

MINUTES

FULL BOARD MEETING
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS CONFERENCE ROOM
FEBRUARY 22, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT: Marion Lyles, Judy Gilstrap, Wallace Shaw, Larry Greer, Dennis Claramunt, Ed Elliott, Dennis Moss, Grady Butler, Joe Dill, Eddie Wynn, Craig Brandon, J Connie Bowers, Lib Fleming, Renee Cariveau, O'Neal Mintz, and Bob Briggs.

GUESTS PRESENT: Hal Johnson and Rick Blackwell, Upstate Alliance; and Lamar Bailes, Oconee County.

STAFF PRESENT: Steve Pelissier, Joe Newton, Carol Andersen, David Mueller, Vickie Williams, Dirk Reis, Becky Hall, William Springer, and Debbie Courson.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lyles. The invocation was offered by Ms. Gilstrap. On motion by Mr. Elliott, seconded by Mayor Briggs, the minutes of the January 25, 2008, meeting were unanimously approved.

Initiatives and Activities of the Upstate Alliance

Hal Johnson, President of the Upstate Alliance stated that the Alliance was formed in 2000 and is a public/private regional economic development organization. Their mission is to market the South Carolina Upstate region to the world. Mr. Johnson stated that the goal is to provide marketing efforts, support economic development, build cohesive relationships between the private and public sector. The targeted markets are automotive, advanced materials, life sciences, plastic and allied chemicals, and logistics. Mr. Johnson stated that the Alliance is currently working with 165 leads and prospects. The Alliance is working on a new marketing program in agreement with three Council's of Governments.

Regional Aging Service Programs

Ms. William gave a brief description of the Mobile ADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Center). She stated that this program was announced in 2003 with South Carolina being one of twelve states to be funded. There are over 727 ADRC 's counties nationwide. The complaint from seniors and caregivers was the lack of obtaining resources at one location. ADRC offers access options counseling, benefits options counseling, crisis intervention, medication, long term care, and Medicare Part D. Ms. Williams stated that the mobile unit will serve all six counties and is available to individuals 18 and older with disabilities, individuals 55 and older in need of resource coordination, caregivers and families, Alzheimer's, and adult children preparing to care for their older parents.

Legislative Update

Mr. Newton provided the Board with an update on activities of the South Carolina General Assembly which include: budget, cigarette taxes, immigration, fire sprinklers, drunk drivers, and payday lenders.

Report and Recommendations from the Personnel Committee

The Committee met in preparation for COG's FY 2009 budget process. The Committee is also looking at amending the COG policy not to have retirement funded insurance for employees due to the rising costs and the effect it will have on future budgets. No recommendations were made at this meeting due to there being no quorum.

Report and Recommendations from the Budget Committee

Ms Gilstrap stated that originally, it was anticipated that the COG would lease the Mobile ADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Center) unit. However, a cost analysis has shown benefit in purchasing the unit. Prior to the Board meeting, the Budget Committee met to consider a proposal to amend the budget for this purchase and is recommending to the Board for action. On motion by Mr. Brandon, seconded by Mr. Wynn, the Board voted unanimously to purchase to ADRC unit.

Next, the Committee was informed that WorkLink will be moving from the Tri County Technical College campus to a new facility. They will have to purchase new furniture in the amount of \$26,026.20. The Committee approved this expenditure and is recommending to the Board for action. On motion by Mr. Elliott, seconded by Mr. Wynn, the Board voted unanimously to approve this expenditure.

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Appointment of Board Officer Nominating Committee

Mr. Lyles appointed a nominating committee for the appointment of new Board officers. Mr. Gaillard as chairman, Rev. Sanders, and Mr. Wynn. The nominations will be recommended at the March board meeting for approval and will take office in April 2008.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Chairman

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