connections
- Janet Joiner, Vienna, Comm. Dev. Dir.

**Staff Present**

- Sarah Walls, Asst. Executive Director
- Jim Livingston, Comm. & Eco. Dev. Dir.
- Katie Howard, AAA Director
- Emily Chambers, Finance Officer
- Rick Morris, Planning Director
- Janice West, WIOA Director
- Allison Slocum, Historic Preservation/Senior Planner
- Mariyana Kostova GIS Department
- Laura Schneider, GIS Department
- Becky Holmes, Office Manager

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

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### **Welcome and Recognition of Visitors**

Randy Howard, Vice Chair, brought the meeting to order and welcomed council members as well as visitors.

Vice Chair Howard asked Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Muscogee County, to lead the council in the invocation and Bruce Hill, City of Oglethorpe, to lead the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Review and Approval of Minutes\***

Council reviewed the minutes of the March 27, 2019 council meeting that was either mailed or emailed to council members the previous week for their review. Vice Chair Howard requested a motion to approve the March 27<sup>th</sup> council minutes.

Harry Lange, Harris County, made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Barry Waters, City of Ft. Gaines, seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

### **Georgia Flood Risk Mapping Assessment and Planning Program**

Haydn Blaize, Manager of the Floodplain Unit at the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, gave a PowerPoint presentation explaining the Community Assistance Program State Support Services and the importance of local governments participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Mr. Blaize said the State of Georgia develops and updates flood hazard maps for communities in all 159 counties in the state. The Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) describes the special flood hazard areas which have been inundated by the 1% annual chance of flooding. This map is also referred to as the 100-year flood map. He explained the process to update these maps takes up to 3-5 years. State and local governments are required to enforce floodplain management ordinances. All business owners and residents that own buildings in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) are required to purchase flood insurance but those who do not have buildings in that area can also purchase flood insurance, if desired. He said 35% of all flood insurance claims are not in the SFHA. Any community that chooses not to participate in the NFIP will not have flood insurance available through NFIP, will not have federal flood related grants or loans available, will not have federal flood related disaster assistance available, and will not be eligible for federal mortgage insurance or loan guarantees. This insurance program helps local governments and citizens recover losses due to a flood. Mr. Blaize explained what is required for communities to join the Nation Flood Insurance Program.

### **TIA Resolution\***

Jim Livingston, Community and Economic Development Director, explained to the council that a sample TSPLOST resolution was ready to send to all counties in the RVRC region. He said a minimum of nine counties must agree and adopt a resolution to set up the TIA Roundtable.

Jim requested approval to move forward in sending the TIA resolution to all RVRC counties. Randy Howard, Vice-Chairman, requested a motion to approve sending the sample resolution to each county and begin the selection of roundtable members. Joe Williams, Stewart County, made the motion; Jimmy Bradley, Randolph County, seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

### **Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Stock in Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria, S.A.\***

Jim Livingston asked the council to authorize the sale of stock related to an old Revolving Loan Fund. The broker that was used to sell this stock had not sold all shares and a small amount is still in the account. Harry Lange, Harris County, made a motion to authorize the sale of the stock; Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Muscogee County, seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

### **Budget Amendment #2\***

Emily Chambers, Finance Officer, presented Budget Amendment 2 to the Council, stating that the Executive Committee had met and recommended approval before the council meeting. She said the amendment includes two budget amendments in the Aging Services contracts that added \$26,000 in revenues. The overall result of the budget amendment is a \$20,000 increase in projected fund balance changes across all funds, for a total of \$108,930 in projected fund balance increases for the year. Of that \$20,000 increase, \$5,500 is in the General Fund and the balance is projected increases in Net Position in Enterprise Funds.

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Randy Howard, Vice-Chairman, requested a motion to approve Budget Amendment 2. Bruce Hill, City of Oglethorpe, made the motion; Harry Lange, Harris County, seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

### **Staff Reports**

Emily Chambers, Finance Office, also presented the February Financial Report. She said that through February there was an increase in fund balance in the General Fund of \$16,700 and an increase in Net Position in the loan funds of about \$17,000. The balance sheet on February 28<sup>th</sup> shows a total Fund Balance of \$785,000 in the Governmental Funds, \$700,000 of which is Unassigned Fund Balance.

Katie Howard, Director of the Area Agency on Aging department, presented the staff report for her department. Katie announced that the General Assembly allocated an additional \$250,000 statewide for the Home Delivered Meals program. Also the Personal Needs Allowance was raised to \$70 per month, Adult Protective Services was able to add an additional 17 APS workers to their program, and \$1.4 million dollars was allocated for meal programs.

Katie invited everyone to the Senior Wellness Walk being held on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the Columbus Trade Center. It will begin at 8:00 AM and end at noon.

Rick Morris, Planning Director, presented the staff report for his department. He said staff has continued to work on Comprehensive Plan Updates with Harris County, Hamilton, Pine Mountain, Shiloh, and Waverly Hall.

Staff has continued to provide technical and zoning assistance to Talbot, Chattahoochee, Stewart and Quitman Counties and their cities.

The GIS staff has updated maps of the City of Hamilton that will be included in the Harris County Comprehensive Plan Update. Staff has also been working the Traffic Control Devices (TCD) verification for Harris County and road data verification for Macon and Marion Counties.

Staff has been working hard to ensure everything is ready for several bicycling events taking place soon. They are:

- Prison-to-Peanuts (Americus) event, May 4<sup>th</sup>
- Ride with the Mayor (Columbus), May 14<sup>th</sup>
- Ride-of-Silence, (Columbus), May 15<sup>th</sup>
- Bike-to-Work Day, (Columbus & Americus), May 17<sup>th</sup>

Jim Livingston, Community and Economic Development Director, presented the staff report for his department. Jim said that staff had submitted 10 Community Development Block Grant applications to the Department of Community Affairs. He explained that currently funded grants and projects underway were listed in Council packet under the Staff Report tab.

Jim explained that the CEDS committee has focused on broadband during FY2019. Over 500 responses were received from the Broadband Survey and was compared to the results of the 2014 Broadband Survey. He said Sarah has the results for anyone that would like a copy.

Janice West, WIOA Director, presented the staff report for her department. She said during the period of July 1, 2018 thru April 15, 2019, under the WIOA program, 209 people are being served. Currently staff is working on provider budgets and contracts for program year 2019.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Jim Livingston announced the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Legislative Luncheon will be held at the next regularly scheduled council meeting. However, this year it will be held at the Pope Center at South Georgia Technical College, 900 South Georgia Tech Parkway in Americus, Georgia. The council meeting will begin at 10:30 A.M., legislators' remarks at 11:00 A.M., and lunch will be served immediately following legislator's remarks. He encouraged everyone to attend.

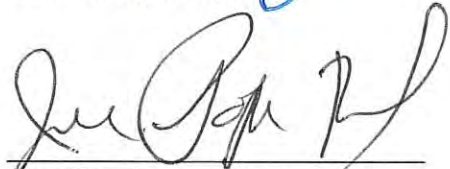
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**ADJOURN**

Vice Chair Randy Howard ask for a motion to adjourn. Harry Lange, Harris County, made a motion; Terrell Hudson, Dooley County seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned.

April 22, 2019  
Date

  
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Clinton Perry, Jr. Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Secretary