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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.