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RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

100 East Burkhalter Avenue

Buena Vista, Georgia

Summary

October 28, 2015

10:30 a.m.

Members Attending/Representing

(Representing 16 Counties)

- A. J. Rivers, City of Cordele
- Bruce Hill, City of Oglethorpe
- Carlton Wilson, City of Ellaville
- Dr. Carole Rutland, Muscogee County
- Cecil "Butch" McMickle, Marion County
- Chip Jones, Stewart County
- Clinton Perry, Jr., Taylor County, RVRC Chair
- David Kinsey, Georgetown-Quitman County
- Edward Lee, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
- Doug Etheridge, Harris County
- Evelyn Turner-Pugh, Muscogee County
- Fred Gordon, Muscogee County
- Freeman Montgomery, Talbot County
- George Moore, Webster County
- Harry Lange, Harris County
- James Morton, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
- James R. "Bump" Welch, Marion County
- Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Muscogee County
- Jimmy Bradley, Randolph County
- Joe Lee Williams, Stewart County
- Lee Hubbard, Clay County
- Maggie McGruther, Sumter County
- Melvin Crimes, Webster County
- Mickey George, Macon County
- Mike Speight, Crisp County
- Nelson Brown, City of Americus
- Pam Jordan, Talbot County
- Patricia Goodman, Randolph County
- Randy Howard, Sumter County
- Richard Morris, Georgetown-Quitman County
- Richard McCorkle, Marion County
- Terrell Hudson, Dooly County
- Tommy McKenzie, Macon County
- Tom Queen, Taylor County

Members Not Present

- Barry Whitley, City of Butler
- Charles Gibson, City of Lumpkin
- Clark Henderson, Crisp County
- Eddie Daniels, City of Vienna
- Greg Barineau, Schley County

- Jason Hoch, Schley County
- Jim Lawrence, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
- Knox Blackmar, City of Talbotton
- Lawrence Young, Stewart County
- Noel Williams, Crisp County
- Ralph Brown, City of Buena Vista
- Rebecca Chambers, City of Hamilton
- Steven F. Martin, City of Ft. Gaines
- Steve Whatley, City of Cuthbert
- Wally Summers, Sumter County

Others Present

- Darryl Hicks, Mass Mutual Retirement Services
- Jason Boldin, Mass Mutual Retirement Services
- Susan Miller, Geospatial Information Officer
- Brian Johnson, Director, Office of Planning & Enviro. Management
- Kathy Burns, Representative for Senator Perdue
- Donna Morgan, Job Corps
- Jo Childers, Department of Community Affairs
- Elaine Gillispie, Sanford Bishop's Representative
- Kevin Brown, Marion County
- Judy Tucker, Columbus
- Janet Joiner, City of Vienna
- Leslie McNary, Taylor County Development Authority
- Laura Gower, Representative for Senator Isakson
- Edwina Turner, Stewart County Family Connections
- Ricky Hood, Hamilton Public Works
- John Brent, Harris County

Staff Present

- Patti Cullen, Executive Director
- Sarah Walls, Assistant Executive Director
- Katie Howard, Area Agency on Aging Director
- Rick Morris, Planning Director
- Allison Slocum, Senior Planner & Historic Preservation Planner
- Gerald Mixon, Planning Director
- Janice West, WIOA Director
- Mariyana Kostov, GIS Specialist
- Jim Livingston, Community and Economic Development Director
- Emily Chambers, Finance Officer
- Amber Staples, Intern
- 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

Clinton Perry, Jr., Chair, brought the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. He welcomed everyone and asked visitors to introduce themselves. Richard Morris, Vice Chair, led the council in prayer and Mike Speight, Secretary, led the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES*

Clinton Perry requested Council approval of the September 23, 2015 Council meeting minutes. Melvin Crimes made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Richard Morris seconded the motion. There being no opposition the motion carried.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS UPDATE

Brian Johnson, Director, Office of Planning and Environmental Management GDCA, gave an update of services offered by the Department of Community Affairs to all counties and cities in the state of Georgia. He said that the River Valley region continues to grow. In FY15 the state awarded seventy-nine (79) Community Development Block Grants totaling \$36 million of which \$4.5 million of that money was awarded to nine (9) cities and counties in the River Valley region.

Susan Miller, Georgia Geospatial Information Officer, announced that Georgia has now established the Geospatial Information Office. She explained that she would be working with local governments and regional commissions to coordinate and enhance geospatial data development in the State.

RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION GIS SERVICES

Mariyana Kostov, GIS, gave a PowerPoint presentation explaining what the GIS department does and how the department can help local governments.

RETIREMENT SERVICES

Darryl Hicks and Jason Bouldin, Mass Mutual Retirement Services, explained how businesses can reach out to their employees and help them understand their retirement plan and the best way to plan for their future.

STAFF REPORTS

Emily Chamber, Finance Officer; Jim Livingston, Planning and Community Development Director; Janice West, WIOA Director; Katie Howard, Area Agency on Aging Director; Gerald Mixon, Planning Director; presented staff reports for their departments.

Other Business

Patti Cullen, Executive Direct, reminded everyone that the next Council meeting would be November 18th due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Council members announced activities that are happening in their communities and invited everyone to attend.

ADJOURN

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