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RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

100 East Burkhalter Avenue
Buena Vista, Georgia
Minutes Summary
February 24, 2016
10:30 a.m.

Members Attending/Representing

(Representing 16 Counties)

Barry Whitley, City of Butler
Bruce Hill, City of Oglethorpe
Carlton Wilson, City of Ellaville
Cecil "Butch" McMickle, Marion County
Chip Jones, Stewart County
Clark Henderson, Crisp County
David Kinsey, Georgetown-Quitman County
Edward Lee, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
Evelyn Turner-Pugh, Muscogee County
Fred Gordon, Muscogee County
Freeman Montgomery, Talbot County
George Moore, Webster County
Hobby Stripling, Vienna
James R. "Bump" Welch, Marion County
James Morton, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
Jeanie Barteel, City of Cordele
Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Muscogee County
Jim Lawrence, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
Jimmy Bradley, Randolph County
Joe Lee Williams, Stewart County
Knox Blackmar, City of Talbotton
Melvin Crimes, Webster County
Mickey George, Macon County
Mike Speight, Crisp County, RVRC Secretary
Nelson Brown, City of Americus
Pam Jordan, Talbot County
Patricia Goodman, Randolph County
Randy Howard, Sumter County
Rebecca Chambers, City of Hamilton
Richard Morris, Georgetown-Quitman County, RVRC Vice-Chair
Steven F. Martin, City of Ft. Gaines
Terrell Hudson, Dooly County
Tom Queen, Taylor County
Tommy McKenzie, Macon County
Wally Summers, Sumter County

Members Not Present

Clinton Perry, Jr., Taylor County, RVRC Chair
Doug Etheridge, Harris County
Dr. Carole Rutland, Muscogee County
Greg Barineau, Schley County
Harry Lange, Harris County
Jason Hoch, Schley County
Jimmy Babb, City of Lumpkin
Lawrence Young, Stewart County
Lee Hubbard, Clay County
Maggie McGruther, Sumter County
Ralph Brown, City of Buena Vista
Richard McCorkle, Marion County
Steve Whatley, City of Cuthbert

Others Present

Cassie Renfrow, Chattahoochee RiverWarden, Executive Director
A. J. Rivers, City of Cordele
Janet Joiner, City of Vienna
Judy Tucker, Columbus
Ricky Hood, Hamilton Public Works
Kathy Burns, Senator Perdue's Representative
John Brent, Harris County
Vickie Wainwright, City of Butler
Elaine Gillespie, Senator Bishop's Representative
Laura Gower, Senator Johnny Isakson's Representative

Staff Present

Patti Cullen, Executive Director
Sarah Walls, Assistant Executive Director
Katie Howard, Area Agency on Aging Director
Gerald Mixon, Planning Director
Allison Slocum, Senior Planner/Historic Preservation Officer
Jarrod McCarthy, Mobility Manager
Janice West, WIOA Director
Jim Livingston, Community and Economic Development Director
Lance Renfrow, Environmental Planner
Emily Chambers, Finance Officer
Tammy Collins, Finance Officer
Becky Holmes, Office Manager

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WELCOME AND RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Richard Morris, Vice Chair, brought the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. He welcomed council members and guest to the meeting. Patti Cullen, Executive Director, updated the council about a major accident Clinton Perry, Jr., RVRC Chair, was involved in approximately three weeks earlier. Mike Speight, Secretary, then led the council in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES*

Richard Morris requested council approval of the January 27, 2016 council meeting minutes which were mailed or email to each council member the previous week for their review.

Terrell Hudson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Knox Blackmar seconded the motion. By unanimous consent the motion carried.

“CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVERWARDEN: WATCHING OVER OUR WATER”

Patti Cullen, Executive Director, introduced Cassie Renfrow, Executive Director, Chattahoochee RiverWarden. Ms. Renfrow gave a PowerPoint presentation explaining the issues affecting the health of the basin. She explained that the Chattahoochee RiverWarden is working to raise awareness of the importance of a healthy river basin, to foster a sense of environmental stewardship and to encourage citizens to become advocates for clean water.

HOG PROJECT UPDATE

Lance Renfrow, Environmental Planner, updated the council on the completion of the Hog Project at Kinchafoonee Creek, located in Dooly County. He explained that it was funded by the Pataula Creek 319(h) grant. The project was a success with 624 hogs being removed in a ten (10) square mile radius. Seven hundred (700) copies of the hog manual were printed. Copies were available for council members to take and distribute in the RVRC region.

RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO FY17 CONTRACT WITH DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (DHS) FOR THE PROVISION OF AGING SERVICES/ADOPTION OF AREA PLAN

Katie Howard, Area Agency on Aging Director, presented a resolution to enter into a FY17 contract with Department of Human Services (DHS) to continue to provide aging services in the RVRC 16-county region. Jerry “Pops” Barnes made a motion to approve the resolution to enter into the FY17 contract; Patricia Goodman seconded the motion. By unanimous consent the motion carried.

Katie then reviewed submittal of the Area Plan. Both documents were included in the council packet. Knox Blackmar made a motion to approve the Area Plan; Evelyn Turner-Pugh seconded the motion. By unanimous consent the motion carried.

DHS TRANSIT CONTRACT RENEWAL

Jarrod McCarthy, Mobility Manager, requested approval to renew the FY17 Transit contract with the Department of Human Services.

Patricia Goodman made a motion to authorize approval to renew the contract; Evelyn Turner-Pugh seconded the motion. By unanimous consent the motion carried.

REVIEW OF THE REGIONAL WORK PROGRAM

Gerald Mixon, Planning Director, presented a review of the Regional Work Program. He explained that the document is a plan for the 16-county area and that a notification was sent out for comments and the deadline for comments was today. However, he said comments could be still submitted if they are received in the next few days. The RVRC has one month to submit the document to the state for a mandatory review.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NUMBER TWO

Emily Chambers, Finance Officer, presented Budget Amendment 2 to the council. She explained that the budget amendment was discussed at the Executive/Finance Committee meeting that was held immediately before the council meeting. The Executive/Finance Committee recommended approval of the budget amendment. By unanimous consent the motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

Staff reports were presented by Emily Chambers, Finance Officer; Jim Livingston, Community & Economic Development Director; Janice West, WIOA Director; and Gerald Mixon, Planning Director.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the council the meeting was adjourned.

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