



www.rivervalleyrc.org

**Columbus Office**

710 Front Avenue, Suite A  
P. O. Box 1908  
Columbus, GA 31902  
Phone (706) 256-2910  
Fax (706) 256-2908  
TDY (706)256-2944

**Americus Office**

228 West Lamar Street  
Americus, GA 31709  
Phone (706) 256-2910  
Fax (229) 931-2745  
Fax (229) 931-2917

**RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**Josh Gibson Center**

**Summary**

**February 22, 2017**

**Members Attending/Representing**

(Representing 15 Counties)

- A.J. Rivers, Crisp County
- Barry Whitley, City of Butler
- Bruce Hill, City of Oglethorpe
- Carvel Lewis, Georgetown-Quitman County
- Cecil "Butch" McMickle, Marion County
- Danny Blackman, Georgetown-Quitman County
- Debbie Stone, Stewart County
- Dr. Edward Lee, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
- Evelyn Turner Pugh, Muscogee County
- Fred Gordon, Muscogee County
- Harry Lange, Harris County
- Hobby Stripling, City of Vienna
- James Morton, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
- James R. "Bump" Welch, Marion County
- Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Muscogee County
- Jim Lawrence, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
- Joe Lee Williams, Stewart County
- Knox Blackmar, City of Talbotton
- Lee Hubbard, Clay County
- Maggie McGruther, Sumter County
- Melvin Crimes, Webster County
- Mickey George, Macon County
- Pam Jordan, Talbot County
- Patricia Goodman, Randolph County
- Ralph Brown, City of Buena Vista
- Randy Howard, Sumter County
- Rebecca Chambers, City of Hamilton
- Shirley Ann Christian, City of Fort Gaines
- Terrell Hudson, Dooly County
- Tommy McKenzie, Macon County
- Tony Kennedy, Webster County
- Tom Queen, Taylor County

**Staff Present**

- Patti Cullen, Executive Director
- Sarah Walls, Assistant Executive Director
- Emily Chambers, Finance Officer
- Katie Howard, AAA Director
- Rick Morris, Planning Director
- Gerald Mixon, Planning Director
- Janice West, WIOA Director

**Members Not Present**

- Carlton Wilson, City of Ellaville
- Chip Jones, Stewart County
- Clinton Perry, Jr., Taylor County, RVRC Chair
- Doug Etheridge, Harris County
- Dr. Carole Rutland, Muscogee County
- Freeman Montgomery, Talbot County
- Greg Barineau, Schley County
- Jason Hoch, Schley County
- Jeanie Bartee, City of Cordele
- Jimmy Bradley, Randolph County
- Nelson Brown, City of Americus
- Richard McCorkle, Marion County
- Steve Whatley, City of Cuthbert
- Sam Farrow, Jr., Crisp County
- Tameka Harris, Taylor County
- Wally Summers, Sumter County

**Others Present**

- Andrea Winston, New Horizons Behavioral Health
- Susan Gallagher, New Horizons Behavioral Health
- Paul Farr, South Georgia Technical College
- Elaine Gillispie, Representative for Senator Bishop
- Ricky Hood, City of Hamilton
- Vickie Wainwright, City of Butler
- Candy Head, GA Dept. of Labor Region 8
- Laura Gower, Representative for Senator Isakson
- Jayson Griffin, Ameris Bank
- Kevin Brown, Marion County Family Connections Coordinator

- Mariyana Kostov, GIS Specialist
- Lance Renfrow, Environmental Planner
- Jim Livingston, Community & Economic Director
- Allison Slocum, Historic Preservation/Planner
- Kia Barrow, ADRC Coordinator/CCSP Specialist
- Cheryl Maddox, GACARES Coordinator
- Becky Holmes, Office Manager
- Laura Schneider, Intern

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

Patti Cullen, Executive Director, brought the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. She said Mr. Perry was not able to attend the meeting due to an emergency at work and that the vice chair and secretary positions were vacant. She welcomed the council and visitors. Patti then asked Harry Lange, Harris County, to lead the council in prayer and Terrell Hudson, Dooly County, to then led the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Council reviewed the minutes of the January 25, 2017 council meeting. There being no changes to the minutes, Patti requested a motion to approve the minutes of the January 2017 meeting.

Harry Lange, Harris County, made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Evelyn Turner-Pugh, Muscogee County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Resolution to Enter into FY18 Contract with DHS for the Provision of Aging Services\***

Katie Howard, Area Agency on Aging Director, explained that a resolution was included in the council packet and that she was requesting approval to enter into the FY18 contract with the Department of Human Services (DHS) for the provision of Aging Services. She explained this contract was brought before the council each year.

Patti Cullen, Executive Director, asked for a motion to approve a resolution to enter into the FY18 contract with DHS for Aging Services. Jerry “Pops” Barnes, Muscogee County, made a motion to approve the resolution; Joe Lee Williams, Stewart County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of RVRC Officers and Executive Committee Members\***

Harry Lange, Chair of the Nominating Committee, said that there were many people that would do a great job as RVRC officers and executive committee members. He said the Nominating Committee had met and proposed the following slate of officers: Randy Howard, Sumter County Commission Chair, as Vice Chair and Jerry “Pops” Barnes, Columbus Councilman, as Secretary. The nominating committee also recommended Bruce Hill, Mayor of Oglethorpe, and Patricia Goodman, Randolph County Chamber of Commerce, a private appointee, as executive committee members.

Patti Cullen, Executive Director, asked for a motion to approve the nominees for the RVRC Officers and the Executive Committee. Tom Queen made a motion to approve the nominees as presented; Tommy McKenzie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Patti then asked the new officers and executive committee members to join her at the front table.

### **Volunteers Needed for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Advisory Council**

Sarah Walls, Assistant Executive Director, explained that the Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee was in need of two volunteers to fill vacant positions on the committee. She asked that anyone interested to contact her at the RVRC office.

### **RVRC Council Member Training**

Patti Cullen, Executive Director, explained that there would not be a speaker at the meeting but instead a councilmember training was planned. She said that tables were set up, by department, around the room with information pertaining to each RVRC department. Staff members Patti Cullen, Executive Director; Emily Chambers, Finance Director; Jim Livingston, Community and Economic Development Director; Sarah Walls, Assistant Director; Janice West, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Director (WIOA); Gerald Mixon, Planning Director; Rick Morris, Planning Director; Lance Renfrow,

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Environmental Planner; Allison Slocum, Historic Preservation and Senior Planner; Mariyana Kostov, GIS Specialist; and Katie Howard, Area Agency on Aging Director gave a PowerPoint presentation for their departments.

**Adjourn**

Patti thanked everyone for attending the Council Training and asked them to speak with staff members after the meeting. She also reminded everyone that the March Council meeting will be held at the regular meeting place – the Marion County Commission Office on Burkhalter Avenue. The meeting then adjourned.

March 22, 2017

Date

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Clinton Perry, Jr., Chair

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Randy Howard, Vice Chair