

MINUTES

FULL BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS CONFERENCE ROOM
FEBRUARY 24, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ed Elliott, Ernest Riley, Dennis Claramunt, Eddie Moore, Rick Laughridge, Dennis Moss, Rufus Foster, Henry Jolly, Frank Harris, Grady Butler, Don Godbey, Dan Rawls, Bennie Cunningham, Reg Dexter, Larry Bagwell, O'Neal Mintz, Jane Hall, Elbert Tillerson, Chet Morris, and Jan Scalisi.

GUESTS PRESENT: Steven Hahn, Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce; Dave Mueller, Appalachian Development Corporation; and Mayor Perry Eichor, City of Simpsonville.

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Pelissier, Doug Burns, Don Zimmer, Dirk Reis, Chip Bentley, Beverly Allen, Carol Andersen, Debra Brown, and Debbie Courson.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Elliott. The invocation was offered by Mr. Tillerson. On motion by Mr. Godbey, seconded by Mr. Morris, the minutes of the January 27, 2012, meeting were unanimously approved.

Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce Entrepreneurial Support Program

Stephen Hahn, Director of Entrepreneurial Systems, briefly explained this new initiative of the Chamber's Economic Futures Group. He provided information on its creation, mission, and services to local businesses.

Appalachian Region Assisted Rides Program

Mr. Bentley stated that COG will be working on a pilot program in Spartanburg County to recruit, train and coordinate volunteers who will assist seniors, as well as the disabled population, in securing transportation for non-medical appointments. This program will serve those who have no means of transportation and do not have access to other transportation services, such as Medicaid subscribers might have. Volunteers will provide non-medical rides to persons who do not qualify for other programs.

South Carolina 2012 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

Mr. Reis stated that the S.C. Department of Commerce had recently released its 2012 Annual Program Statement, which identifies programs, eligible activities, funding levels, and application periods for CDBG grants that will be offered this year.

He stated that HUD funded projects must benefit low and moderate income households, have a minimum of 10% match, and must have a commitment of local funds when the application is submitted; Community Infrastructure maximum grant amount is \$500,000 and applications are due April 16th; Community Enrichment Funds priorities are Workforce Development, Safe and Healthy Communities, and Obstacles to Economic Competitiveness. The maximum grant amount is \$500,000 and applications are due September 17th; and the Ready to go Program has a maximum grant amount of \$500,000. Applications are accepted anytime.

South Carolina Legislative Update

Mr. Burns provided an update on legislation pending in the General Assembly, with emphasis on items of interest to local governments, which included: transparencies, illegal immigrants, voter ID, and the Department of Administration.

Requested Executive Session to Discuss a Contractual Matter

Mr. Pelissier requested the opportunity to brief the Board on a contractual matter.

Motion was made and the Board voted unanimously to go into Executive Session.

Adjournment of Executive Session

After coming back into regular session, Chairman Elliott stated that the Board had discussed a contractual matter and no action was taken.

Minutes
Page Three

There being no further information, the meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Chairman

THE SOUTH CAROLINA APPALACHIAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS HAS
COMPLIED WITH THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT IN SCHEDULING
AND CONDUCTING THIS MEETING.