

MINUTES

FULL BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS CONFERENCE ROOM
MAY 28, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ed Elliott, Ernest Riley, Renee Cariveau, Dennis Claramunt, Eddie Moore, Ted Mattison, Bob Waldrep, J. W. Sanders, Rufus Foster, Henry Jolly, Grady Butler, Judy Gilstrap, Joe Dill, Don Godbey, Bill Wylie, Thomas Alexander, Bennie Cunningham, Bob Winchester, Reg Dexter, J. Connie Bowers, Mike Forrester, Dale Culbreth, O'Neal Mintz, Jane Hall, Bob Briggs, Elbert Tillerson, and Loretta Smith.

GUEST PRESENT: David Edwards, GSP International.

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Pelissier, Joe Newton, Becky Hall, Beverly Allen, Carol Andersen, Chip Bentley, Glenda Manigault, Olivia Harris, and Debbie Courson.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Elliott. The invocation was offered by Rev. Sanders. On motion by Rev. Sanders, seconded by Mayor Godbey, the minutes of the April 23, 2010, meeting was unanimously approved with one correction, Bob Winchester was present.

GSP International Airport Plans and Activities, South Carolina Legislative Policies to Enhance Air Travel in the State

Mr. Edwards, Executive Director of GSP, provided an update on Southwest Airlines expanding to South Carolina. He stated that Southwest will begin service at the airport within 12 months and have 20 to 30 flights a day. The cities that it will serve and the prices will be announced this fall. State lawmakers had considered an incentive

package aimed at attracting a low-cost airline carrier; however, Southwest said that its decision to serve South Carolina did not hinge on the passage of the legislation. Mr. Edwards stated that the airport will require terminal infrastructure and development.

Swamp Rabbit Trail

Mr. Bentley gave a brief report on the recently completed 13-mile walking/biking facility that runs along the Reedy River, connecting the City of Greenville with Travelers Rest. He stated that using a 125-year-old defunct railroad for a community-wide project is a shining example of how county and city governments can work together with businesses, property owners, and trail users to create economic and health opportunities. The Swamp Rabbit Trail, named "Swamp Rabbit" after the original rail line's hopping path along the marshy Reedy River, was purchased by Greenville County in 1999. Partners on the GHS Swamp Rabbit Tram Trail include GHS and Greenville County. Strong supporters include the City of Greenville, City of Travelers Rest and Furman University, with other groups also supporting the trail.

Legislative Update

Mr. Newton provided a report on legislation pending before the General Assembly, with emphasis on issues of importance to local governments, which included: FY 2011 budget, local government fund, cigarette tax, water bill, local government accountability, and local hospitality tax.

Report on the Development of the ACOG FY 2011 Budget

Mr. Pelissier stated that the Executive Committee will be asked to take action on the agency's proposed FY 2011 budget at its retreat on June 11th. The full Board will be asked to take action at its meeting on June 25th. He provided information on key points of the budget and provided an opportunity for general discussion to guide the Executive Committee.

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There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Chairman

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