



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

www.rivervalleyrc.org

RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

Marion County Commission Office

100 East Burkhalter Avenue

Buena Vista, Georgia

Summary

June 28, 2017

Members Attending/Representing

(Representing 15 Counties)

A.J. Rivers, Crisp County
Barry Whitley, City of Butler
Carvel Lewis, Georgetown-Quitman County
Chip Jones, Stewart County
Danny Blackman, Georgetown-Quitman County
Debbie Stone, Stewart County
Dr. Edward Lee, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
Doug Etheridge, Harris County
Dr. Carole Rutland, Muscogee County
James Morton, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
Joe Lee Williams, Stewart County
Lee Hubbard, Clay County
Mickey George, Macon County
Nelson Brown, City of Americus
Ralph Brown, City of Buena Vista
Fred Gordon, Muscogee County
Harry Lange, Harris County
Hobby Stripling, City of Vienna
Jason Hoch, Schley County
Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Muscogee County
Knox Blackmar, City of Talbotton
Maggie McGruther, Sumter County
Melvin Crimes, Webster County
Randy Howard, Sumter County
Shirley Ann Christian, City of Fort Gaines
Terrell Hudson, Dooly County, ACCG
Tom Queen, Taylor County
Tommy McKenzie, Macon County
Tony Kennedy, Webster County

Members Not Present

Bruce Hill, City of Oglethorpe
Clinton Perry, Jr. Taylor County, RVRC Chair
Carlton Wilson, City of Ellaville
Cecil "Butch" McMickle, Marion County
Greg Barineau, Schley County
Evelyn Turner Pugh, Muscogee County
Freeman Montgomery, Talbot County
James R. "Bump" Welch, Marion County
Jayson Griffin, Macon County
Jeanie Barte, City of Cordele
Jim Lawrence, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County
Jimmy Bradley, Randolph County
Pam Jordan, Talbot County
Patricia Goodman, Randolph County
Rebecca Chambers, City of Hamilton
Richard McCorkle, Marion County
Sam Farrow, Jr., Crisp County
Steve Whatley, City of Cuthbert
Tameka Harris, Taylor County
Wally Summers, Sumter County

Others Present

Paul Tanner, (GDOT) Transportation Data Administrator
Eric McRae, Asso. Director, Carl Vinson Institute of
Government Services
Patti Cullen, Executive Director
Sarah Walls, Assistant Executive Director
Katie Howard, AAA Director
Gerald Mixon, Planning Director
Emily Chambers, Finance Officer
Tammy Collins, Finance Officer
Mariyanna Kostov, GIS Specialist
Becky Holmes, Office Manager
Vickie Wainwright, City of Butler
Paul Farr, South Georgia Technical College
Edwina Turner, Stewart County Family Connections

[Chattahoochee](#) | [Clay](#) | [Crisp](#) | [Dooly](#) | [Harris](#) | [Macon](#) | [Marion](#) | [Muscogee](#)
[Quitman](#) | [Randolph](#) | [Schley](#) | [Stewart](#) | [Sumter](#) | [Talbot](#) | [Taylor](#) | [Webster](#)

Equal Opportunity Employer

Welcome and Recognition of Visitors

Randy Howard, Vice Chair, in the absence of Chair Clinton Perry, Jr., brought the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. He welcomed everyone and requested Jerry “Pops” Barnes, Secretary, to lead the council in prayer. Terrell Hudson, Dooly County, led the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review and Approval of Minutes*

Council reviewed the minutes of the May 24, 2017 council meeting, which were mailed or emailed to council members the previous week for their review.

Harry Lange, Harris County, made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Dr. Fred Gordon, Muscogee County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Map-21 Data Collections

Paul Tanner, Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Transportation Data Administrator and Eric McRae, Associate Director, of Carl Vinson Institute of Governments of Information Technology Outreach Service, gave a presentation explaining the Federal Map-21 Data Acquisition Program.

“First Net: An Overview”

Warren Shepard, Georgia Coordinator for the Georgia Emergency Management Agency, gave a presentation explaining the FirstNet (First Responder Network Authority) program. FirstNet is developing the first nationwide public safety broadband network. If approved by the Governor, the network will provide first responders, throughout Georgia, the advanced communication and technologies needed to help them do their jobs safely and more effectively during emergencies.

Evaluation of the River Valley Regional Commission (RVRC) Executive Director

Randy Howard, Chair, explained that the Executive Committee had evaluated Patti Cullen, Executive Director, and held an evaluation interview with her discussing job performance. Tommy McKenzie, Macon County, made a motion to approve Patti Cullen’s evaluation based on the recommendation of the Executive Committee; Maggie McGruther, Sumter County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Review/Approval of the FY2018 Budget for River Valley Regional Commission (River Valley Regional Commission (RVRC))

Emily Chambers, Finance Officer, presented the proposed FY2018 Budget for the River Valley Regional Commission (RVRC). The budget was emailed to council members for their review and included in the council packets, which were available at the meeting. She explained that the Executive Committee had met before the council meeting to discuss the proposed budget in detailed. Their recommendation was to approve the budget.

Knox Blackmar, Talbot County made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee; Melvin Crimes, Webster County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Evaluation of the FY2017 Annual Work Program

Patti Cullen, Executive Director, summarized the Evaluation of the Annual Work Program for FY2017. The Annual Work Program was emailed to council members for their review and included in the council packets, which were available at the meeting.

Harry Lange, Harris County, made a motion to accept the Evaluation of the Annual Work Program for FY2017; Carvel Lewis, Georgetown-Quitman County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Review/Approval of the FY2018 Annual Work Program

The FY2018 Annual Work Program was summarized by each Department Director: Gerald Mixon, Planning; Katie Howard, Area Agency on Aging; and Sarah Walls, (in the absence of Jim Livingston and Janice West) Community and Economic Development and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act program.

[Chattahoochee](#) | [Clay](#) | [Crisp](#) | [Dooly](#) | [Harris](#) | [Macon](#) | [Marion](#) | [Muscogee](#)
[Quitman](#) | [Randolph](#) | [Schley](#) | [Stewart](#) | [Sumter](#) | [Talbot](#) | [Taylor](#) | [Webster](#)

Terrell Hudson, Dooly County, made a motion to accept the Annual Work Program for FY2018; Harry Lange, Harris County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

Set Date, Time and Location of River Valley Regional Commission (RVRC) Council Meetings for FY2018

Patti Cullen, Executive Director, explained that each year the council votes on the date, time and location the council meetings would be held. It was suggested that the meeting continue to be held on the fourth Wednesday each month, at 10:30 am, at the Marion County Commission offices in Buena Vista. The exception was that no meetings will be held in July or December and the November meeting will be held on the 29th due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Tom Queen, Taylor County, made a motion to accept the suggested dates, time and location of the council meeting for FY2018; Carvel Lewis, Georgetown-Quitman County, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the council, Terrell Hudson, Dooly County, made a motion to adjourn.